



THE EAMONN O'LOGHLIN IRISH
CANADIAN IMMIGRATION CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT JUNE 2025

This year, we moved forward with intention and impact.

From launching our long-envisioned online Legal Clinic to reimagining how we connect through a more accessible website, we met people exactly where they are.

You stood with us through demanding challenges and bold new outreach campaigns. Because of you, those facing complex barriers aren't facing them alone. Thank you for being part of this work.



Out of Status?
Not sure what to do? You are not alone.
I/CAN is here to help. Safe,
confidential, free. Reach out.



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mission

The Eamonn O’Loughlin Irish Canadian Immigration Centre, operating since 2012, assists diaspora from across the island of Ireland, offering outreach and information, nationally, in 3 key areas:

1. **Immigration System Navigation**
2. **Employment Guidance and Resources**
3. **Social Services Navigation**

Core Values

- **Trust:** leveraging and building on our reputation (Toronto Star Readers’ Choice Awards 2020:Diamond Winner—Best Learning Centre)
- **Awareness and Understanding:** of the evolving needs of Irish diaspora
- **Collaboration:** with stakeholders across governments and communities
- **Diversity:** recognizing non-traditional diasporas and the myriad complexities of Irishness

Unique Value Proposition

I/CAN’s 3-pillared mandate, impacting across key social determinants of immigrant health (immigration status, employment status, access to healthcare and wellbeing services), decreases stress exposures for newcomers, facilitating a more manageable settlement experience.

I/CAN’s outreach, especially for the vulnerable, supports more seamless transitions into Canadian society, developing more resilient and participatory newcomers, building a stronger society for all.

I/CAN’s engagement of skilled volunteers bolsters local resources by plugging gaps in community services. In doing so, it promotes social inclusion, fosters unity and mutual understanding, and sets an example—particularly for young service users—of the value of volunteering, helping to cultivate the next generation of civic-minded citizens: “I would welcome the opportunity to pay forward the assistance and support I received.”

Key Outcomes of Our Work

I/CAN clients:

- are more aware of resources available to them upon entry and while they are settling, reducing vulnerability.
- have better knowledge of immigration processes, troubleshooting next steps in a timely manner, lessening uncertainty.
- participate in local labour markets, broader communities, and social networks, strengthening their potential for advancement and wellbeing in Canada.

Service Coverage

We provide support:

- across all 10 provinces (and occasionally in one of the 3 territories!)
- in 6 Canadian time zones
- and we even take calls from across the island of Ireland—families often reach out, concerned about loved ones in Canada.

Facilitated by:

- 3 full-time team members
- 1 micro part-time team member



Message from the Chair

It has been another year of challenges and achievements for the I/CAN team. We celebrated the first I/CAN Invitational at the world-famous Glen Abbey golf course, a great success due to the hard work of our team of dedicated volunteers. We participated in the Ontario Government's e-Gaming programme providing I/CAN with a sustainable funding source and reflecting the Ontario Government's commitment to strengthening the not-for-profit sector. We obtained charitable status enabling us to begin the pursuit of new funding sources. None of these initiatives would have been possible without the great work of our dedicated Executive Director and her team. We owe her and them a debt of gratitude.

We remain extremely grateful to the Government of Ireland for their tremendous support through the Emigrant Support Programme. Our work would not have been possible without their support. I want to extend our thanks to Ambassador Concannon, Consul General Janice McGann and Consul General Cathy Geagan for all their assistance. I would like to pay particular tribute to Consul General Janice McGann as she leaves us to return to Ireland. She has been a wonderful and stalwart advocate for us and our work supporting the vulnerable in our community.

Go raibh mile maith agaibh

- Dermot P. Muir



Message from the Executive Director

This year was defined by innovation and an unwavering commitment to address complex issues.

After extensive envisioning, we launched our online Legal Clinic—a long-standing goal, now fully realised. Delivered entirely virtually, the clinic ensures that individuals, no matter where they live—from remote communities to major cities—can access legal support at no cost. In doing so, it helps dismantle longstanding barriers to essential legal services.

Recognising that some clients require personalised support while others need only the right tools, we overhauled our website to make it more intuitive and accessible. Clients can access resources and self-help guides around the clock. The site has evolved from a communications platform into a core component of our service model.

We also reimagined our opioid outreach campaign, adopting a bolder approach to address a crisis that demands urgency and clarity. Our commitment to vulnerable communities deepened with the launch of our Out of Status campaign. Grounded in compassion, this initiative offers resources and support to help individuals navigate uncertain circumstances with dignity and hope.

Another key development was the relaunch of our Immigration Fraud Prevention campaign, reaffirming our dedication to protecting those most at risk of exploitation.

