

Situation #2

Situation #2: Someone approaches your organization wanting to work with new immigrants. The language he uses is odd – he wants to teach “them”; he wants to show newcomers how to be Canadians. What do you do?

Situation #2 What the organization did:

On some level, showing newcomers how to be Canadians is fine. We want to help them adjust to Canada and be successful in our culture. But as we dug deeper in conversation, it was more that he was looking to somewhat ‘train’ them on how to be the kind of Canadian he thought people should be. Teach them how to become his ‘ideal’ Canadian (I’m paraphrasing, but that was the base point).

All-in-all, he was a nice person who may have just been expressing himself poorly, but I decided not to continue with him as I wasn’t sure if his motives for volunteering fit our mandate.