

# QUINTE LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

...a better community for everyone

## Minutes of the meeting 28 February 2018

MEETING :	Quinte Local Immigration Partnership <a href="http://www.quintelip.ca">www.quintelip.ca</a>
LOCATION	Quinte Immigration Services QUIS – Boardroom 302, 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor, 41 Octavia Street Belleville, Ontario (03:00 p.m. to 04:00 p.m.)
PROJECT COORDINATOR ADMINISTRATOR /FACILITATOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>John L. Robertson</b> - Project Coordinator – Quinte Local Immigration Partnership - <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:lip@quinteimmigration.ca">lip@quinteimmigration.ca</a></li> <li>• <b>Orlando Ferro</b> – QLIP Administrator / Facilitator - Executive Director – Quinte Immigration Services QUIS - <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:oferro@quinteimmigration.ca">oferro@quinteimmigration.ca</a></li> </ul>
NOTE TAKER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>John L. Robertson</b> – QLIP Project Coordinator</li> </ul>
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Michelle Rosebush</b> - Coordinator Non-Credit Programs - Loyola School of Adult &amp; Continuing Education Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board</li> <li>• <b>Stella Weese</b> - Victim Services - Hastings, Prince Edward, Lennox &amp; Addington Counties</li> <li>• <b>Anne Elspeth Rector</b> – Author – Advocate – Belleville Intelligencer Writers Group</li> <li>• <b>Wendy Chesworth</b> – Board of Directors – Quinte Immigration Services QUIS</li> </ul>

## Agenda topics

DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Introductions and opening remarks</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Acknowledgement</b> - Special appreciation to Quinte Immigration Services QUIS for the provision of the Boardroom 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, 41 Octavia Street, Belleville, Ontario.</li> <li>• <b>Discussions on the way ahead</b> for the Vigilance Subcommittee of the Belleville Inclusion Committee. Vigilance moreover relates to closing gaps in services for potential victims and is linked to the overall need for a more welcoming community and the attraction and retention of newcomers to the community key components of the commitment of the Partners in the Quinte Local Immigration Partnership QLIP.</li> <li>• <b>Develop formal actions to counter racism.</b></li> <li>• Develop formal recognition, a “champions” program.</li> <li>• Increase awareness – reporting incidents – including outstanding incidents.</li> <li>• Create a “where to go for help” on the City website.</li> </ul>
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- **The Vigilance Subcommittee membership** – The membership of the committee needs more diversity. Adding more members to the subcommittee based on discrimination in the community.
- **Name for the Vigilance Subcommittee** needs to be changed to reflect greater understanding and awareness including hate crimes, hate crimes prevention and public education.
- **Counter measures**
  - Community Advocacy & Legal Centre CALC to be contacted in relation to the Subcommittee – Michelle
- **Establishment of formal measures**
  - Victim Services is available – but what other options are available for help?
  - Suggest the City of Belleville website could list services available for incidents of hate crimes.  
**Tasks** – possible press release (in the fall) and possible discussions in the newspaper.
  - **Award** – employer/employee publicly recognizing champions in the community.
  - Awards - corporate/businesses or other – equates to publicity that may influence other companies etc. to accept change in their approach or methods etc.
  - Having awards at “cultural days”.
  - **Event** – process for reporting.
  - **Reporting racism** – CALC assist in terms of human rights, or Victim Services.
  - **Complaint page** a possible option.
  - **Victim Services** – and funding for such things as graffiti cleanup.
- **Belleville has changed over time** - In terms of discrimination since 2001 the city of Belleville has changed a great deal and has become much more accepting of newcomers and diversity in the population i.e. rental properties in the past may have presented barriers to some. Prime example of change involved the Belleville and Quinte Region community support in light of the mosque shootings in Quebec. The citizens of Belleville and large numbers of people from the far reaching surrounding areas rallied and conducted a vigil walk that involved upwards of a thousand participants who walked on mass in silence, many with signs of solidarity, from the Belleville mosque in Belleville to City Hall where an outdoor memorial was held with many dignitaries and an overwhelming number of community participants.
- **Identify target groups** and potential victims of hate crimes.
  - This may involve “denial of services” (i.e. lodging / restaurants).
  - Guide posts may involve demographics.  
Guideposts on the City website.
  - May include the history of diversity as a positive for the city.

NEXT MEETING	LOCATION	TIME
To be determined	To be determined	To be determined