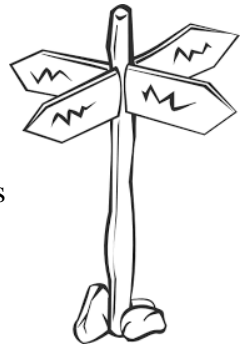


Guide to Action Outline 2.0

Role of Churches in Immigrant Settlement and Integration



- Document format: PDF – 8 ½” by 11” portrait (including embedded hyperlinks for web content and for browsing within the document itself)
 - Approximate length: 30 pages
-

Introduction – 3 pages

1. Title page (1 page)
2. Credits, organizational affiliations, contact info, etc. (1 page)
3. Table of contents (1 page) – Give visual “cues” (i.e. through icons or words along the header) that this guide contains useful material for congregations, denominational leaders, and interested individuals

Section One: **WHERE** are we? – 2 pages

1. Formatted as a “map” – visual depiction/invitation, with accompanying “legend”
2. Eye-catching, simple, and persuasive – i.e. “throwing down the gauntlet” – this fulfills the function of what has been identified as “Guide 101”
3. Provides initial view of “wayfinding actions” (alluding to travel, exploration, finding, encountering, co-discovering – all of which connect both with lived realities of immigrants and refugees *and* with biblical narrative) – examples with “way” language: (a) “finding our way”; (b) “they found their way to Canada”; (c) “blocking the way” (socio-political context of stringency and exclusivity)
4. Wayfinding action idea #1: Tell us where you are (locate yourself on the map)
 - a. Option A: Invite people to contribute stories about where they are figuratively speaking – i.e. “We’ve just started to get involved. Here’s what we’ve done so far...” or “We haven’t done anything yet, but this is what we’re thinking...”
 - b. Option B: Invite people to contribute markers onto a Google Maps-type application showing all the various churches, people, organizations that are joining or supporting this project

Section Two: **WHY** should we get involved in the first place? (*Vision-oriented*) – 5 pages

1. Sidebar quotes, case studies, stories from key informants and focus group participants
2. Overview of biblical mandate to welcome the stranger, theology of solidarity, etc.
3. Wayfinding action idea #2: Hold a prayer/worship service
 - a. Provide worship resources (or links to resources) – listening for God’s leading; discerning direction with newcomers; what God calls us to do / to be?
4. Wayfinding action idea #3: Organize a book study
 - a. Provide suggested book titles, sample discussion questions
5. Wayfinding action idea #4: Visit another church group or a community agency that is involved with immigrant and/or refugee work
 - a. Provide suggestions about how to connect with other churches/groups

Section Three: **WHAT** do we need in order to do the work? (*Structure-oriented*) – 8 pages

1. Sidebar quotes, case studies, stories from key informants and focus group participants
2. Overview of different types of newcomer ministries
3. Wayfinding action idea #5: Write an advocacy letter to the federal government
 - a. Provide sample letter – e.g. Bill C-585
4. Wayfinding action idea #6: Sponsor a refugee family
 - a. Provide resources on sponsorship logistics, things to keep in mind, etc.
5. Wayfinding action idea #7: Conduct an assets-mapping exercise
 - a. Provide sample outline/model for launching, evaluating, and generating action items based on conducting the exercise in relation to various community groups, government agencies, and/or other churches that are doing work with newcomers

Section Four: **HOW** can we learn from each other? (*Process-oriented*) – 8 pages

1. Sidebar quotes, case studies, stories from key informants and focus group participants
2. Overview of a “pedagogy of mutual welcome” or “pedagogy of shared wayfinding”
3. Wayfinding action idea #8: Hold an intercultural training workshop
 - a. Provide sample training agenda
4. Wayfinding action idea #9: Contribute to the Wayfinder/Landmark/Signpost project (collaborative project – e.g. nation-wide compilation of creative signpost imagery that depicts the realities faced by immigrants, refugees, and other people on the move; could be a virtual project that amounts to crowdsourcing or geocaching... – another example could be a more theological collaboration in which groups and individuals contribute to a coordinated, cumulative “theology of welcome”)
5. Wayfinding action idea #10: Offer “reverse sanctuary” – rather than offering sanctuary to a person or family facing deportation (important work, but work that reinforces power dynamics in terms of who is in control), find a way of offering or requesting “reverse sanctuary” in which a church declares that its sanctuary seeks refuge from complacency, fear, ignorance (symbolic & physical ways of doing this?)

