

**Lifeline Syria: Cape Breton Steering Committee**  
**September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015**  
**Cape Breton University**

**Meeting: Formation of Steering Committee and Next Steps**

**Committee Members**

	<b>Member</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Email</b>
1.	Dr. David Wheeler, Co-Chair	Cape Breton University – President and Vice-Chancellor	<a href="mailto:david_wheeler@cbu.ca">david_wheeler@cbu.ca</a>
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3.	John Malcom, Co-Chair	Chair, Prosperity Framework, Sydney Rotary Club	<a href="mailto:jmalcom@ns.sympatico.ca">jmalcom@ns.sympatico.ca</a>
4.	Terry Smith	President/Marketing Strategist of ICON Communications	<a href="mailto:terry.icon@gmail.com">terry.icon@gmail.com</a>
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6.	Keith MacDonald	CEO Cape Breton Partnership	<a href="mailto:keith@capebretonpartnership.com">keith@capebretonpartnership.com</a>
7.	Dr. Keith Brown	Cape Breton University, VP International and Aboriginal Affairs	<a href="mailto:keith_brown@cbu.ca">keith_brown@cbu.ca</a>
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18.	Cecil Clarke (Christina Lamey)	Mayor, CBRM	<a href="mailto:cpclarke@cbrm.ns.ca">cpclarke@cbrm.ns.ca</a> <a href="mailto:clamey@cbrm.ns.ca">clamey@cbrm.ns.ca</a>
19.	Lauri Gallaway	Account Manager at Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA)	<a href="mailto:lauri.gallaway@canada.ca">lauri.gallaway@canada.ca</a>
20.	Amanda McDougall	Cape Breton University – Immigration Pilot	<a href="mailto:amanda_mcdougall@cbu.ca">amanda_mcdougall@cbu.ca</a>

# Minutes

## I. Introductions

- Special thanks to Terry Smith for his leadership on organizing this initiative.
- Keith MacDonald shares his experiences from Greece and witnessing the refugee crisis first hand.

## II. Report on call with Minister Diab

- There is a need to bring groups forming across the province together and determine what communities are interested in sponsorship.
- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities is creating a Task Force to assist in the coordination of groups at the municipal level
- ISANS Refugee Specialist, Evelyn Jones can be consulted for information and guidance.
- While there is one Settlement Officer (Rob Martin) with the YReach Program (YMCA), we will need dedicated staff/secretariat to develop this movement.
- There is potential funding that can be looked into that would allow for Graduate Students to be hired to conduct research and consultation.

**ACTION** → Dr. Keith Brown and Amanda McDougall to request minor change in activities of the Rural-Urban Immigration Pilot for Cape Breton Island contract that is funded through the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration. These changes will allow for community workshops and settlement work to include a special focus on Syrian refugees. Reallocation of funds and time could equate to 20% of current contract.

## III. Organizations to assist in leading initiative

**QUESTION:** Who can act as interim organization to accept financial donations and issue tax receipts?

Cape Breton Partnership, Cape Breton University, CBRM, New Dawn and Island Business Ministries all to look into this possibility. Each organization to report back and groups will coordinate roles once permissions are cleared.

## IV. Sub-committees and convenors

- **Advocacy** – Ian MacNeil (Convenor), Elizabeth Cusack and Keith Brown
- **Fundraising** – John Malcom (Convenor) and Paula MacNeil (CBU Director of Development)
- **Communications** – Irene Khatter (Convenor), Terry Smith and Becky Chisholm
- **Family Support/Settlement** – Andre Gallant (Co-Convenor – settlement services), Andrew Lynk (Co-Convenor – healthcare and education), Dave McKenna (Business Ministries), TBA New Dawn (housing support). Will recruit committee members representing Department of Community Services and other such Provincial departments.

- **Community Liaison/Administration**—Amanda McDougall. Will include the Cape Breton Island Task Force on immigration to assist, develop website and all materials needed, create database of interested community members.
- Additional committee members should include representatives of aboriginal communities (contact Stephen Augustine) and professionals such as immigration lawyers, accountants and labour union representatives.

#### **V. Steering Committee members and appointment of Chair**

- It was agreed that all people in attendance will serve as committee members. Additional members may be added as needed.
- Co-Chairs will be Dr. David Wheeler, Dr. Andrew Lynk, and John Malcom (pending acceptance).

#### **VI. Next Steps**

- All sub-committees to meet and develop plans in the coming weeks and steering committee to reconvene in one month.
- Amanda McDougall to circulate meeting minutes and committee member contact information.
- Next meeting **TBA**.

**Meeting Adjourned**