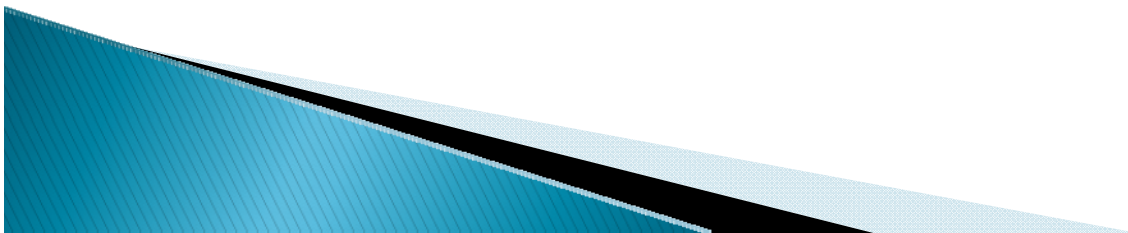


The Connector Program

Building Professional & Social Networks for Newcomers



What is the Connector Program?

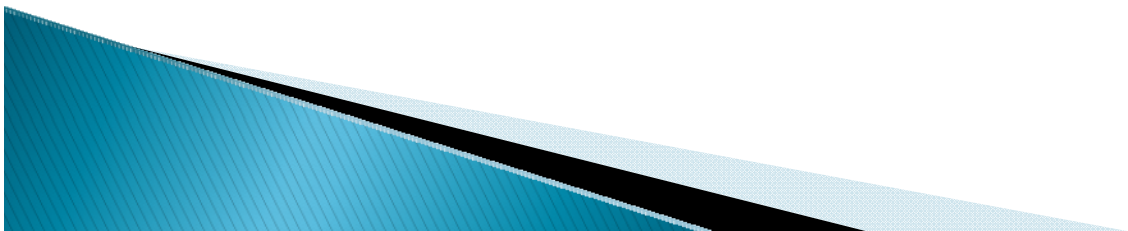
- ▶ The Connector Program is a simple yet effective referral process that connects newcomers with local people
- ▶ This program provides an opportunity for participants to build social & professional networks in the community – a common barrier for many newcomers
- ▶ A connection will be made based on social and/or professional backgrounds or if the participant has an interest in a particular field
- ▶ The goal is to ensure successful settlement for program participants

Why do we Need a Connector Program?

- ▶ Statistics Canada projects that by 2011, Canada will be 100% dependant upon immigrants to ensure a sustainable workforce
- ▶ This program will help alleviate social and professional barriers that many newcomers face when settling into a new community
- ▶ Efficient integration and introduction into the professional community will support skill use of many newcomers and will encourage retention

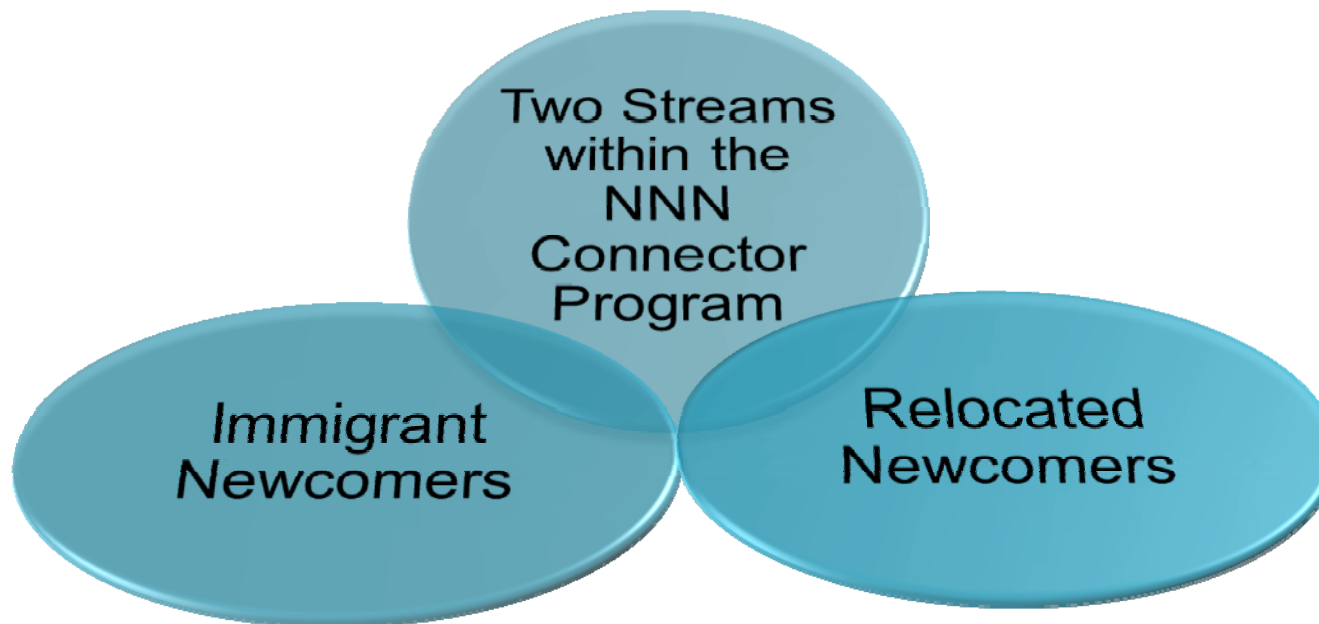
Who are the Connectors?