Each year, we receive unsolicited messages from clients that speak to the impact of our small but highly effective team. When a client takes the time to say thank you, it affirms that our work matters. I am deeply grateful to our team for their dedication, steadfast focus, and the tangible results they deliver every day.

- Cathy Murphy



LANDMARKS

Revenue Growth and Fundraising Success

c-Gaming

After becoming an eligible not-for-profit partner, we now participate regularly—thanks to a dedicated pool of volunteers. A portion of the proceeds is directed to I/CAN based on our involvement at our designated Centre.

Thank you,



Inaugural I/CAN Invitational

Our first-ever fundraising golf classic at Glen Abbey was a success, expertly organized by a committee of board members and community volunteers.



Celebrity Bartenders

For the third year running, we hosted this popular event at Noonan's Pub, where local supporters stepped behind the bar to pour pints and donate their tips to I/CAN.



Program Innovation

Launch of Our National, Digital Legal Clinic

Program delivery partners:



CARRY IMMIGRATION SERVICES



CANADIAN
VISA SPECIALISTS

Preventative Upstream Solutions: Meeting the Crisis Where It Lives





I/CAN

If you thought
your pint was
**mixed with
diesel**, would
you drink it?

Swipe >>>

No?

So why risk
cocaine that
could be **mixed
with fentanyl?**

Get your drugs
tested. **Your
life might
depend on it.**

Link in bio to
learn more.



I/CAN

Bad pint?

**How's your
hangover?**

Swipe >>>

A bad-pint
hangover sucks.
But a hangover
from **fentanyl-
laced cocaine**
might be the last
you ever get.

Get your drugs
tested.

Link in bio to
learn more.



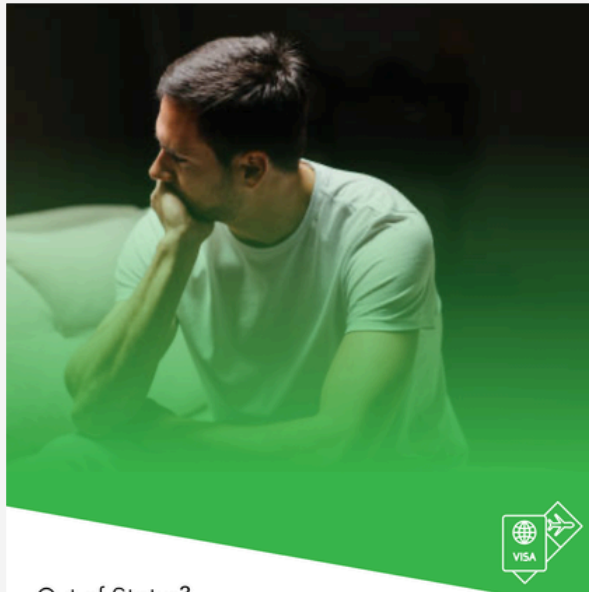
Service Delivery

Online Support: Access Made Easier

[Click here to visit our website](#)



Towards Status, Towards Stability



Out of Status?
Not sure what to do? You are not alone.

I/CAN is here to help. Safe, confidential, free. Reach out.



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Safeguarding the Most Vulnerable



Immigration Fraud Awareness

This week's tip:
Educate yourself about the process

Kindly sponsored by
Eoin Logan at
KSW Lawyers



>>>

I/CAN

If anything is unclear about your immigration application or the services offered by a representative, ask detailed questions.

A legitimate professional will be transparent and informative.

Visit the link in our bio for more information

I/CAN

Impact Milestones

This year:

100+ Learning and informational events delivered nationwide

200+ Individuals facing vulnerable circumstances received compassionate support through our immigration legal clinic and social care program

700+ Newcomers brought together at our interactive skills-building sessions

2700+ Benefitted from care and connection through direct phone or email outreach

8000+ Timely emails delivered with case-specific information and resources

12,300+ Individuals followed our preventative upstream solutions on social media



Our Clients at a Glance

What Our Clients Told Us This Year

”

Without your office I would have been lost.

You've made this so much easier for us 🙌

numerous helpful tips that I will carry forward

Can I just say that your office has been so helpful.

”

The information...was very useful...now I can... highlight what Canadian employers want to see. [H]earing just how important networking is, [is] eye-opening. As an Irish person it goes against the grain from what I'm used to at home but now I know I need to adapt my approach.

I appreciate your follow up and kindness during these stressful times.

”

Thanks for all of the useful information on the I/CAN website/Instagram - really appreciate having such an accessible resource!

Thanks in no small part to I/CAN I landed my dream job at one of Canada's largest banks.

