

LutherCare Communities' Newest Canadian Citizens!

LutherCare Communities (LCC) is dedicated to fostering diversity within an inclusive, dynamic, collegial community and encouraging a culture of compassion, respect, and kindness. In support of these core values, LCC prides itself on cultivating a workforce that is as diverse as the residents entrusted to our care.

Pastor Iris Kristjansdottir and Ruth Cagampang are both dedicated team members of Luther Special Care Home (LSCH) who have recently become Canadian citizens. Iris is from Iceland and offers spiritual care to residents at LSCH and has lived in Canada for over 10 years. Ruth is from the Philippines and is a Care Aide at LSCH. She has lived in Canada for seven years.



“I wanted to try something new after living in Iceland. I took my sabbatical in Saskatchewan and felt a calling for a position in Prince Albert. When an opportunity at LutherCare became available I applied and that’s what brought me here.” Says Iris.

“Canada has always been a dream for me since my childhood. I remember being young and seeing pictures of tulips and the snow and wishing to come here.” Says Ruth.

When it comes to working with seniors, both Iris and Ruth felt that it was a natural step for their respective careers. “I had been a pastor in a congregation for a long time and I thought it would be nice to further connect with seniors. When an opportunity arose, it felt like the perfect next step.” Says Iris.

“Working with seniors is something of a calling for me. My first care position was with a patient who had dementia and I have had a desire to continue with that kind of care ever since. I love my work and I am very proud of what I do.” Says Ruth.

The road to becoming a Canadian citizen can be a long and tedious process. To help mitigate this, LCC participates in the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program which helps eligible team members acquire their Canadian citizenship faster. For LCC team members who qualify, this provides peace of mind and one less thing to worry about when navigating the process of becoming a Canadian citizen.

“Being a Canadian citizen gives me a sense of security. I like to visit my family often and it’s great to know that I can visit my home country without any stress. It’s nice to officially say I am a Canadian. It makes me feel like I belong.” Says Iris.

Ruth continues, “I agree with Iris. The sense of security and that feeling of belonging is wonderful. I’ve been so welcomed by the community of LCC, and you really feel like you belong here.” Says Ruth. For LSCH residents who were born outside of Canada, it also provides a sense of comfort to know that the individuals who care for them can relate to their personal experience. It is a testament to the multi-faceted resident-first care approach that LCC is dedicated to providing.



“One of the many things I like about LCC is we have people from all over the world. It’s very diverse. We have people from Europe, Asia, and Africa to name a few. I think for those of us who aren’t from Canada, it really gives us a sense of belonging to be together with others who have a different first language and different background. I love that aspect of the community here at LCC. Again, it speaks to that sense of belonging.” Says Iris.

“As LCC continues to grow and build capacity, it is important that we place an emphasis on empowering future Canadian citizens. As an organization, it is key that we are intentional with having the appropriate programs in place to support our team members. There are many skilled workers in Saskatchewan, and we are proud that LCC is a community where individuals can feel supported in achieving their personal and professional goals.” Says Chad Okrainetz, Chief People Officer for LCC.

“I am so happy to be a Canadian citizen. I feel so proud that I fulfilled my dream.” Says Ruth.

Congratulations Iris and Ruth on your Canadian citizenship! LutherCare is proud to have you as part of the team.