



Mayor's Statement - Edmonton Mayor welcomes Syrians

Mayor Don Iveson issued the following statement to welcome today's arrival of Syrian refugees in Edmonton.

"On behalf of my City Council colleagues and fellow Edmontonians, I welcome our newly arrived friends from Syria with open arms and in the spirit of Salaam, which is the Arabic word for both peace and hello.

Edmontonians are renowned for their generosity and welcoming nature and, especially at this time of the year, are eager to express their support and reach out to our newcomers.

However, as these families have been through so much on their long and traumatic journey to a new home, I echo the federal government's request and ask that Edmontonians refrain from overwhelming the refugees on their arrival at Edmonton International Airport, and respect their and their sponsors' privacy as they get settled in the coming days and weeks.

Like many, my family and I are keen to embrace our newest community members. More will arrive soon and there are numerous ways to show support, including volunteering time, donating resources and joining in the discussion with the hashtag #WelcomeRefugees.

Specific details on how Edmontonians can help and be welcoming are listed [here](#)."

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