



**YMCA of
Hamilton | Burlington | Brantford**
Immigrant Services

Community Connections

Canada Connects

Canada Connects creates meaningful connections between newcomers and long-time Canadians and established immigrants. Canada Connects matching activities support the two-way street of newcomers' integration by fostering inter-cultural awareness and acceptance, and supporting volunteers to better understand the contribution of immigrants and the challenges they face in Canada.

Be a **Canada Connect Volunteer**. Make a difference.

Who Can Be a Volunteer?

Long-time Canadian Citizens or established newcomers who are well connected to the local communities.

Volunteers support newcomers by:

- Providing information and insights into Canadian customs, culture, social, political & economic context of their new community.
- Introducing newcomers to formal & informal social and employment networks.

Volunteer Commitment:

- Attend volunteer training sessions
- Meet with newcomers for 6 months
- Keep matters confidential

Benefits to Volunteers:

- Develop better cross-cultural awareness, communication and sensitivity.
- Fulfillment from helping newcomers settle more effectively in our community.

For more information, contact Abir Alsaid: abir.alsaid@ymcahbb.ca or 905-531-3953