Section Five: **RESOURCES** (*4 pages*)

1. Fulfills the purpose of what had been identified as the denominational leaders’ guide
2. List of organizations, websites, resources

Other ideas

1. Appendix: Glossary?
2. Include sample vision statements from denominations and/or churches
3. Instead of “wayfinding”, could use language of signpost, landmark, cairn, milestone
4. List of other ideas: potluck, film screening, hosting guest speaker for public event, etc.

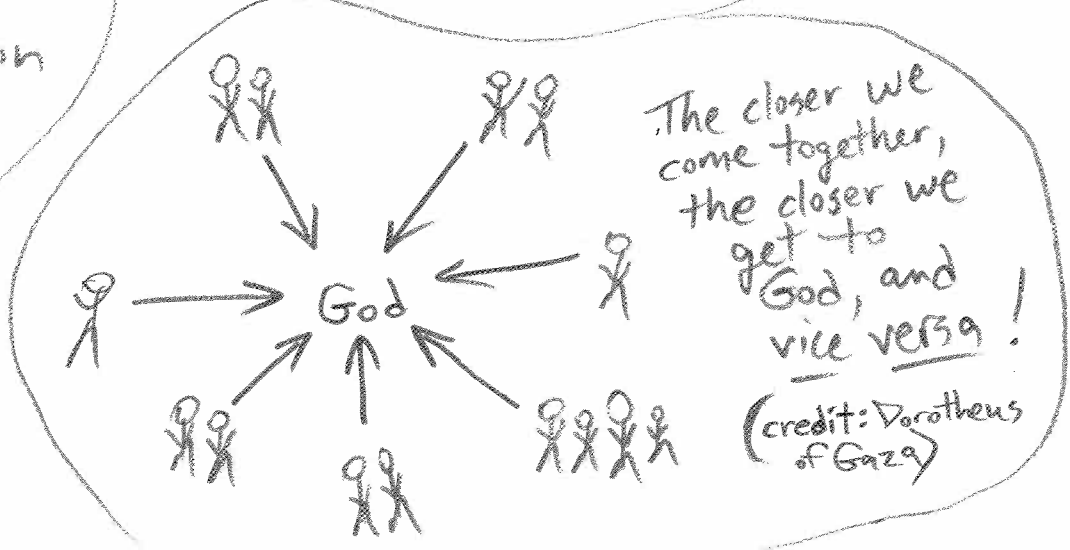
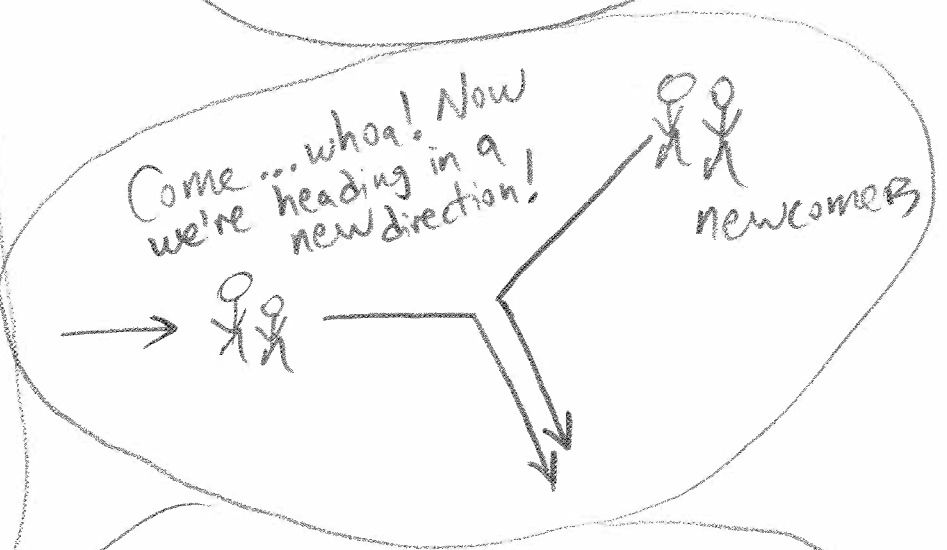
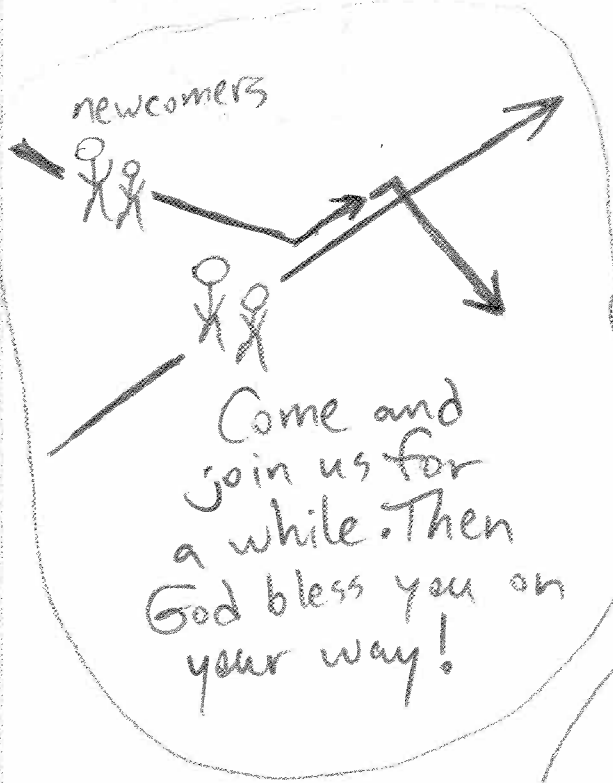
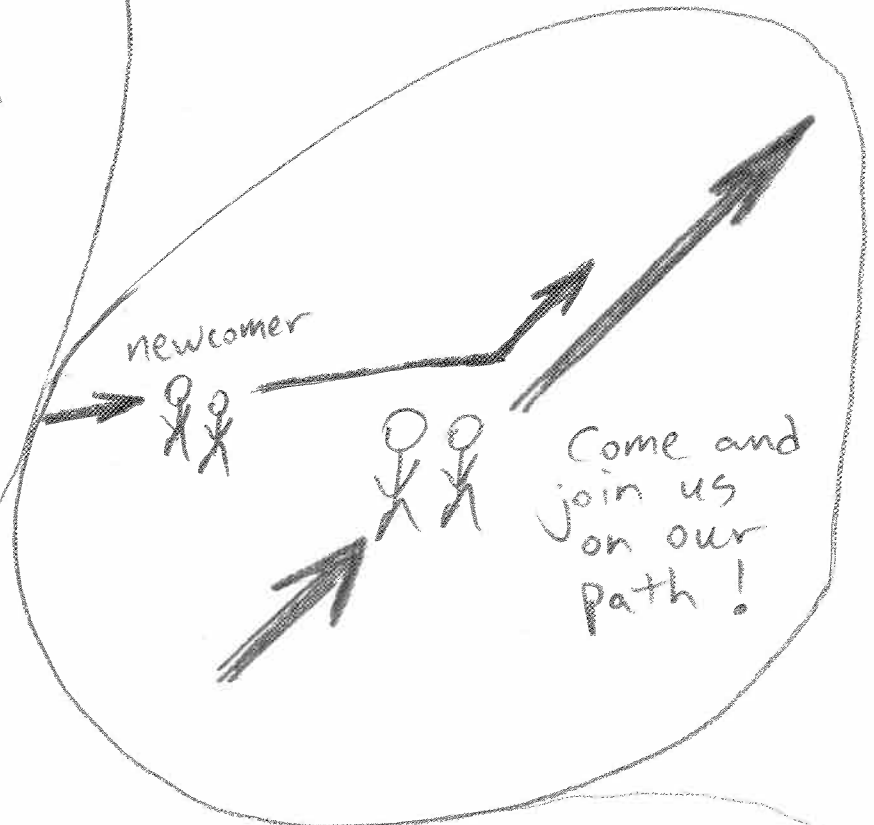
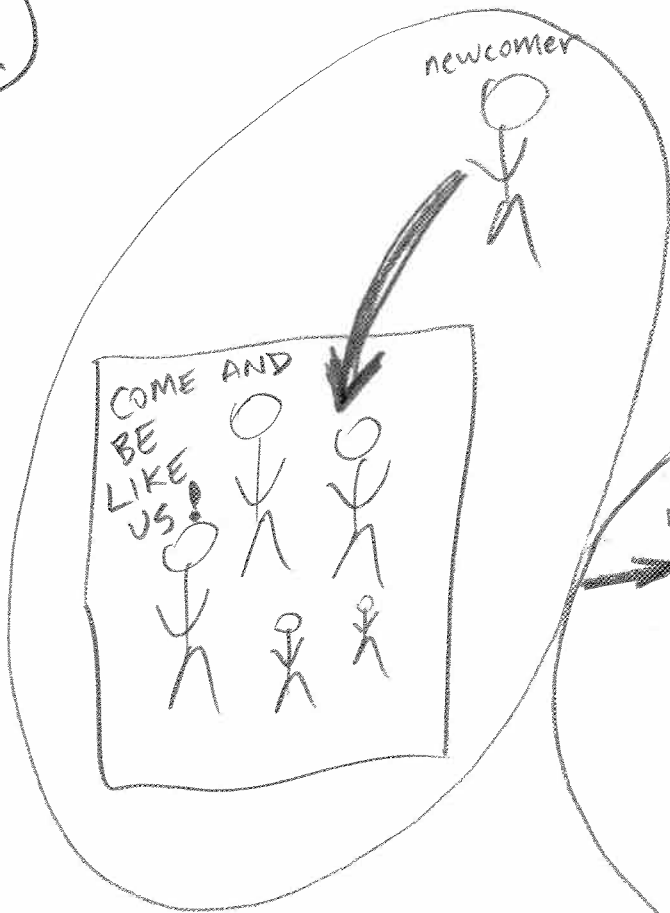
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CHURCHES and
NEWCOMERS

