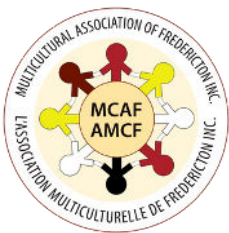




**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2021-2022**

# THANK YOU MEMBERS!



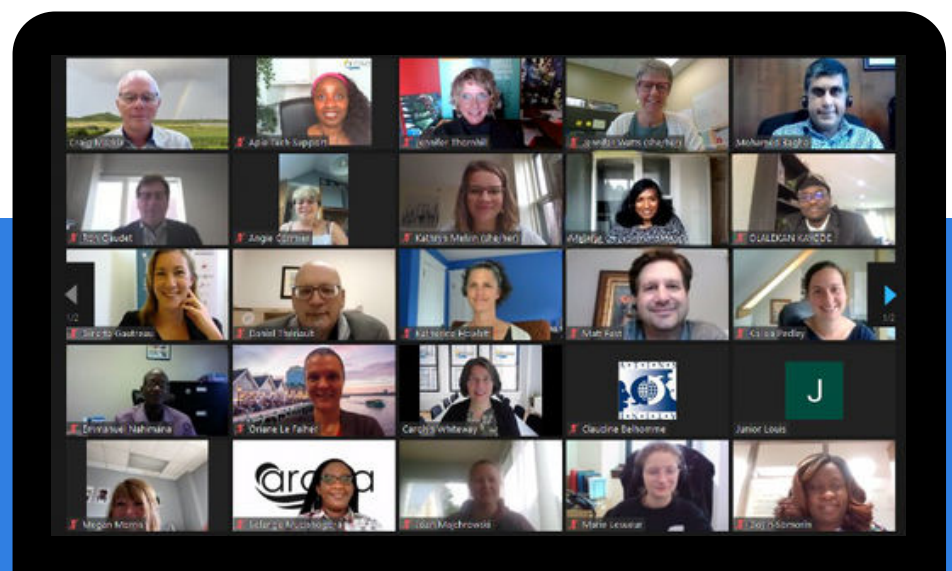
# EXECUTIVE REPORT

Uncertainty. Challenges. Change. Over the past year, our sector has experienced all of this. How have we responded? With commitment, compassion, and collaboration. ARAISA applauds the indomitable efforts of our members and will continue to work to support the sector in Atlantic Canada by helping to strengthen its capacity to respond to settlement needs. We believe we are making an impact. Our membership is growing, as well as our staff team. We have responded to the emerging needs of our members and launched new initiatives. We have collaborated with existing partners and established new partnerships to deliver events and training. We have continued to represent a regional perspective at national forums. We all have an important role to play, and we are more successful when we work together.

ARAISA would like to thank all those who contribute to this work – our Board of Directors, staff, funders, and partners.

To our members, we look forward to continuing our work together to support the settlement and integration of immigrants and refugees in the Atlantic region.

Megan Morris, Chair & Carolyn Whiteway, Executive Director



*Some members, Board and staff - ARAISA 2021 Virtual AGM*



## MEMBER MEETINGS

We held 2 virtual member meetings to facilitate information sharing and networking among members.



## WORKING GROUPS

4 working groups continued throughout the year:

- Portfolio-Based Language Assessment - 9 meetings / 6.5 attendees per meeting
- English as an Additional Language-Literacy - 10 meetings / 7.5 attendees per meeting
- Regional Support to Vulnerable Clients - 9 meetings / 7 attendees per meeting
- Communications Hub - 11 meetings / 6.6 attendees per meeting



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (PD)

For the second year in a row, all ARAISA PD opportunities were offered online:

- Trauma & Resilience-Informed Practice for settlement staff (Intro): 60 attendees
- Trauma & Resilience-Informed Practice for settlement staff (Intermediate): 77 attendees
- Trauma-Informed Leadership: 45 attendees
- Intercultural Effectiveness: Afghanistan - 145 attendees
- How to reach and engage with non-traditional clients? - 45 attendees
- Zones of Regulation - 41 attendees



## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- We developed a document to present the Atlantic region to Afghan refugees and virtually presented it to a live audience in February 2022. To consult the presentation: [bit.ly/AtlanticPrez2022](https://bit.ly/AtlanticPrez2022)
- We conducted our annual member survey. To see the results: [bit.ly/ARAISA-survey2022](https://bit.ly/ARAISA-survey2022)
- We sent 43 weekly member emails with sector updates

86%

organizations strongly agree or agree that ARAISA has increased their access to promising practices

95%

organizations strongly agree or agree that they are better informed because of ARAISA's initiatives

100%

organizations strongly agree or agree the learning opportunities, tools created and info shared by ARAISA are valuable

81%

organizations strongly agree or agree that ARAISA has increased their opportunities for collaboration and partnerships

76%

organizations strongly agree or agree that ARAISA has enhanced their capacity to respond to settlement and integration needs

# STRENGTHEN OUR CONTRIBUTION

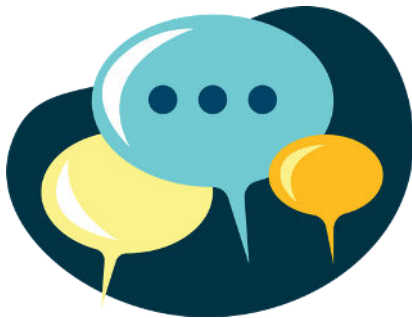
# TO THE SECTOR



## REGIONAL SECTOR MEETINGS

On behalf of IRCC, ARAISA convened two regional sector meetings with representatives of organizations receiving funding from the Department for the delivery of settlement, resettlement, and integration services.

