



MEDIA ADVISORY

Embargoed till March 13, 2023 10:15 a.m.

Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers Renames Learning Centre the Gupta Newcomer Resource Centre after Rohit Group Makes Significant Donation

Edmonton - Building strong foundations for families to grow and succeed is at the heart of Rohit Communities and the Rohit Group of Companies. Founded by Radhe and Krishna Gupta, Rohit has been giving back to the community that supported them as newcomers to Canada for over 35 years.

In keeping with its spirit of community support and generosity, Rohit has provided a significant financial gift to the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers. As a result, EMCN will be renaming its English learning centre for refugees and immigrants the Gupta Newcomer Resource Centre.

EMCN would like to thank the Gupta family, the founders of Rohit Group and the Rohit Group of Companies. This gift is a stabilization investment to reinforce EMCN after three turbulent years where the focus was on delivering much-needed frontline services to vulnerable newcomers and managing the influx of refugees and newcomers to Edmonton, including the past year supporting arrivals fleeing the war in Ukraine.

Edmonton Media are invited to attend the EMCN building renaming ceremony with Rohit Group as well as Edmonton Mayor, Amarjeet Sohi. EMCN will also be able to provide an update on Edmonton's immigrant and newcomer status and the effort to serve this community.

Date: Monday, March 13, 2023

Time: 10:15 a.m.

Location: EMCN Learning Centre, 11713 82 Street, Edmonton

“We are profoundly grateful for this generous gift,” says Meghan Klein, Executive Director of the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers. “As EMCN prepares to help Edmonton welcome many newcomers to our city in the coming years, this visionary investment from community builders, Radhe, Krishna, and Rohit Gupta and the Rohit Group, will help us regain our footing after three very challenging years and provide the strong foundation on which we can build.”

Krishna and Radhe Gupta founded the Rohit Group 37 years ago. In that time, they have built a company that continues to honour its roots, by employing newcomers, supporting community organizations, and being a leader in our community by encouraging other employers in our city to give newcomers the opportunity to build lives here in Edmonton.

“Canada is experiencing a significant increase in immigration and with the crisis in Ukraine taking place, we felt called to be part of the solution,” says Radhe Gupta, Founder, Rohit Group. “This is very near and dear to my heart. I know refugees and newcomers will face language and cultural issues; but we know the heart of Canadians. They wrap their arms around you and embrace you. Building a new life takes time, resources and all of us lending a hand to help newcomers make this their new home. They need the support the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers provides to get that right start and we want to support their work.”

EMCN’s Gupta Newcomer Resource Centre connects newcomers with settlement, childcare, mental health, and in-school supports and on-site programs for children and youth and with training programs including English as an additional language (EAL), employment readiness and job-seeker resources, and skills training in business, construction, and culinary arts.

“I really wanted to support EMCN because I know what it is like to come to a new country and start over in a place that is foreign to you. EMCN has four centers in Edmonton and they provide everything a newcomer to Edmonton needs, right when they land. From language support, to the tools they need to settle into the community, plus job support, education and childcare. I know how valuable this kind of support is and they really inspired me to help,” Krishna Gupta, Founder, Rohit Group.

EMCN serves up to 12,000 newcomers and refugees every year via 26 programs and services, including the Refugee Donation Centre and collaborative services with C5 partners. In the past two years EMCN has supported over 2000 refugees. So far, in Edmonton there have been 780 refugees from Afghanistan (460 government-assisted refugees, 320 privately sponsored refugees). As of June 2022, over 3500 Ukrainians have arrived in Alberta and the majority have settled between Calgary and Edmonton. EMCN provides specialized settlement, mental health,

and employment supports for Ukrainians still arriving in large numbers. EMCN is a primary touchpoint for newcomers and refugees in the region. Newcomers need different supports at different times along their settlement journey to successfully build a new life in Edmonton and these numbers represent just a snapshot in time of the level of support needed in our city.

EMCN always needs corporate and community investment to continue serving newcomers and refugees arriving in Edmonton. We hope you'll help us to ensure we can continue to ensure their success here in our city.

For more information about EMCN visit [our website](#). Or visit us on social media @yeg.newcomers. For more information on Rohit Group of Companies visit www.rohitgroup.com

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