

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Children's Storybook Celebrating Newcomers to Alberta

The Alberta Association of Immigrant Serving Agencies provides an association by and through which the members can work towards addressing the needs of immigrants, the agencies that serve them and the larger community which welcomes them.

Overview: AAISA is looking for an author to develop an illustrated storybook for children to appreciate the experiences and contributions of newcomers to Alberta. As the province becomes more diverse, it is important that the Canadian-born population comprehends the benefits newcomers bring to Alberta, and appreciate the challenges they have overcome. By sharing such stories with children, the next generation of Albertans can better appreciate the role of newcomers and help develop welcoming communities where everyone can participate to their full potential.

Audience: The audience for this project would be elementary schoolchildren in Alberta, both Canadian-born and newcomers, with hopes that the book could be used in classrooms.

Objective: The objective of the storybook would be to expose Canadian-born children to the experience that their newcomer classmates have coming to a new country and the benefits of their families' contributions, and to validate the experiences of immigrant children themselves.

Themes: community building, celebration, positive contributions, overcoming obstacles

Setting: Due to the provincial aspect of AAISA, an ideal storybook concept would include experiences in different regions of the province, and from diverse countries of origin.

Other Considerations: This project is made possible with funding from Citizenship and Immigration Canada as well as support from Alberta Employment and Immigration. Applicants should consider the priorities of these departments in developing a concept that promotes integration, intercultural understanding and healthy, welcoming communities for all.

Timeline: The book must be completed for distribution in early 2011.

Responsibilities:

- Develop a concept and storyline to be approved by AAISA Communications Committee
- Write complete story and prepare content for work with illustrator and printer
- Work in conjunction with Communications Committee to bring the project to completion

Qualifications:

- Experience writing and publishing for children
- Knowledge of elementary school curriculum in Alberta
- Understanding of the immigrant experience in Alberta

Deadline for proposal submission: August 3, 2010

Submit your proposal, including a letter of intent with a detailed concept description, draft timetable, curriculum vitae, and proposed fees to:

Alberta Association of Immigrant Serving Agencies
Attention: Communications Committee
915-33 St. NE Calgary, Alberta T2A 6T2
E-mail: contact@aaisa.ca