

FindMe

Personalized visualization of services and events nearby, to help newcomers find relevant opportunities with respect to their location

Rachel Wong, Meggie Debnath, Sally Chen, Walter Yang



Imagine you are a newcomer to Toronto.

You speak another language.

You don't know anyone else.

You are given a checklist of items to accomplish.

Newcomers could better utilize specific services within their communities if information awareness were increased.

Principal Economic Applicants

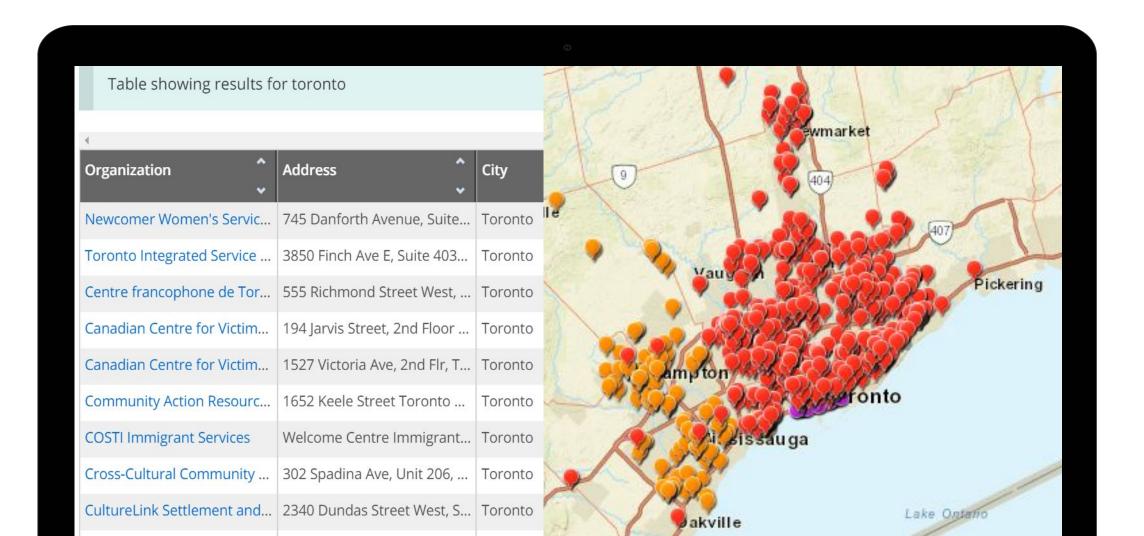
Admitted in 2015 76,661 # Used Settlement Services between 2015-2017 24,050

% of total 31%

Resettled Refugees # Admitted in 2015 21,022 # Used Settlement Services between 2015-2017 15,102

% of total 72%

Current searches of services for newcomers present an overload of information that are not personalized to their needs.



FindMe will recommend relevant services located near users.



Personal profile of newcomer



Evaluations of suitable services based on similar users



Distance and accessibility considerations



Output
personalized
plan for
newcomer to
access services

FindMe



Services Events Favourites

Toronto Career Fair

Downtown Toronto

Career fair focusing on mid-late career professionals.











I found that there were many opportunities for employment in finance.

Drop-in Language Class

North York

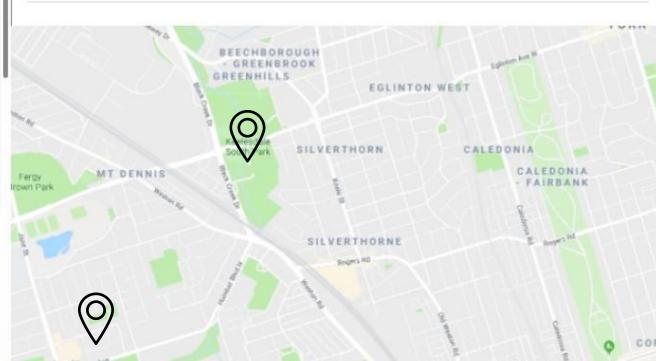
Weekend drop-in English language class for newcomers.

Customize

Employment Schools Community ~

Healthcare Government Child Care





HARWOOD

We will collect a base of services for newcomers by using open data sources and by partnering with organizations such as Peace Geeks and 211.

Open data sources

Lists of services, events, and their locations, from the City of Toronto & Canadian Government

PeaceGeeks

Leverage existing research and information on the types of services immigrants need.

211 Community Services

Make use of additional service listings and location data available through 211.

Our service will scale up by targeting the newcomer immigrant population in Toronto and expanding to the rest of Canada.

With 20% of newcomer population using FindMe (immigrants in Canada for less than 5 years)

46,000 users 53,000 users

88,500 users

Surveys on existing services

Begins in Toronto

Expand to
Greater Toronto
Area

Expand to Vancouver and Montreal

FindMe will create a direct economic impact to Canada's economy by facilitating the reduction in unemployed and underemployed newcomers.

