

February 12, 2020

Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee (SPPC)  
City of London

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RE: London Community Grants Program Budget Allocations, 2020 – 2023

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To the Chair and Members, SPPC;

Immploy respectfully submits these comments to the Added Agenda for your Public Participation Meeting on Thursday, February 13, 2020, 6:00 pm, City Hall - Council Chambers - 3rd Floor.

Immploy is one of the few recipients of multi-year London Community Grants Program funding to advance the City's Strategic focus on *Growing our Economy by developing a top quality workforce*. This City of London investment will support our community with the capacity and resources to increase employer access to talent and newcomer access to meaningful job opportunities. The grant strengthens connections between economic development, post-secondary institutions, employment and training agencies and settlement organizations to support immigrant employment outcomes for the benefits of our community and economy.

Immploy is a program led by business leaders in the community, particularly representatives of small to medium sized companies. These businesses donate their time to help identify ways that our community can better recognize, recruit and retain newcomer talent. They provide insight into how to connect with companies without dedicated human resources staff. The City of London investment enables Immploy to provide its job matching services to all immigrants with work authorization that are excluded from other funding sources such as international student graduates. It is a critically needed wrap-around investment.

Like many other recipients of the community grant, Immploy already experienced a funding reduction over the next four years in comparison to prior municipal funding levels. A further reduction would jeopardize our capacity to effectively support immigrant talent and our local employers. We encourage the SPPC and Council to honour the funding recommendations made for Immploy and other recipients of the Community Grant.

We welcome the opportunity to provide more information about Immploy and its efforts to strengthen the attraction, retention, and integration of international student graduates, newcomer skilled workers, and entrepreneurs in the local workforce. We will be attending the Public Participation meeting on February 13, 2020 as part of our support for the City of London's vital Community Grant investments in the nonprofit community services sector.

Sincerely,



Nelida Forero

Immploy Project Manager, [nelidaf@immploy.ca](mailto:nelidaf@immploy.ca)

cc: Glendalynn Dixon, Immploy Leadership Council Chairperson

## **Immploy Leadership Council Members**

**\* Glendalynn Dixon** - Chairperson  
Owner of Glendalynn Dixon Professional Services

**\* Lisa Harrison** - Past Chairperson  
Chief Operating Officer at Robarts Clinical Trials

**\* Ahad Al-Hakim** - Vice Chairperson  
Quality, HR & Communications Manager at PolyAnalytik Inc.

**Kim K.C. Ly**  
Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant at Borders Immigration Consultancy

**Nelson Guiot**  
Senior Engineering Manager at Strik, Baldinelli, Moniz, Ltd.

**Rachel Berdan**  
Social Enterprise Program Manager & Coach at Pillar Nonprofit Network

**Katie Mennill**  
HR Business Partner & Diversity Manager at 3M

**Marc Lacoursiere**  
President at the Achievement Centre

**Ellen Husk**  
FRP Manager at Digital Echidna

**Marwa Abdulhamid**  
HR Manager at Trudell Medical International

### **Ex-Officio Members:**

**Jill Tansley**, Manager, Strategic Programs & Partnership at City of London

**Sandra Zarate**, Business Support Specialist at London Economic Development Corporation (LEDC)

### **Managing Partner:**

**\*Jennifer Hollis**, Executive Director at WIL Employment Connections (WIL)

*\*Members of the Executive Team*

### **Immploy Advisory Committee Members**

Access Centre for Regulated Employment, Kate Kennedy

County of Huron, Kristin Crane

Corporation of the County of Perth, Sarah Franklin

Elgin Middlesex Oxford Workforce Planning & Development Board, Deb Mountenay

Employment Services Elgin, Jackie van Ryswyk

London Cross Cultural Learner Centre, Rifat Hussain

London Economic Development Corporation, Robert Collins

Oxford Workforce Development Partnership/Community Employment Services, Natalie Surridge

TechAlliance, Victoria Bright

Western University, Snjezana Linkes

WIL Employment Connections, Zeina Choucair

WIL Employment Connections, Steve Dennison

Sarnia Lambton Local Immigration Partnership, Stephanie Ferreira

Sarnia-Lambton in Economic Development, Cari Meloche

College Boreal, Sibylle Ugirase

Community Employment Choices, Bill Pigram

LUSO Community Services, Elizabeth Rodrigues