”

[T]here's nothing worse than feeling like you don't belong somewhere or that you've done something wrong...Many thanks again for all your efforts in keeping me calm. Honestly, I'm just so grateful [the community] recommended you and the team!

Fair play to you all at I/CAN for all the great work you all do. Keep it up.

What an excellent service. Truly grateful.

”

Thank you so much for your help and kind words, I really appreciate it as I was having a very hard time.

I can now breathe a sigh of relief.

incredibly helpful information!

really helped get us more settled

”

I had tried to move forward for so long but found it hard to clear a path. I truly mean it when I say I owe you so much. Your one good deed means so much to me and my family.

”

I got everything sorted, which wouldn't have been possible without your help.

Great to know that I/CAN are on call if we have any issues over here.

It's been a long road, but I'm grateful for your support throughout the whole process.

I was feeling so hopeless...and you helped me get through! Forever appreciative.

Thanks so much for all the work you do for the Irish community here in Canada.

”

Thank you for the advice it helped greatly. I also wanted to thank you for all the help you have given me in the past. If there is ever anything I can do for the Irish Immigration Centre please just let me know.

I / CAN



Thanks for all your help and support in this journey

A Client we supported in 2012 shares the news of his 2025 citizenship—what a journey!

THE PEOPLE AND PARTNERS BEHIND OUR WORK

Fueled by Generosity

Our Donors

We are deeply grateful for the generosity of our long-time supporters: Oliver Murray & Colleen Donnelly, The St. Patrick's Benevolent Society of Toronto, and The Irish Cultural Society of Toronto. Their continued backing is instrumental to all that we do. In January, we were also privileged to receive our second grant from OCASI—the Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants—which is helping us to further strengthen our capacity and broaden our reach.



Investing in Community Together

Our Corporate Sponsors

Each year, a broad range of corporate sponsors across Canada stand beside us, helping to ensure our income remains both resilient and far-reaching. Their support is not just appreciated—it is indispensable to the work we do.

Thanks again to: Salt Hill, EllisDon, LiUNA, Diageo, MNP, Brandes, P.J. O'Brien Irish Pub, Finnegan Marshall, CLS, Trinity Custom Masonry, A Little Taste of Home, IRL Group, and Coastal Ways.



Our Community Partners

We are also grateful to the many Irish pubs across Canada—from Ottawa and the GTA to Calgary and Vancouver—that kindly display our posters, helping us connect with newcomers in welcoming, familiar spaces.

Just as vital are the countless community-run Facebook pages and Irish volunteer organisations in cities nationwide, that consistently direct people to our services. Ours is truly a shared effort—it takes a village.

THE EAMONN O'LOGHLIN
**IRISH
CANADIAN
IMMIGRATION
CENTRE**

irishcdn.org

 [ican1620](https://www.instagram.com/ican1620)

 [IrishCdn](https://www.facebook.com/IrishCdn)

 [I/CAN](https://www.linkedin.com/company/I/CAN)



**Meeting the needs
of newly arrived
Irish immigrants
to Canada.**

**Information on:
immigration/visas,
employment,
social care**

We are national.
Reach out from
anywhere in
Canada 🍁

 **(416) 603-9549**

**VISIT OUR
WEBSITE!**



Shared on Social

Reach Out to I/CAN!

Executive Director
Cathy Murphy

Did you know there are many ways to reach out to I/CAN?

Give us a Call:
416-603-9549

OR

Send us a text on WhatsApp:
437-439-2007

Meeting of new Irish immigrants to Canada

Information on social services

Contact Us
Across Canada
In Toronto: 416-603-9549
admin@irishcdn.org

Email Us!

I/CAN

Administrative Assistant,
Michelle Perry
admin@irishcdn.org

Social Care Advisor,
Sarah O’Gorman
s.ogorman@irishcdn.org

Attend a webinar or an in person event in Toronto or Vancouver

I/CAN

Career Resources Advisor,
Rhonda McDowell

Board Member,
Eric Keogh

Visit our Website for tips and guides!

irishcanadianimmigrationcentre.org

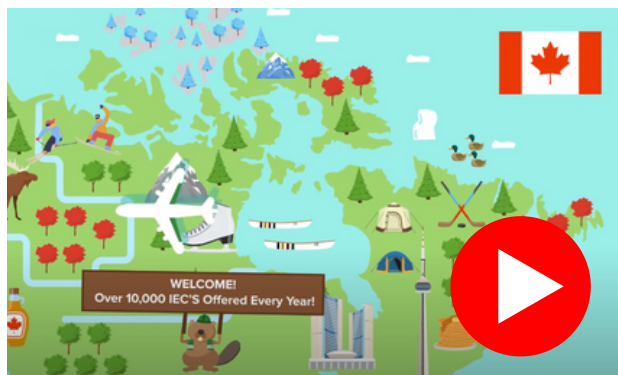
The Chair,
Dermot Muir

We are here for you. Feel welcome to reach out!

