

THUNDER BAY HOST PROGRAM PARTICIPANT UNDERSTANDING

As a Participant with the **THUNDER BAY HOST PROGRAM**, I understand that the Newcomer - Volunteer relationship is based on the development of friendship, trust, and equal partnership. Participation by both the HOST Volunteer and the HOST Newcomer is voluntary and either have the right to terminate the relationship at any time.

As a HOST Newcomer, participation will not jeopardize the support you receive from **Thunder Bay Multicultural Association**, nor will it affect your financial support.

- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer relationship will provide an opportunity for learning. Volunteers may help Newcomers feel more at home in Thunder Bay, and Newcomers may share their rich culture, traditions and experiences;
- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer can suggest and decide how often they will see each other, where they will meet, and what activities they will do together;
- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer have rights to privacy, and are bound by confidentiality. Any information shared in confidence shall not be disclosed without due authority, but must comply with all the laws, including the reporting law as outlined by the Child and Family Services Act;
- both Newcomers and the Volunteers must not use the relationship to promote their political or religious beliefs or for financial gain;
- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer should be open and honest with each other and feel free to discuss any problems in the relationship; and
- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer should feel free to discuss any questions or concerns in the relationship with the HOST Program Coordinator or designated Settlement Worker;
- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer should discuss their involvement in the Program with their families/partner;
- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer acknowledge the need for parental permission for non-adult participants;
- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer may not be able to allow others to ride in their vehicle, due to the need for adequate vehicle insurance. Host Participants must consult their insurance company to determine if they have adequate coverage and ensure their vehicle is within the motor vehicle safety standards. Young children can only be transported in an approved car seat and all passengers must wear seat belts;
- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer must not provide living accommodations, money, material possessions, but can participate in the Program in many other ways;

- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer will communicate with the HOST Program Coordinator or designated Settlement Worker, to keep staff updated regarding the match and provide feedback;
- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer will notify the HOST Program staff of any pertinent information changes;
- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer must keep their safety and those participating in the match, first and foremost. Avoid high risk activities and use common sense;
- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer will attend the suggested orientation and training session(s);
- both the Newcomer and the Volunteer must not go beyond their responsibilities and will confine their activities as defined by the HOST Program. In instances where more appears to be required, the participant will consult with the HOST Program Coordinator or designated Settlement Worker;
- although the HOST Program, in terms of police checks or personal references, does not formally screen Newcomers, participation is in a spirit of trust and friendship.

I understand that the HOST Program and the **Thunder Bay Multicultural Association** are not liable for any injury or mishap, which may befall me in the course of participation.

Thunder Bay Multicultural Association reserves the right to accept or dismiss Participants at any time for reasons they deem appropriate.

Host Participant's Signature: _____

Designated Co-ordinator: _____

Date: _____