

# SWIS Support Team:

## **NORTH VANCOUVER SWIS**

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# Settlement Workers In Schools (SWIS) Contacts:

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**\* Please contact SWIS through the  
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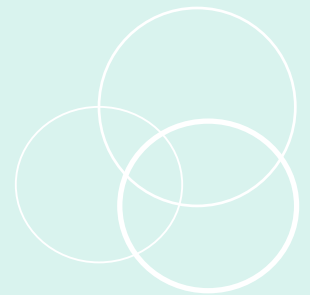
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# S W I S



## Settlement Workers In Schools



**NORTH VANCOUVER  
School District**



## What is the role of the Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS)?

The primary focus of the school-based settlement service is to assist parents and their children with first year settlement needs. The emphasis is on facilitation of settlement and integration of newcomer families through referrals and cross-cultural education. More specifically, the program is intended

- to help children adjust to school culture and focus on learning while providing their parents with information and resources on settlement and immigration issues
- to increase parents' understanding of Canadian culture and school systems
- to increase parent involvement in the school and the community
- to assess the needs of immigrant families and the barriers to successful integration
- to increase access to programs, services and work, and to improve the effectiveness of those programs.

**North Vancouver School District** has established a school-based outreach program called Settlement Workers In Schools (SWIS) to help newcomer students and their families settle into their school and community.

### SWIS Services are available in:

Farsi, Mandarin, Cantonese, Bulgarian, Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, Korean, Japanese



### Services to Families

The first few years in Canada are particularly difficult for newcomer students and their families. SWIS connect newly arrived families to services and resources in the school and the community to promote settlement and foster student achievement.



### Services to Schools

SWIS meet with elementary and secondary students, staff, parents and guardians regarding settlement issues. Through informative workshops and dialogue, client needs will be assessed and relevant solutions will be developed and implemented.

### SWIS help individuals

- access information about schools and schooling
- adjust to school environment and culture with a focus on learning
- integrate into the school system and Canadian society
- acquire cross-cultural orientation
- connect to appropriate services and agencies through referrals
- communicate between school, home, and community agencies
- increase family involvement in the school and the community.