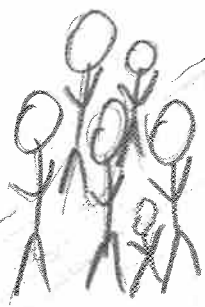
- our country is still taking shape
- our churches are still taking shape

2

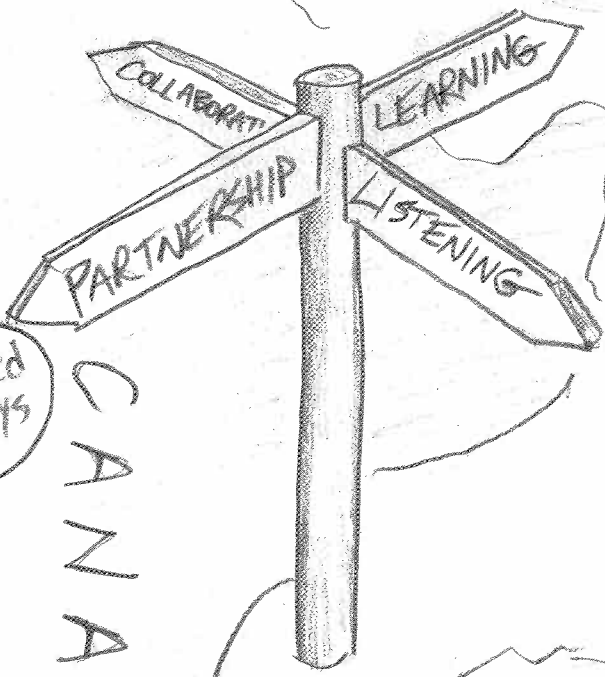
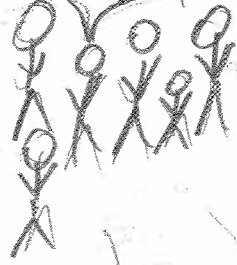


3

We immigrated to Canada 5 years ago



We've had a refugee ministry for 20 years

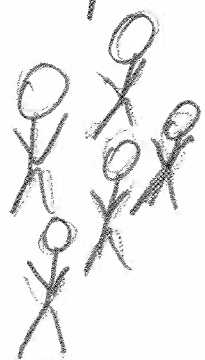


I am a refugee. I arrived in Canada 3 days ago



CANADA

Our church just celebrated its 150th anniversary



My denomination wants to get involved, but how?



More than 3/4 of our church are new Canadians.