I/CAN

Meeting the needs of newly arrived Irish immigrants to Canada

Animated Awareness



Click to watch!

Summer Student Steer



Did you know?

The GAA (Gaelic Athletic Association) displays our I/CAN banner on pitches across Canada?

Thank you!



I/CAN

A Snapshot of Just Some of Our Trusted Intersectoral Partners

**CrossCare
Irish Diaspora
Support
Project, Dublin**



**Fagan
Immigration
Law, Toronto**



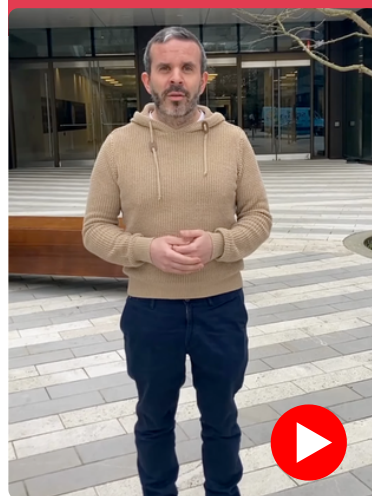
**Irish
Cultural
Society of
Calgary**



**Ireland
Canada
Chamber of
Commerce
Toronto**



**Carry
Immigration,
Vancouver**



**Canadian
Visa
Specialists,
Montreal**



Click to watch!

Irish in BC and The Irish Women's Network of BC

**WELLNESS
FOR ALL AGES**

Three FREE workshops on mental health and well-being resources – get access to experts in a relaxed, welcoming environment



Kindly sponsored by Coastal Crew Construction LTD



Third Workshop
Wednesday November 13th 2024



5:15pm - 6:45pm



Emerald Isle Seniors Society, Toronto



**Helplink,
Galway**



**Together We Can,
Vancouver**



Problematic Substance Use: How to reach out for support in Canada.

LISTEN ON  Spotify



Advancing Our Mission through Government Investment

Emigrant Support Program

Working through hundreds of organisations across the world, the Government of Ireland Emigrant Support Programme focuses primarily on two areas: support for the vulnerable and underrepresented; nurturing Ireland's cultural heritage abroad among the diaspora. Thanks to the trust and contributions of our core government funder, we continue to expand our programs and reach more individuals in need.



Minister Timmy Dooley, TD, Minister of State, Government of Ireland, visits us during St. Patrick's Week.

VOICES OF IMPACT

Meet some of those we support:

Cian and Ruth

We moved over to Vancouver at the beginning of May and are absolutely loving it so far! When we arrived, we attended the I/CAN employment webinar and then the newcomer in-person event – these events were extremely informative regarding different processes that they have in Canada and we were made to feel very welcome. They were also great for bringing people together as we ended up going to a trad session with a few people that we met at the in-person newcomer event – thank you so much again Rhonda! Would highly recommend going to any sort of I/CAN event if you're moving over to Vancouver, they're so helpful and friendly and you'll meet people in the exact same boat as you!



Jamie



**Listen to what Jamie
had to say about I/CAN**

CLICK HERE >

Eimer

I moved to Montreal in January 2025, after my wife Rebecca had been working in Canada since the winter of 2023. Having spent several weeks exploring the city in 2024, I was thrilled to finally make the move full-time. Still, I was a little nervous as I do not speak French, and I wasn't sure what my employment prospects would look like.

Before leaving Ireland, I attended the I/CAN employment webinar, which provided excellent tips and advice. I'd highly recommend it to anyone job-hunting here. I was fortunate to find a position in my field just six weeks after arriving in Montreal, and even luckier that it's remote, meaning I don't need to be bilingual.

That said, I'm currently taking the free government French classes a couple of evenings a week. I think it's important to embrace the local language and culture and Montreal is a bilingual city.

The I/CAN socials and website are fantastic resources for newcomers, and Rhonda from I/CAN was incredibly generous in sharing information with me. My wife and I are loving life in Montreal, and we're always happy to connect with fellow Irish living in the city.



*Pictured at the Canadian Open Tennis in Montreal
(won by Vicky Mboko)*



Rob and Family

We moved to Toronto in June 2011, after spending two years working in Jamaica. Originally from Dublin, my wife Sarah and I arrived with our nearly two-year-old daughter Tess, ready to start a new chapter. Moving to Canada is a wonderful experience, but not without challenges – comparison to home, visa requirements and cost are the very real issues that make or break a move.

