

MOHAWK COLLEGE'S **Welcoming Communities Action Plan**

In early 2015, Mohawk convened a Welcoming Communities Task Force with our business, industry, education and community partners. The task force tabled 34 recommendations following year-long conversations and consultations.

In response to the task force recommendations, Mohawk has developed a multi-year action plan. Our plan commits Mohawk to doing an even better job of serving international students, welcoming newcomers and strengthening our connections with community partners. Our goal is to help international students make a successful transition to Mohawk and to persuade them to continue living and working in our community once they graduate.

Mohawk will be making the following strategic investments to become a more welcoming college:

Open a Language and Culture Centre at Mohawk's Fennell campus to serve as a college and community hub for international students and newcomers to Hamilton. The centre will offer services and resources in a convenient central location.

Launch a custom-built smartphone orientation app for new international students to support their successful transition to Mohawk and introduction to Hamilton. The GoMohawk app will provide a virtual tour and key information about the college.

Launch a global exchange program for domestic and international students to promote global citizenship and create unique opportunities to learn and live in other countries.

Launch an entrepreneurship program in the McKeil School of Business that offers co-operative work terms and mentorship for international students who work in family-run businesses.

Provide refugee students with access to bursaries that help remove financial barriers to a Mohawk education.

Hire a Manager of Social Inclusion and an Intercultural Counsellor to lead diversity training, development and support across the college for all students, faculty and staff.

Expand volunteer opportunities in the community for international students and actively promote cultural events and local points of interest to further strengthen their connections with Hamilton.