

APPLICATION PROCESS UPDATE - July 21, 2016

We have applied to sponsor the Abou Ghoush family: Ayman (32 years old), his wife Walaa (25 years old), daughter Dana who is almost 6 years old and son Hisham who is 4 years old. They fled Syria four years ago with other family members and have been living in Beirut since then.

Walaa's mother and 3 siblings, the Toubeh family, arrived in Canada last December and were sponsored by a private group of citizens in Manotick via the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa.

See the Toubeh's celebrating their first Canada Day - www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-day-syrian-refugees-1.3661635

Our application was submitted and accepted by Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada in June. The government's timeline for arrival for Walaa and her family is by the end of 2016 or early 2017.

ACTIVITIES

- Westminster supported the Clothing Swap initiative on April 23rd. This supported local refugee families and others by allowing the exchange of clothes of different sizes for growing children as well as other items. Financial donations at this event have gone to our sponsorship fund.
- On Friday April 29th, the WNF Planning Team hosted a potluck dinner with the extended family of our refugee family and their sponsorship team from Manotick.

DONATIONS

- The timeline for arrival is by the end of 2016 or early 2017. Thank you to those who have enthusiastically offered items for the family's use but we cannot accept them at this time. It is too soon in the process and we do not have the facilities to store items long term. However, we will post on this page a list of required items; it will tell you what is needed and what has already been pledged, so check back often!

VOLUNTEERING

- Many of you have generously offered your time and help; thank you! This will be needed, but not yet; it is too soon in the process. We will let you know when to step forward.