

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
INTERVIEW and PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES

GTA Employers Offer Syrian Refugees First Job Opportunities in Canada

Rami and Nura arrived from Syria in February 2016 and were overjoyed to finally find a permanent home in Toronto in May. “Getting settled” in Toronto as new Canadians meant finding a place to live, setting up bank accounts, signing up for language classes and now, finding jobs. Rami and Nura are looking for work in their fields as skilled professionals in Information Technology and Supply Chain Logistics. In a competitive job market and being new to Canada, they face the challenge of securing a good job and connecting to employers that are hiring.

ACCES Employment, in partnership with the Consortium of Agencies Serving Internationally-Trained Persons (CASIP), Magnet and the Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council (TRIEC) have organized a forum for employers to promote job opportunities at their companies and to hire skilled Syrian newcomers into their workplaces. “Skilled immigrants and refugees present a great opportunity for our economy and for employers. It’s important for our region and the country to help internationally trained professionals, including Syrian refugees, to get a job that reflects their skills,” says Margaret Eaton, Executive Director, TRIEC.

The job fair will include 17 employers representing the finance, engineering, information technology, sales and marketing, non-profit and public sectors. Participating employers at the forum will potentially offer Syrian refugees and other newcomers their very first job opportunities in Canada. “Engaging employers in the hiring of newcomers is an important initiative that will help ensure the success of new Canadians and the incredible skills that they bring to Canada,” says Allison Pond, President & CEO, ACCES Employment.

“Building the Eglinton Crosstown is about creating new transit but it also about creating new jobs, jobs that benefit the whole community including newcomers to Canada,” said Ron Aitken, Vice-President and Deputy Project Director at Crosslinx Transit Solutions, the consortium that is building the Crosstown. “Through mentoring and recruitment events like the one on June 22, Crosslinx is working with ACCES to connect qualified, experienced professionals who are new to Toronto with good jobs in construction.”

For Rami and Nura who will be attending the job fair, preparation and making the most of the opportunity will be the key to success. “I feel well prepared to meet employers after working with my employment consultant at ACCES Employment”, says Rami, who is motivated to find a job in his field. “I really enjoy my field of work and I can’t wait to get started here in Canada”, says Nura.

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When: Wednesday June 22, 2016 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Where: Ryerson University, Ted Rogers School of Management 55 Dundas St. West, 7th floor
(Registration is required for the event, to register, visit: <http://ow.ly/S1q4300OmEO>)

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For interview and photo opportunities, please contact:

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About ACCES Employment

ACCES Employment is a leader in connecting employers with qualified employees from diverse backgrounds. More than 16,000 job seekers are served annually at five locations across the Greater Toronto Area. As a not-for-profit organization, ACCES receives funding from all levels of government, corporate sponsors, various supporters and the United Way Toronto and York Region. For more information about services and programs at ACCES, please visit www.acesemployment.ca.

About CASIP

CASIP is a consortium of independent, community-based agencies and colleges which have been collaborating since 1998 to drive innovation, advocacy and excellence in employment services for skilled immigrants and employers in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). For more information, please visit www.casip.ca

About Magnet

Magnet is a new network powered by data-rich, job-matching technology. It connects job seekers with employers based upon skills, preferences and talent needs. The network is also a unique source of real-time labour market information for decision makers and community planners. Magnet's goal is to address unemployment and under-employment specifically as it relates to youth, new immigrants, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, and other individuals facing barriers to employment. For more information visit <http://www.magnet.today/>

About TRIEC

The Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council (TRIEC) brings leaders together who are committed to helping immigrants and employers succeed. TRIEC helps employers make the most of the Greater Toronto Area's culturally diverse workforce while helping immigrants connect to employment that fully leverages their skills and talents. For more information visit <http://triec.ca/>