

QUINTE LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

...a better community for everyone

Minutes of the meeting
14 March 2012

MEETING :	Quinte Local Immigration Partnership
LOCATION	Quinte United Immigrant Services, U2 Boardroom, 3rd floor 41 Octavia Street, Belleville, Ontario
FACILITATOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Robertson - Project Coordinator – Quinte Local Immigration Partnership - Email: lip@quis-immigration.org • Orlando Ferro – QLIP Facilitator Executive Director – Quinte United Immigrant Services
NOTE TAKER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Robertson
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Osborne – President Quinte United Immigrant Services • Michael McLeod - General Manager Prince Edward County Chamber of Tourism & Commerce • Karen Poste – Manager, Economic & Strategic Initiatives – City of Belleville • Samia McPhee – Project Agent – Francophone Immigration Support Network of Eastern Ontario (Economic & Social Council of Ottawa-Carleton) • Linda Lisle – Economic Development Coordinator, Office of the CAO, City of Quinte West • Roberto Almeida – Program manager – Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention - Health Unit – Hastings & Prince Edward Counties • Ann McIntosh – East Central Ontario Training Board • Marcela Rezac - Social Worker - Quinte & District Rehabilitation Inc.

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION	Introductions
Introductions were conducted	

DISCUSSION	Review - Minutes of the Previous Meeting	
Reviewed		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
N/A		

DISCUSSION	Website Launch - 2012	
The QLIP website was discussed and even though it is still under construction, hopefully the changes and additions should move more quickly starting in April, and will be ready for an official launch in the very near future, once official approval has been requested and granted.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Partnership members may still provide to the QLIP Project Coordinator their organization logo, a brief statement on services provided, and a link to their web site. All will be included in the QLIP website to be launched in 2012	QLIP Partners	Voluntary

DISCUSSION	Statistical information from the data base	
The Project Coordinator discussed the QLIP Local Settlement Strategy and Action Plan for the Greater Quinte Area. It will be available after final reviews and editing, and official approval from CIC.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Completion of the QLIP Local Settlement Strategy and Action Plan for the Greater Quinte Area	John Robertson	

DISCUSSION	Open Discussion	
Discussion Topics and Open Discussion:		
The QLIP strategies as outlined in the Action Plan were discussed in an open forum approach:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build potential for increased use of protocols that meet the needs of newcomer services within the greater Quinte area with an emphasis on collaborative approaches; 2. Create an awareness campaign to advance the positive aspects of newcomers joining the community; 3. Develop partnerships across city and municipal councils within the greater Quinte area to provide for policies and approaches to services that will foster a welcoming community that can provide the necessary services to newcomers; 4. Create effective approaches to community services in terms of the evolving requirements of a welcoming community; 5. Develop linkage action report between service sectors in terms of duplication and congruency in services for newcomers; 6. Engage Francophone community in the greater Quinte area to identify issues that are prevalent in the community for Francophone newcomers and propose linking best practices from QLIP. 		
<p>Orlando Ferro discussed the nationwide approach for Local Immigration Partnerships being pursued by CIC that will see the creation of LIP's in other parts of Canada outside of Ontario. In addition, the possibility of forming "groupings" of LIPs based on similarities between for example the Quinte area community and others having the same demographics. This would allow the community LIP coordinators the ability to link up a few times during the year to review the efforts being made by each LIP to share best practices and provide continuity. He also discussed the LIPs and the need for linkages in terms of data.</p>		

Orlando Ferro also discussed information from the 14th National Metropolis Conference Future Immigration Policies: Challenges and Opportunities for Canada which he attended.

The website for the metropolis conference: <http://www.metropolis2012.net>

The website for Metropolis describes it... *as an annual forum for researchers, policy makers, representatives from community and settlement organizations... (topics explored) ...Multiculturalism, a hallmark of Canadian society, is now under the microscope. Canadian immigration policies have also changed dramatically with a revised selection system for permanent immigrants, an expanding temporary foreign worker program, and new paths to permanence for temporary workers and international students. Provinces now exercise more control over immigration and municipalities play a role in settlement policies.*

Orlando Ferro discussed the topic of the latest trend in immigration which is currently focused on a movement to western Canada and the reality that immigrants will be returning from the west in due course.

John L. Robertson discussed the LIP Conference he attended in February sponsored by CIC which provided much insight into best practices and new ways to look at outcomes and outcome measurements. Of most interest was the presentation by Mark Friedman on "results based accountability". The realistic approach of "What or how much we do" followed by "How well we do it" and the measurement of "Is anyone better off" should be helpful for the work of the QLIP project.

Results based accountability website:
<http://www.resultsaccountability.com>

Websites of note:

Metropolis: <http://canada.metropolis.net>

Metropolis is an international network for comparative research and public policy development on migration, diversity and immigrant integration in cities in Canada and around the world.

Welcoming Communities Initiative: <http://welcomingcommunities.ca>

This site houses many LIP strategies and the QLIP strategy will eventually be accessible through this site. *A multidisciplinary alliance of universities, colleges, and community organizations dedicated to promoting the integration of immigrants and minorities across Ontario*

Destination Canada – Job Fair:

http://www.destination-canada-forum-emploi.ca/partenaire_pourquoi.php?lang=en

"Destination Canada – Job Fair" is a unique opportunity to reach a large number of qualified and motivated persons in France and Belgium who are looking for information about immigration programs and settlement services across Canada.

John L. Robertson has sent a request to the statistical research section at CIC for statistical information that will help us better describe the "the community profile" which will assist in the implementation of the QLIP Action Plan for the greater Quinte area.

Roberto Almeida discussed the Statistics Canada information for Hastings and Prince Edward Health Unit, under the Health profile, October 2011 from Statistics Canada, Health in Canada, Hastings and Prince Edward Counties Health Unit 3538-A. Under the figures for Personal Resources, the sense of Community belonging as a percentage

was 77.3 %, and Life Satisfaction, satisfied or very Satisfied ran at 90.9 %. These statistics provide a positive message to those who may settle in the greater Quinte area

Open Discussion: there was much discussion on the issues around immigration and how the needs within the greater Quinte area fall predominantly into the area of skilled workers. The welcoming community initiative for the area will need public education to be successful and must have a proactive stance. The reality of “people without jobs and jobs without people” pertains to our QLIP area of concentration. The situation for employers and the use of, or non-use of apprentices was discussed. The importance of statistics on immigration being presented in a positive way was deemed important as was the importance of connecting the benefits for economic development and newcomers. What do newcomers need in order to have a welcoming community? Positive public messages. Mayrtree and other organizations have videos that could help. Economic development is a very important component for communication. Information can be made available at the libraries, city halls, the YMCA, all possible components for disseminating positive messages.

Michael McLeod discussed the difficulties with many trades and the apprentice time that could be up to five years. What is the standard for international skilled trades?

Samia McPhee discussed current issues that affect the Francophone community.

Marcela Rezac discussed the fact that there are highly skilled workers in Europe who would like to come to Canada but that they find the process too difficult.

CONCLUSIONS

DISCUSSION

Next Meeting

Next QLIP meeting scheduled for April 18th, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.– Location Quinte United Immigrant Services - Room U2, 41 Octavia St., Belleville , Ontario

CONCLUSIONS