- Average of 63 participants
- 80% said that the meetings met their expectations



## FORUM FRANCOPHONE INTEGRATION PATHWAY (FIP)

ARAISA and the Comité atlantique sur l'immigration francophone of the Société nationale de l'Acadie hosted a Virtual Forum on the FIP. It brought together Francophone and Anglophone stakeholders to highlight the importance of supporting the FIP.

- 95 attendees
- 95% strongly agree or agree that the event gave them a clear understanding or reaffirmed the importance of the Francophone Integration Pathway



## INNOVATING FOR IMPACT (I2)

This project is a partnership between ARAISA and Inspiring Communities. The goal is to build capacity for Social Research and Development and outcomes measurement, to create impact around the sense of belonging for newcomers. Many milestones were achieved:

- Development of partnership principles and a governance structure
- Development of a course curriculum with input from many stakeholders
- A Q&A session to engage IRCC-funded organizations across the region (26 participants)
- Outreach efforts to recruit the first cohort\*

\*The training started in the 2022-23 fiscal year



## SECTOR REPRESENTATION

ARAISA staff and Board members provided representation on national bodies and participated in conferences, committees, and events, including:

- National Settlement and Integration Council
- CISSA-ACSEI
- Conference Board of Canada
- National Newcomer Navigation Network
- Canadian Council for Refugees
- Atlantic Local Immigration Partnerships
- Pathways to Prosperity
- 15th Annual Symposium on Francophone Immigration
- 22nd Metropolis Canada



## ATLANTIC IMMIGRATION PROGRAM

As part of the January 2022 launch of the permanent Atlantic Immigration Program (AIP), Intercultural Competency Training (ICT) became mandatory for AIP employers. ARAISA coordinated the development of the course, which included;

- Curriculum development based on recommendations from the AIP ICT Working Group
- 60+ facilitators attending a 20-hour Train-the-Trainer online course
- About 750 participants attending the training, from 550 businesses across Atlantic Canada

# STRENGTHEN OUR

# ORGANIZATION



## INCREASED MEMBERSHIP

6 new members joined ARAISA in 2021-2022: a 27% increase!

- Cape Breton Regional Library
- Centre Communautaire Sainte-Anne
- MetroWorks
- PRUDE Inc.
- Réseau Santé - Nouvelle-Écosse
- YMCA of Newfoundland and Labrador - Employment, Enterprise, and Newcomer Services



## A GROWING TEAM

ARAISA welcomed three new staff members this year. They have been an incredible asset to the organization!

- Apie N'Da, Program Assistant
- Katherine Howlett, Manager, AIP Settlement Support
- Laura Huynh Lê, Project Co-Lead



## FRANCOPHONE ENGAGEMENT

Francophone organizations make up about a third of our members, which reflects the key role of Francophone immigration in the region. ARAISA aims to serve all members in the language of their choice and to reduce language barriers by continuing to provide content in both official languages:

- simultaneous interpretation offered during most virtual meetings and webinars
- when possible professional development opportunities were offered in both official languages
- bilingual emails, member newsletters and quarterly newsletters
- bilingual reports and surveys



## STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

We learn to serve you better! Building the staff's capacity is essential in continuing to provide excellent services to members.