I work in a government-funded settlement office

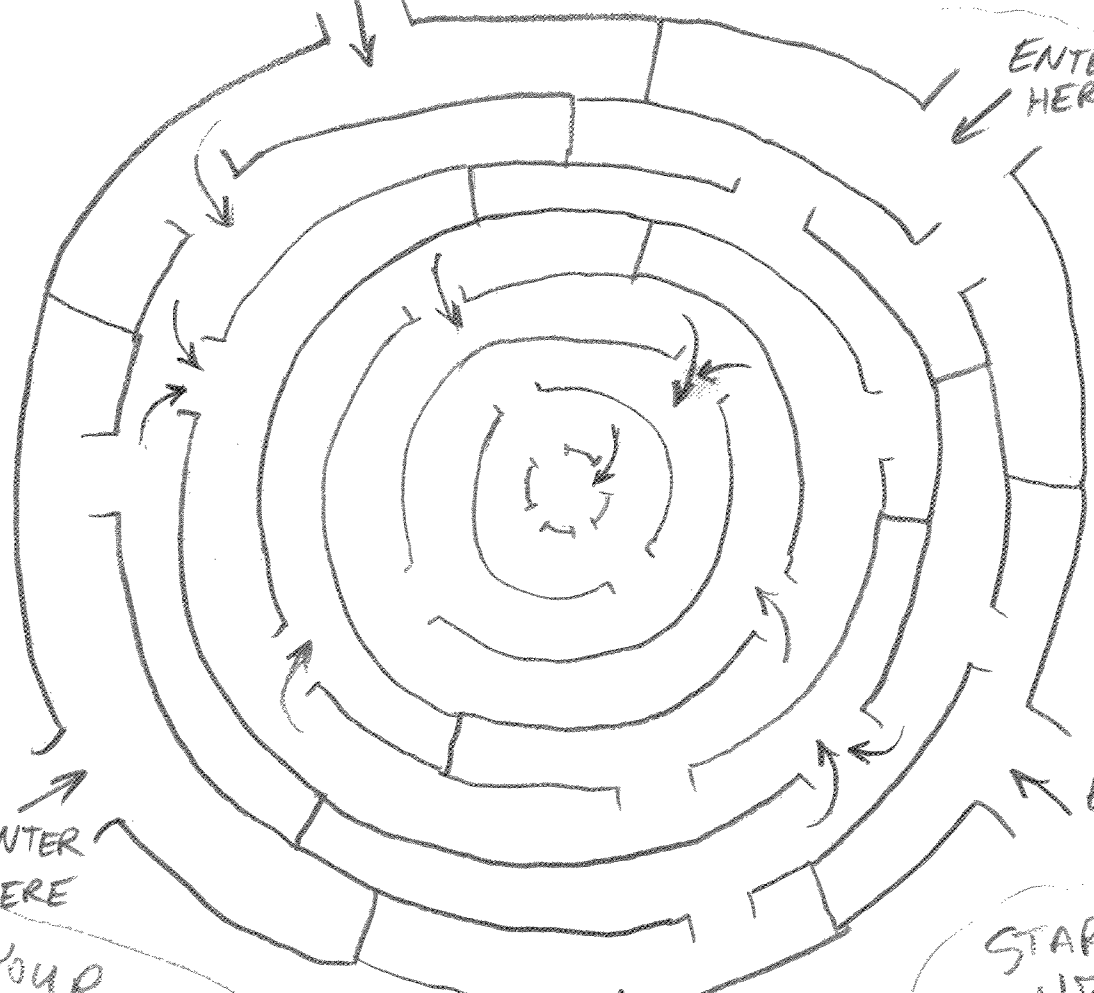


4

At first these seem like totally separate projects. As you become more involved, you see that things are much more connected...

SPONSOR A REFUGEE

LEARN ABOUT IMMIGRATION POLICY



ENTER HERE

ENTER HERE

ENTER HERE

JOIN YOUR DENOMINATION'S NEWCOMER MINISTRY TASKFORCE

START A NONPROFIT HOUSING PROJECT

SUPPORT A NEW CANADIAN CHURCH

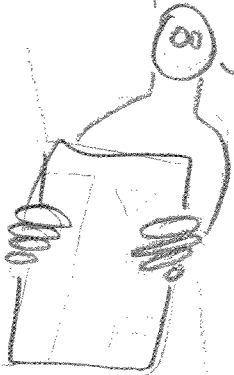
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MAPMAKING

How to work with government. These are the rivers.



The theology of welcoming the stranger. These are the roads.



New ways of being a church. These are the cities.



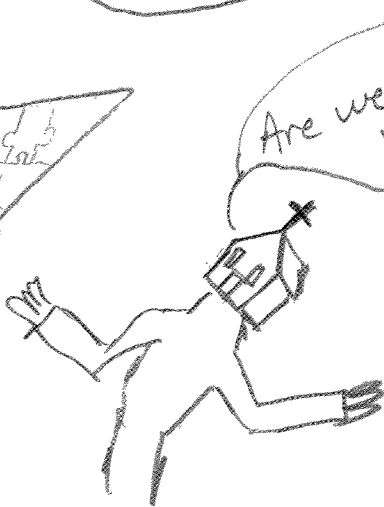
Collaborating with other local congregations. These are the mountains.



Meeting immediate needs for clothing and housing. These are the valleys.



Ah! Now I see....



Are we there yet?