

QUINTE LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

...a better community for everyone

Minutes of the meeting 21 February 2013

MEETING :	Quinte Local Immigration Partnership
LOCATION	Belleville City Hall, SMB Meeting Room, 3rd floor, 169 Front Street, Belleville, ON Time: 09:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
PROJECT COORDINATOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John L. Robertson - Project Coordinator – Quinte Local Immigration Partnership - Email: lip@quis-immigration.org
ADMINISTRATOR / FACILITATOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orlando Ferro – QLIP Administrator / Facilitator Executive Director – Quinte United Immigrant Services QUIS
NOTE TAKER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John L. Robertson
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michele Dean - Loyola School of Adult & Continuing Education and TESL Teachers of English as a Second Language - Kingston • Carmela Ruberto - Hastings County • Paul Osborne - President Quinte United Immigrant Services • Todd Davis - Community Development Coordinator - County of Prince Edward • Karen Poste - Manager, Economic & Strategic Initiatives – City of Belleville • Sharon Shortt - Exit Realty Group (UNAC invited guest observer) • Trevor Pross - CEO Belleville Public Library and John M. Parrott Art Gallery • Nathan Jn-Francois - United Nations Association - Canada - Quinte & District (UNAC) • Aruna Alexander - United Nations Association – Canada – Quinte & District (UNAC)

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION	Introductions - New discussions - Discussion Topics and Open Discussions:
Meeting Minutes from December 12, 2012 and January 16, 2013 – Reviewed	

DISCUSSION
Event: Inclusive Community and Economic Development - UNAC Quinte – City of Belleville – QLIP: The event to cover many areas including diversity and direct benefits, and how that impacts the community. Management styles as diversity grows... and the benefits to our social and economic framework.

Date of Event: Thursday March 21, 2013

Venue: Albert College

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Speakers: Mayor Neil Ellis, City of Belleville and Karen Poste, Manager Economic & Strategic Initiatives

Music: Local Musicians

Working Groups – Ref: Terms of Reference and Governance Model (TOR&GM)

Discussions centre on organizing working groups (or subcommittees) among the QLIP partners as envisioned in the TOR&GM to deal with fields of particular interest such as: Health, Education and Training, Economic Development, Labour Market Integration, Social Justice, Public Education, Official languages, Interpretation and Translation Services. A working group for example would be helpful in addressing the increase in the need for the coordination of mental health services. It would be possible to develop a protocol that could be set in place to manage clients being serviced by multiple stakeholders in terms of closing the gaps. There are many immigrant services gaps that have already been identified and solutions can be achieved by stakeholders working together towards the elimination of these gaps. This approach will keep the focus on the agenda for each working group in a more manageable way. The approach would include:

- working groups to meet a few times throughout the year with a specific agenda to determine gaps in services and solutions for those gaps within the scope of their group field
- a fundamental need to have stakeholders provide input on one or more groups
- a general meeting for all stakeholders four times a year to report and discuss the overall progress of the project

Education working group - The discussion was very positive, partners had requested being included in certain working groups such as the Education Working group, which could include the Belleville Public Library, UNAC and Loyola School of Adult & Continuing Education and TESL Teachers of English as a Second Language – Kingston.

The Health working group - and other working groups will be discussed at the next meeting of the QLIP and focus will be on closing the gaps and efficiencies in service for newcomers

The working groups “actual strategies” for newcomer services need to be explored In terms of: working group’s responsibilities and tasks; a need to understand of what is to be given as components; tasks that overlap other areas, who is “at the table?” and it was also suggested that a draft approach needs to be developed. It was noted that it will be important to define the parameters... that you have to know what you want so you recognize it when it is delivered.

QLIP Coordinators’ deputation to Prince Edward County Council of January 24, 2013 - was reported on by the Coordinator. The main purpose of the deputation was to provide Prince Edward County Council (PEC Council) the “QLIP Action Plan” and seek PEC Council support for the action plan as a reference document for PEC planning purposes. The vote was unanimous in support of the Action Plan. The Coordinator advised the PEC Council that funding for the QLIP was not the purpose of the deputation.

QLIP Partners discussed that there are other deputations planned for 2013 – 2014 and in due course on the next “go around” there may be requests for funding in support of the work of the QLIP in the greater Quinte area of Hastings and Prince Edward Counties. This would fit into the evolutionary advancement of the QLIP moving forward to a wider community based funding model to include the province.

The importance of, or need for a “dialogue” on “Quinte culture” was discussed in reference to success for newcomers.

It was suggested that the QLIP to bring onboard more services including police and emergency services.

Eco-development - capital investment was discussed in terms of “start-ups” and funding (Trenval may play a role) as well as investors. Ideas for development included “data servers” such as those established in Norway.

General discussions followed on topics ranging from the Quinte area as a destination, overseas marketing, skill sets and identified skill gaps for local enterprise, and recruitment overseas. There are jobs in the Quinte area unfilled at this point. Discussions included the reality of the temporary foreign worker situation.

NEXT MEETING	LOCATION	TIME
Wednesday March 27, 2013	Community Resource Centre Main Floor – Common Room (one floor below Quinte United Immigrant Services) 41 Octavia Street, Belleville, Ontario (Includes continental breakfast available from 9:30a.m.)	10:00 a.m. to 12 noon