### STAFF TRAINING

Trauma & Resilience-Informed Practice Introductory Workshop

Intercultural Effectiveness Workshop: Afghanistan

Indigenous Canada Course

Team Communications Workshop

Communications Audit

Developmental Evaluation

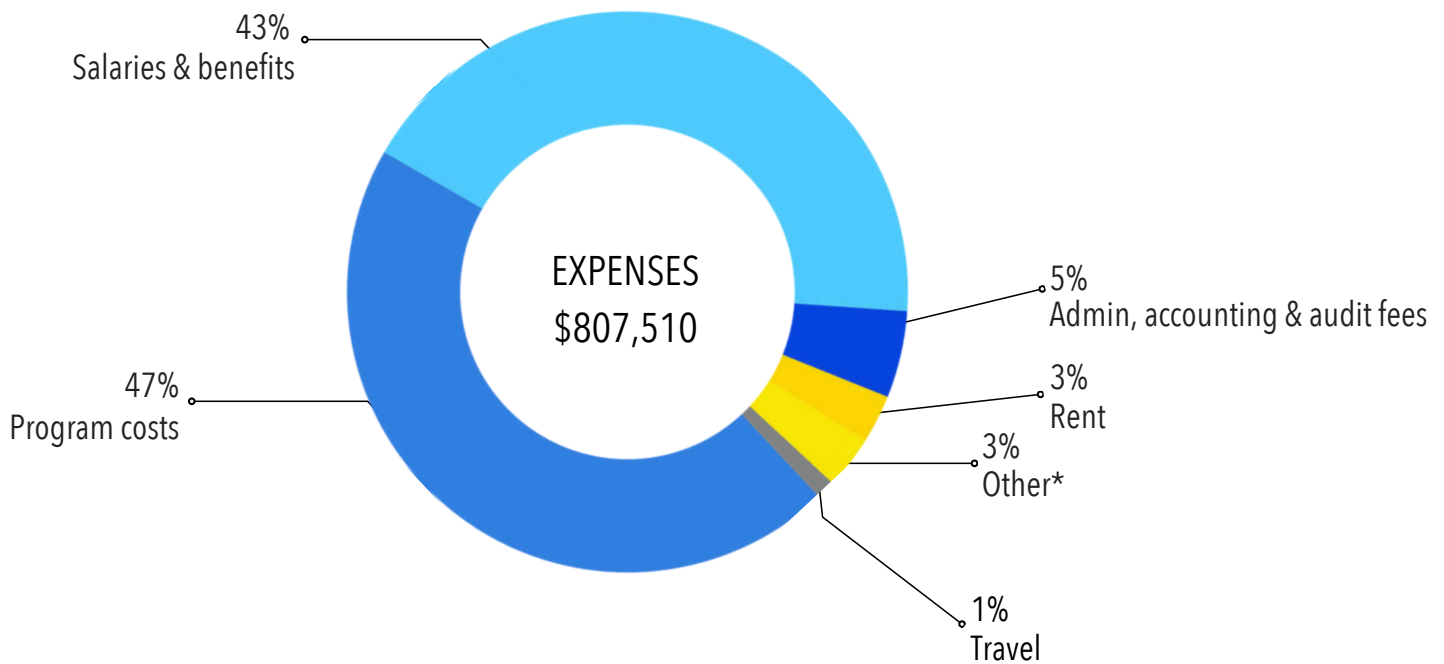
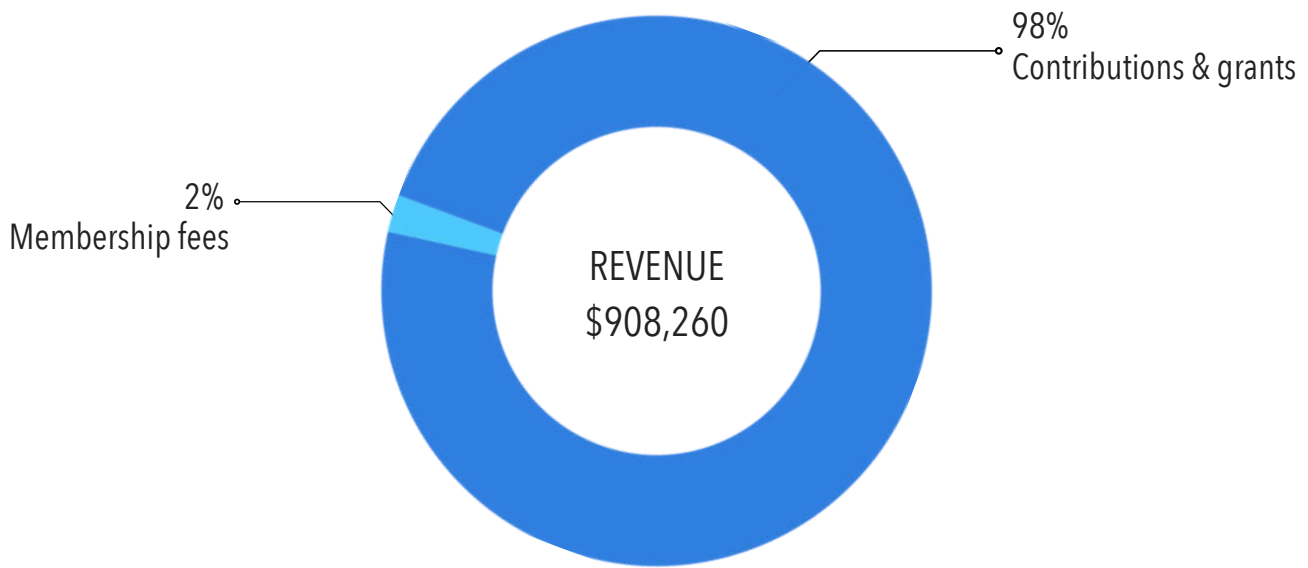
Introduction to Social Innovation

Become a System Entrepreneur

Human-Centered Design



# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS



For the complete financial statements:

<https://bit.ly/ARISA-2022FS>

\*Other: Amortization, Bank and other service charges, Insurance, Meetings and events, Membership costs, Office and computer expenses

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Funded by:



Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

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