

QLIP - EDTI Economic Dev Meeting - Meeting April 12 to May 17 2018



Economic Development through Immigration EDTI Pilot Project – QLIP Partners supportive.

- QLIP Partners previously met on March 20 2017 that brought many QLIP Partners and other experts together to innovate on the possibilities of Economic Development through Immigration project and now move forward with implementation in 2018/19.
- In April 2018 QLIP Partners remain supportive of the new Pilot that will assist in attracting and retaining newcomers to the Quinte Region.
- Meeting April 12 2018 at QLIP Partner's East Central Ontario Training Board ECOTB boardroom.
- EDTI Project Coordinator, QLIP Coordinator, ED Quinte Immigration Services QUIS, ED ECTOB, Bay of Quinte Regional Marketing Board and other QLIP Partners all met to determine the strategy for the pilot moving forward.
- Next steps involve a May 2018 meeting where the EDTI Project Coordinator will present a draft project implementation overview to the stakeholders to facilitate plan development pathways to promote vision, creativity, inventiveness, concepts, and share insights through discussion and brainstorming with all those involved.

Celebration of the 4th Anniversary of the City of Belleville's commitment to the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities against Racism and Discrimination CCMARD.

- **QLIP Partners participated and were directly involved in the Celebration.**
- The event was presented by the Belleville Inclusion Committee and the City of Belleville a QLIP Partner, and QLIP Partners form a large part of the Inclusion Committee.
- Guests included Mayor Christopher and the Belleville Inclusion Committee .the 4th anniversary
- **Date: Thursday, April 12th, 2018**
- Time: 5:30pm to 8:00pm
- Location: Bridge Street United Church (enter Bridge St entrance)
- There were well almost 300 people in attendance representing many diverse cultures and supporters including many QLIP Partners.
- A special QLIP table included the Executive Director Quinte Immigration Services QUIS and President of the Board Quinte Immigration Services QUIS, QLIP Coordinator, and many other QLIP Partners participated in the success of the event.
- **Special Guest Speaker: The Honourable Sue O'Sullivan**, former Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime told the packed room of almost 300 people, that we are starting to see that change is coming. She said the committee is providing a supportive environment and they are listening to and working with the community.

- **Bay of Quinte MP Neil Ellis** spoke briefly and said about eight years ago when he was mayor of Belleville he attempted to create an immigration platform and he received hate mail. He said that moment has been erased when he looked around the room. **Note: The incident was just prior to the commencement of the QLIP Partnership initiative and the Mayor and Council were briefed by the QLIP Coordinator and QLIP Facilitator and since then the Quinte Region has seen much change in the acceptance of newcomers.**
- **Mayor Taso Christopher** said Belleville is stronger because of our diversity.

May 17, 2018 QLIP partners and the QLIP Coordinator participated in the strategic meeting for the Economic Development through Immigration EDTI Pilot Project, May 17, 2018 at East Central Ontario Training Board ECOTB Boardroom, 11 Bay Bridge Rd., (Travelodge, Belleville, from 1 pm to 3pm.

- QLIP Participants included:
 - John Robertson – QLIP Coordinator
 - Chris King - Chief Executive Officer - Quinte Economic Development Commission
 - Brad Labadie - Executive Director East Central Ontario Training Board
 - Jill Raycroft - Chief Executive Officer - Belleville Chamber of Commerce (with mentee)
 - Dug Stevenson - Executive Director - Bay of Quinte Regional Marketing Board
 - Trevor Crowe - Community Development Coordinator - Corporation of the County of Prince Edward
- Nallely Sanchez Martinez – EDTI Project Coordinator (QUIS)
- The EDTI Project Coordinator – Nallely Sanchez Martinez (QUIS) who provided a presentation on the process/timelines and requirements including data.
- Participants:
 - EDTI joint effort is to support organizations capacity in a coordinated way to avoid duplication and consolidate information that is user friendly to newcomers to be placed in the portal.
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- Participants:

- EDTI joint effort is to support organizations capacity in a coordinated way to avoid duplication and consolidate information that is user friendly to newcomers to be placed in the portal.
- Next steps will be a meeting with:
 - Orlando Ferro – Executive Director Quinte Immigration Services QUIS
 - Brad Labadie - Executive Director East Central Ontario Training Board
 - Dug Stevenson - Executive Director - Bay of Quinte Regional Marketing Board
 - Nallely Sanchez Martinez – EDTI Project Coordinator (QUIS)
- Meeting will involve discussions on the details of how the information will flow to the immigration portal and marketing ideas.
- EDTI project came as a response to inquiries from newcomers interested in information about our region for potential relocation.
- Newcomers inquiring were either entrepreneurs or foreign trained skill workers.
- Main feedback from newcomers is that they could not find specific information on jobs available or infrastructure for startup business or business branching.
- The project aims to consolidate the following information to be added to the existing information in the immigration portal:
 - Profile of the main employers in the region
 - Labour shortages updated information by skills
 - Business opportunities as they appear and infrastructure to support businesses
 - List of service providers for employment, regional chamber of Commerce, economic development contact persons in the region plus QEDC
- Developments:
 - Profile of the main employers in the region- should be added directly into the Portal
 - Labour shortage information will be collected by ECOTB and added to either a section of the QUIS Website embedded in the portal (in order to be frequently updated by QUIS staff) or directly into the immigration portal in which case the responsibility to update the information will be for the Portal administrators.
 - QUIS can collect this information and update in the same section as labour shortages
 - List of service providers for employment, regional chamber of Commerce, economic development contact persons in the region plus QEDC – this should be part of the Portal under a business and employment section.
 - Marketing of the Portal should have a strategy as it is not very known among newcomers at this point. A strategic meeting for that should happen in the future.
 - Newcomers contacting our offices will be assessed and referred to the information Portal or existing service providers as employment agencies Economic Development Offices or the Small Business Center. Chambers of commerce will also have an education role to play for newcomers.