\$ 1.5 Billion

In lost income tax caused by unemployed and underemployed immigrants in Canada



\$ 30 Million

Impact that FindMe can achieve targeting to help 5% of the newcomer population find suitable employment

58%

Canada's newcomer population live in Toronto, Vancouver, or Montreal

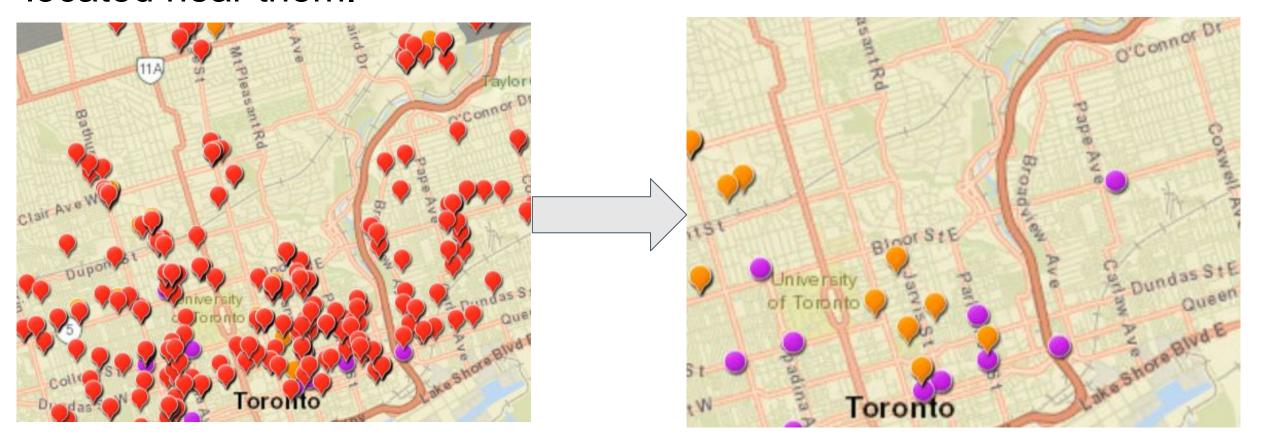
> 4%

higher unemployment rate than settled immigrants and more likely to face underemployment

Appendices

Let's start with what services are there and how can I find the ones relevant to my needs?

Our goal is to increase newcomers access to relevant services located near them.



Sources:

https://www.kidsnewtocanada.ca/beyond/resources

https://settlement.org/findhelp/ontario/york/

https://helpingnewcomerswork.ca/programs/

https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/employment-social-support/

employment-support/toronto-employment-and-social-services-location

<u>s/</u>

http://www.ureachtoronto.ca/toronto-services-map/

https://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=52ee67dfda184

471b2353f5c2abfb3fc

https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/853e-newcomer-welcome-brochure-english.pdf

Appendices:

Checklist for new immigrants

- Before you leave the airport, check out the newcomer welcome centre. At the Toronto Pearson International Airport, look for the Immigrant Reception and Information Services (IRIS) kiosks. At the Vancouver International Airport, go to the Community Airport Newcomers Network(CANN) kiosk. These kiosks will have pamphlets and resources to help you in your first days in Canada.
- Find temporary accommodation for your first few nights after landing and then start looking for a longer-term rental in the city and neighbourhood of your research. Ensure you do some research on where you want to reside for the longer term before committing to a lease. Learn more about housing considerations here. < link to Settling in Canada>Find a Home.
- Obtain a good street map, a telephone book and the Yellow Pages. These resources will be important tools in your first days as you get to know your neighbourhood and search out local services.
- Visit a local immigrant settlement agency. Such non-profit organizations receive government funding to offer newcomers services, such as free ESL training, settlement counselling, employment workshops and more. They also often have host programs that buddy up newcomers with volunteers who help guide them through their first few months in Canada.
- Get your permanent resident (PR) card, a wallet-sized, plastic status card that replaces your paper IMM 1000 Record of Landing document. It's convenient proof of your permanent resident status. For more information, call 1-800-255-4541.
- Apply for your Social Insurance Number (SIN) card. Without it, you cannot get a job or apply for any government assistance or credit. Applications for a SIN card can be made through a Services Canada office check the blue pages of

Statistics show that a majority of immigrant newcomers have difficulty accessing services.

- 1. Job fairs and opportunities
- 2. Cultural events offered within their community
- 3. Community center services
- 4. Healthcare services

Issues with lack of utilization of services

- 1. Underemployment of highly skilled immigrants contributes to job precarity
- 2. Isolation and lack of community integration
- 3. Health care emergencies

Other Considerations

Translations

Data Science best practices, data security How to convince people to use this

Keeping up to date and relevant

Funding, government and immigration support crowdsource events and services

Data science details, 2 fit scores

Target group: newcomer immigrants, 0-2 years, have some stats to prove it

Newcomers could better utilize specific services within their communities if information awareness were increased.

Although 63%

reported that personalized attention is helpful in their job search

Less than 50%

of immigrants actually connected with an immigrant serving agency