I joined Rogers Communications over 12 years ago and am still there today. Since then, our family has grown—we're now four, with our son Olly, now 12, born in Toronto—and we bought a home in Greektown about six years ago. Sarah launched her own PR agency, Agnostic Inc., five years back and now employs 25 people.

While getting established here was a challenge in the early days, it gradually became easier. One key to settling in was committing emotionally to our new home. You can't have one foot on the plane to Ireland – wherever you are, you need to be there. We became Canadian citizens two years ago and truly enjoy our life in Toronto— though our kids consider Ireland their home too.



I never expected that I'd one day be managing a hockey team and think nothing of 6am hockey practices for our son Olly in sub 20 weather! Life is one big adventure if you let it!



Meet some of those who support us:

“WHY I SUPPORT I/CAN”

Corporate Sponsorship: CONSTRUCTION LABOUR SOLUTIONS, Christopher Doherty (Vancouver)

We at CLS proudly sponsor I/CAN because they're an incredible resource for Irish immigrants across Canada. As an Irish immigrant myself, I know the value of strong support and I/CAN delivers that every step of the way. They've been nothing but brilliant to work with, both personally and professionally and the help they have given to our employees (Irish immigrants in Vancouver) has never gone unnoticed in my eyes and I'm so thankful for the upstanding resources they offer Irish throughout Canada.



Donors: OLIVER MURRAY AND COLLEEN DONELLY (Toronto)

As legacy supporters, we can recall when the Eamonn O'Loughlin Irish Canadian Immigration Centre was first opened. Since that day, we have clearly seen the impact that I/CAN is making for Irish immigrants establishing themselves in Canada.

Corporate Sponsorship: A LITTLE TASTE OF HOME (Calgary)

We as a business were very fortunate to be asked to sponsor the I/CAN Immigration health and well being for immigrants. As immigrants ourselves we know the struggles of coming to a new country and not knowing where to turn to for help.



In-Kind Employment Support: AOIFE KERNAN (across Canada)

I love volunteering with I/CAN because it gives me the chance to support newcomers as they build a sense of belonging and community. It's rewarding to help people navigate life in a new country while staying connected to their Irish roots and imparting knowledge from my own journey as a one-time newcomer to Canada.



Board Member: ERIC KEOGH (Vancouver)



pictured at IRL Group's monthly New and Not So New event



I support I/CAN because it's a vital resource for both Irish newcomers and those already building their lives in Canada. It provides practical, hands-on support to help clients settle, integrate, and thrive. From my own experience as a new arrival I know how challenging it is to get yourself set up in a new city, find a job and a place to stay. The resources that I/CAN offers 'cut through the noise' and all the conflicting advice that's out there. I encourage all newcomers to take advantage of what's on offer – and it's provided at no cost to them! I/CAN not only celebrates our shared heritage—it actively strengthens and connects the Irish-Canadian community for the future.

Volunteer: BARBARA ERWIN
(c-Gaming Coordinator, Toronto)

It's an honour for me to be able to help support Irish newcomers to Canada in some small way. I feel like it's a way to celebrate and recognize my own Irish ancestors who arrived on these shores.



Meet our support team:



KATIE, from Co. Laois
Administrative Assistant

Supporting I/CAN clients matters to me because I have witnessed firsthand the impact of the organisation and the crucial support provided to Irish people across Canada. Getting to contribute to that as part of the I/CAN team is a privilege.



**SARAH, from Co. Limerick
Social Care Advisor, maternity-
leave cover**

Supporting I/CAN clients matters to me because I want our clients to remember that they are never alone and that help is always available to them, no matter how long they call Canada their home.



**RHONDA, from Co. Down
Career Resources Advisor**

Supporting I/CAN clients matters to me because it lets clients know they have a place to get support, guidance, and a team of named contacts to cheer them along as they arrive, settle into, and establish a new life in Canada. As a newcomer back in 2015, I participated in Irish Canadian community events that helped set me up for success. It matters to me that future arrivals have this opportunity too.

THANK YOU—YES YOU!

Were you:

A client who placed your trust in us? Thank you!

A volunteer who gave your time and care? Thank you!

An intersectoral partner who helped us reach further? Thank you!

A donor or corporate sponsor who helped us grow? Thank you!

A government funder whose support sustained our work? Thank you!

A community member who spread the word and shared our mission? Thank you!

A team member who showed up every day for newcomers? Thank you!

For all we made possible together this past year—thank you!

Watch as our newest arrivals place pins on the map of Ireland, marking the places they come from—all the way from there to here.



I / CAN