

QUINTE LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

...a better community for everyone

Minutes of the meeting
18 April 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 • Mike Hewitt - Coordinator - Manufacturing Resource Centre • Michele Dean - Loyola School of Adult & Continuing Education • Carmela Ruberto - Hastings County • 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 – anticipated mid 2012
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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	QLIP Local Settlement Strategy and Action Plan
The Project Coordinator discussed the QLIP Local Settlement Strategy and Action Plan for the Greater Quinte Area. The Partners discussed the priorities within the plan.	

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Completion of the QLIP Local Settlement Strategy and Action Plan for the Greater Quinte Area	John Robertson	May 2012

DISCUSSION	Open Discussion
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Discussion Topics and Open Discussion:

- QLIP expected outcomes of the project and the time lines to implement the Action Plan
- QLIP Greater Quinte Area Priorities:
 1. Amplify labour market outcomes for newcomers to the greater Quinte region
 2. Explore Language training options and opportunities for newcomers and employers
 3. Explore employment services for newcomers in relation to preconceived expectations
 4. Deal with the “culture shock” by fashioning a more inclusive environment
 5. Promote diversity education and training in community activities whether with employers or providers of services such as health care and medical services

Orlando Ferro discussed many of the changes that are or will be occurring at Citizenship and Immigration. In addition, he discussed with the Project Coordinator and the Partners the need for a QLIP deputation to Quinte area councils: Hastings and Prince Edward Counties and the City of Belleville and Quinte West.

Michael McLeod – to advise on the processes of a deputation to Prince Edward County Council.

There was discussion about the QLIP deputations and need to reach smaller centres like Bancroft. It was noted that Bancroft would be represented on the Hastings County council and would have access to the QLIP deputation.

There were discussions among all the Partners on the approach to be taken and the style of the deputation in terms of a standard approach for all “councils” being consistent and following a timeline. Project Coordinator will follow-up on all items discussed.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
QLIP Deputation to Quinte area councils to include: City of Belleville and Quinte West, and the Counties of Hastings and Prince Edward. Deputation “package” to be prepared for May.	Project Coordinator	May 2012 Ongoing

There were also discussions on the availability of labour market integration information and local labour market analysis and/or forecasts. There were discussions on the need for skilled workers being a local and a global situation and the need for labour market statistics for the greater Quinte area in terms of the skill shortages.

There were also discussions on cultural sensitivity training and its possible role in fostering a welcoming community for the Quinte region. Efforts to facilitate movement toward a more welcoming community that respects not only diversity but also exceptional service to customers, workers etc., will have an impact on economic development in the area. If prospective business investors find the area to be a welcoming community to all, and in addition find a workforce that values excellent client/customer service these factors may influence decisions to invest.

Michele Dean advised that some language classes were moved to Trenton in Quinte West as a result of the funding being cut for transportation service that helped newcomer students travel to the Loyola location in Belleville.

There was also discussion about Loyola promoting its language classes in terms of how they can be a valuable tool for employers and newcomer employees. One possible method, discussed in previous meetings was an e-letter that could go out to employers (independent of the QLIP) through some of the QLIP Partner organizations via their distribution systems. This message would encourage employers to look to Loyola for LINC or ESL classes for newcomer employees or, when hiring newcomers, for a cost effective way to assist employees having difficulty with the language, or language of work.

CONCLUSIONS

DISCUSSION

Next Meeting

Next QLIP meeting scheduled for **May 16th, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**– Location Quinte United Immigrant Services - Room U2, 41 Octavia St., Belleville , Ontario