

QUINTE LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

...a better community for everyone

Minutes of the meeting 15 February 2018

MEETING :	Quinte Local Immigration Partnership www.quintelip.ca
LOCATION	Belleville City Hall, Sir Mackenzie Bowell (SMB) Meeting Room 3rd floor, 169 Front Street, Belleville, Ontario (10:00 a.m. to 12 noon)
PROJECT COORDINATOR ADMINISTRATOR /FACILITATOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John L. Robertson - Project Coordinator – Quinte Local Immigration Partnership - Email: lip@quinteimmigration.ca • Orlando Ferro – QLIP Administrator / Facilitator - Executive Director – Quinte Immigration Services QUIS - Email: oferro@quinteimmigration.ca
NOTE TAKER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John L. Robertson – QLIP Project Coordinator
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barbara Dick - TESL Kingston - Teachers of English as a Second Language Kingston • Jamie Lynne Osmond - Assistant Manager, Employment and Financial Assistance Services - Hastings County Community & Human Services - Employment and Financial Services • Brenda Snider - Executive Director - Volunteer & Information Quinte • Mike Hewitt - Coordinator, Manufacturing Resource Centre, Quinte Economic Development Commission • Marcela Klein-Rezac - Social Worker, MSW, RSW - Quinte and District Rehabilitation Inc. Belleville • Joanne Leith - Site Coordinator / Employment Consultant - Community Employment Services Loyalist College • Jill Raycroft - CEO Belleville Chamber of Commerce • Chantale Blanchette - Project Officer - Francophone Immigration Support Network of East Ontario

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions and opening remarks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgement - Special appreciation to Karen Post - Manager of Economic and Strategic Initiatives - City of Belleville and the City of Belleville for their provision of the Sir Mackenzie Bowell Meeting Room at Belleville City Hall.

- **A QUIS pilot project** is in the planning stage related to attracting newcomers and retention of newcomers in relation to employment. The Quinte region has jobs that need people. More details will be available in the spring of 2018.
- **Farmers Feed the World FFTW** a QUIS pilot project received a Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence which recognizes the innovative contributions of producers, processors, agri-food organizations and rural communities in Ontario. FFTW Farmers Feed The World – Update - Quinte Immigration Services QUIS will move into its next phase of the pilot project that provides information to support the transition to agricultural employment and Agra-industry employment for Syrian newcomers. The FFTW is focused on filling gaps in services for those Syrian refugees that have a background in agriculture or Agra-business.
- **Statistical Review Quinte Region - Immigrants / Recent Immigrants**
- QLIP Coordinator provided Statistics Canada (2016) information on “country of origin” at the meeting. The review included Hastings County, Belleville and Quinte West as compiled for QLIP use. These were distributed and discussed and will be included with the distribution of the minutes. The statistical review for Prince Edward County was not completed in time for the meeting.
- **Knowing the skills required by employers** in the Quinte region would assist in marketing to attract newcomers to the region having the skills for jobs.
- Recognition of the net loss of population and the needs of the community. The value of apprenticeships, trades training and the need for skilled newcomers.
- Bridging programs are not in place resulting in limited capacity.
- **LIP Network Pilot – Community Data tools** (Community data consortium). QLIP Coordinator outlined the pilot LIP project to maximize access to immigration data including more customized data tables that may include sub-province down to neighbourhoods. The program will provide evidence for decision making and assist in monitoring and reporting on trends. LIP’s will have access at no cost, more details will be available in the spring of 2018 on custom geographic data.
- **Bay of Quinte immigration portal** – Discussions on the Portal including the upcoming review of revisions that will be required and such issues as Google translate, content and more by the principle municipal stakeholders. Need to highlight current newcomers to attract additional newcomers and new Canadians to the Quinte Region.
- Ref: Bay of Quinte Welcome Portal <http://immigration.bayofquinte.ca>
- The actual immigration portal was reviewed online at the meeting and as a result the QLIP Partners agreed that including the logo/link to the immigration portal on their individual websites would be beneficial to newcomers accessing their online information on services.
- Update – Immigration Portal logo/link requested for distribution to QLIP Partners.
- **Newcomers - Community Volunteer Income Tax Program CVITP**
- Quinte Immigration Services QUIS is hosting a Community Volunteer Income Tax Program for newcomers commencing on March 08 2018 and many dates are already booked so newcomers who would like to make use of this program should call to book an appointment to receive help with their tax return. Appointments and information can be obtained by calling QUIS at 613-968-7723 extension 26 Reception.
- The following link provides information on the CVITP program and identifies other agencies that may assist newcomers in the Quinte Region including those in Belleville, Trenton, Picton and Bancroft.
- <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/community-volunteer-income-tax-program.html>

- **Francophone Immigration Support Network of East Ontario** Project Officer advised that they have on file the resumes of highly skilled bilingual candidates including newcomers and new Canadians for vacancies in the Quinte region if companies are interested.
- **Next QLIP Meeting** will be scheduled for the spring of 2018 (10 a.m. to 12 noon)

NEXT MEETING	LOCATION	TIME
To be determined – spring 2018	To be determined	10 a.m. to 12 noon