

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

March 14, 2016 - Toronto, ON – Today the Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science, and Economic Development announced Canada’s investment to provide computers to Syrian Families as part of the National #WelcomeRefugees initiative through Computers for Success Canada (CFSC).

Renewed Computer Technology (RCT) is a key CFSC partner in Ontario and will provide an estimated 2,700 free renewed laptops to Syrian Families by the end of December 2016.

RCT, operating the Computers for Schools program in Ontario, has already begun to distribute laptops across the province by partnering with refugee resettlement organizations and School Boards who work directly with Syrian Families.

“RCT has already forged 9 partnerships and over 500 laptops are committed to Syrian Families that have arrived in Canada”, said Shauna L. McCaffrey, RCT’s Executive Director. “We are hoping to empower each family as they arrive by equipping them with pre-loaded digital modules such as job search, interviews tips as well as technical skills for setting up a wireless network or learning the software provided on their laptop.”

CFSC’s technological component of the #WelcomeRefugees program is geared to becoming an important asset to each community served. Whether the computers are used for school, research, accessing needed online resources, skill development, or connecting with friends and family, it is sure to make the transition to a new home an easier one.

“CFSC is proud to be working in collaboration with RCT in the delivery of the longstanding CFS program in Ontario,” said Toby Harper-Merrett, Executive Director of CFSC. “This new initiative aimed at Syrian refugees is a wonderful example of the Government of Canada’s investment in social and economic development of all Canadians, especially the most vulnerable ones.”

Organizations wishing to support the #WelcomeRefugees initiative in Ontario can express their interest online. High end laptop donations, delivery of computers to our partners as well as being a central location to distribute the laptops to the Syrian Families will be needed.

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About RCT:

Renewed Computer Technology is a social enterprise that delivers social, economic & environmental benefits. RCT provides renewed information & communication technology to learners, offers workplace skills & training opportunities for youth and enable organizations to realize their social responsibility programs. RCT expands minds by extending technology. For more information, visit: RCTO.ca and follow us on Twitter @RCTontario.

RCT’s #WelcomeRefugee Project in Ontario:

RCT is supporting this initiative through its Computers for Schools Ontario & RCTech OUTREACH programs. To find out how to become a partner and to order free computers for Syrian Refugee families, please visit: RCTO.ca/Initiatives.