Conference Call Economic Development through Immigration EDTI May 29 2018

- Orlando Ferro – Executive Director Quinte Immigration Services QUIS
- Brad Labadie - Executive Director East Central Ontario Training Board
- Dug Stevenson - Executive Director - Bay of Quinte Regional Marketing Board
- Nallely Sanchez Martinez – EDTI Project Coordinator (QUIS)
- Karen Poste – Manager of Economic and Strategic Initiatives - City of Belleville
- Trevor Crowe - Community Development Coordinator - Corporation of the County of Prince Edward
- Discussion centered on the Portal, verification of duplication, Portal content and how it will be managed and timelines

QLIP Coordinator and QLIP Partners participated in a Rural Employment Initiative Round Table - Prince Edward County meeting, in Prince Edward County PEC at the Huff Estates Winery Boardroom on May 10 2018.

- The meeting was arranged by QLIP Partner Trevor Crowe representing PEC in concert with the Newcomer Centre of Peel NCP.
- Newcomer Centre of Peel NCP presented their Rural Employment Initiative REI (funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation) at a meeting in Prince Edward County at the Huff Estates Winery Boardroom on May 10 2018.
- The goal of the REI – To connect immigrants in urban centres to employers in rural Ontario that have sustainable job opportunities, and facilitate their movement from the metropolitan GTA to rural Ontario.
- QLIP Coordinator and the Quinte Immigration Services QUIS Arabic Settlement Worker participated with QLIP Partner.
- The meeting was called by Trevor Crowe - Community Development Coordinator - The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward PEC at the meeting to discuss the NCP initiatives and their project that works with newcomers in Peel to find jobs in rural areas of the Province.
- Those who participated also included the Chamber of Commerce PEC and representatives from Career Edge.
- Information from the County (PEC) website - The Community Development Department (CDD) Prince Edward County PEC hosted a round table discussion last week at Huff Estates with local agencies including Career Edge, PEC Chamber and Quinte Immigration Services who met with staff from the Newcomer Centre of Peel (NCP) NCP administer a program called the Rural Employment Initiative. This initiative represents over 300 skilled labour newcomer clients who are seeking employment outside of the GTA, with interest in relocating to rural Ontario. Many of these candidates include skills such as skilled trades, healthcare services, HR and business management, which align with a recent study & feedback received from employers in The County.

- The Rural Employment Initiative (REI) project is a partnership between the Ontario Association for Community Futures Development Corporation (OACFDC) and the Newcomer Center of Peel (NCP) funded by Ontario Trillium Foundation. The focus of the project is to connect talented internationally trained professionals with the employment opportunities in rural areas of Ontario. The REI aids newcomers in finding local jobs and residence in rural communities and as a result increases economic prosperity as a whole. Through creation of job opportunities the REI facilitates the movement of unemployed talented immigrants from the overburdened metropolitan GTA to the rural economies.
- Rural Employment Initiative Round Table- Prince Edward County - Thursday, May 10, 2018 from 12:00 pm to 3:30 pm at Huff Estates, Prince Edward County, 2274 Prince Edward County Rd 1, Bloomfield, ON.
- Participants:
- **Newcomer Centre of Peel: REI:**
Oliver Pryce, Tania Maximenko, Zunaira Baig
- **Prince Edward County (PEC):**
Trevor Crowe, Community Development Coordinator
- **PEC Chamber of Commerce:**
Emily Cowan, Executive Director Prince Edward County Chamber of Tourism and Commerce
- **Quinte Local Immigration Partnership:**
John Robertson, Program Coordinator
and
Quinte Immigration Services:
Mahmoud Abu Zeineh, Arabic Speaking Settlement Worker
- **Career Edge- PEC:**
Christine Scott, Canada-Ontario Job Grant Liaison
- **Discussions & Action items that could be transferable to the Quinte Region through the QLIP Partnership:**
- Diversity Awareness Training. NCP proposed diversity awareness training. Emily Cowan will organize training for PEC employers. No proposed date was set. Face to face training is the most suitable training method.
- Rural Employment mentoring. The mentoring concept was presented which evoked interest from the panel. Recommendation that the committee identify up to 7 mentors who will provide mentoring support to our client. The process is as follows:
 - Trevor Crowe will send us the industry that is in highest demand for employees
 - NCP will identify clients who matches those industries
 - PEC will identify mentors who can be recently retired or employed professionals
 - NCP will provide an orientation to the mentors
 - Mentors role include providing information about PEC, labour market, living and working in PEC and to be a source of connecting clients employers in the region

- Syrian Refugee; PEC & Qunite West have a number of Syrian families. Settlement Services information are also transcribed in Arabic for clients. There are farming opportunities for Syrian clients with agricultural background.
- NCP will access posting from PEC job board: “Build a New Life” <http://buildanewlife.ca/county-job-board/>
- Bus Tour model was proposed for PEC if suitable employers are available with sustainable job opportunities.