



OCASI – Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants

Overview:

OCASI – Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants is the umbrella organization for immigrant and refugee-serving agencies in Ontario. OCASI was founded in 1978 as the collective voice of the immigrant and refugee-serving sector. Over that period, OCASI has grown from the 17 founding organizations to 242 organizations by mid-2023. OCASI champions equity and human rights for im/migrants and refugees through advocacy, collective action, collaborative planning, research, capacity building, and information and knowledge transfer.

The placement:

OCASI has an Ontario-wide mission and mandate to act as the collective voice of immigrant and refugee-serving organizations across Ontario. OCASI works with organizations, and not with individual immigrants or refugees.

- The OCASI office is located in Toronto near Yonge and Eglinton. [Follow the link](#) to find information about the physical location.
- OCASI works on a hybrid model. Staff living within the GTHA are expected to work from the physical office three times per month. Staff may also be requested to attend in person for additional meetings, professional development or other organizational business.
- This will be a remote placement.

The position:

The student placement position will assist with the OCASI legacy project to document the history of the Council, with a particular focus on advocacy and social justice campaigns. Activities can involve assisting with reviewing, curating and digitizing documents, conducting a literature review, identifying key informants, and assisting with audio and video interviews. The position will also have the opportunity to assist with any emerging social justice campaigns or initiatives, supporting logistics and activities at the OCASI conference, and helping to review content for a website revamp.

The opportunity:

This placement is a learning opportunity for a student interested in social justice history in the immigrant and refugee-serving sector using an anti-racism and anti-oppression framework, and advocacy in an umbrella organization. It is a learning opportunity for a student interested in building or deepening an understanding of the role and activities of an umbrella organization in the community services sector, advocacy efforts, organizing training for people who serve immigrants and refugees, and collaborations with sectors and organizations. The student has the opportunity to build skills and experience in:

- Carrying out a literature review for social justice history documentation
- Conducting interviews with key participants
- Reviewing web materials to prepare for a website revamp
- Assist with organizing and logistics for the annual conference and annual general meeting
- Assisting with any emerging social justice campaigns or initiatives

The ideal candidate:

A student with an academic background and/or personal interest in advocacy and capacity building among immigrant and refugee-serving organizations, who is able to work independently with some direction and minimal supervision, and is comfortable with flexibility and changing priorities and activities in the context of the placement.

How to apply?

For more information about the course and application process go to:

<https://www.newcollege.utoronto.ca/cel-courses/cel-how-to-apply/>

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