- ▶ Connectors are people in North Bay who have vast networks in the community and who are used to making introductions
- ▶ Connectors are personable, open-minded and are in contact with people from different professions, social and cultural backgrounds
- ▶ The North Bay Newcomer Network has formed a partnership with the North Bay Rotary Club to recruitment volunteer connectors



NNN Connector Program Streams

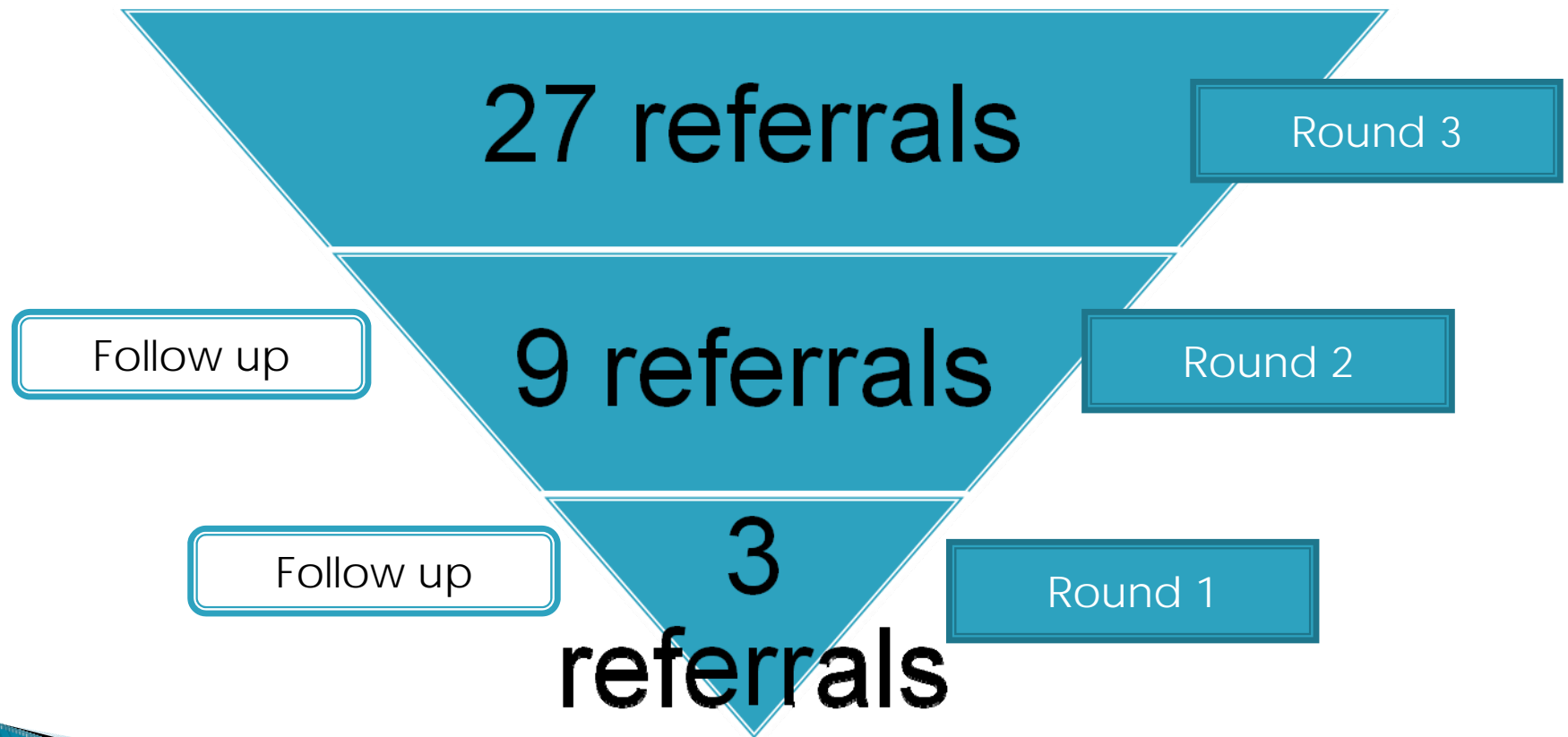
Newcomers can be anyone new to North Bay, whether they are from another country or another community within Canada



How does it Work?

- ▶ When a connection has been made, an e-mail will be sent to the connector and the participant and the participant will set up a casual meeting with his or her connector (for example, coffee)
- ▶ After this meeting, connectors then introduce or “connect” the participant with three community members within their network. Referrals may be people with similar interests, a potential employer, or anyone who would like to meet someone new
- ▶ Each of those three people will then be asked to refer the participant to three more
- ▶ The end result will provide several opportunities for the participant to make social and professional connections in North Bay

The Referral Process



Learn More...

- ▶ For more information about the Connector Program, please contact the [North Bay & District Multicultural Centre](#):
 - 374 Fraser Street
North Bay, ON P1B 3W7
 - 705-495-8931
 - info@nbdmc.ca

