

QUINTE LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

...a better community for everyone

Minutes of the meeting 13 June 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"> • Paul Osborne - President - Board of Directors - Quinte Immigration Services QUIS • Sharon Williamson - Integration Program Officer, Settlement Network - Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada IRCC • Rob Clute - Executive Director - QuinteVation • Cathy Ireland - Project Coordinator - QuinteVation RevUp • Jacques Pilon - Entrepreneur in Residence - Launch Lab - Regional Innovation Centre (Quinte Region) • Karen Poste - Manager of Economic and Strategic Initiatives City of Belleville • Mike Hewitt - Coordinator - Manufacturing Resource Centre - Quinte Economic Development Commission QEDC • Dr. Aruna Alexander - UNAC United Nations Association Canada - Quinte Branch and City of Belleville Inclusion Committee. • Harry Todd - Business Counsellor / Administrator - Trenval Business Development Corporation • Christine Durant - Director Poverty Round Table Hastings Prince Edward (PRT) • Chantale Blanchette - Project Officer - Francophone Immigration Support Network of East Ontario • Trevor Crowe - Community Development Coordinator - Corporation of the County of Prince Edward • Brad Labadie - Executive Director - East Central Ontario Training Board ECOTB • Scott Hineman - Regional Manager - Human Relations - Wellington/Montreal Highline Mushrooms • Joanne Leith - Employment Consultant - Community Employment Services Loyalist College • Barbara Dick - TESL Kingston - Teachers of English as a Second Language Kingston

- **Jill Raycroft** - Chief Executive Officer - Belleville Chamber of Commerce
- **Rob Gilmour** - Principle - Loyola School of Adult and Continuing Education - Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION

• Introductions and opening remarks

- **Acknowledgement** - Special appreciation to Karen Post - Manager of Economic and Strategic Initiatives and staff - City of Belleville, and the City of Belleville for their provision of the Sir Mackenzie Bowell Meeting Room at Belleville City Hall.
- **Rob Clute - Executive Director QuinteVation** presented the QuinteVation video and presentation “Start It. Bring It. Make It. Grow Your Business.” Available on the website at: <http://www.quintevation.ca> and provided a complete overview of their approach methods and outcomes. The Purpose of QuinteVation is to facilitate and encourage business innovation by entrepreneurs and thereby accelerate the growth of industries/sectors in the Bay of Quinte Region. Their Vision is to make the Bay of Quinte the most dynamic rural innovation destination in Canada by 2023. More information is available at the website.
- **Cathy Ireland - Project Coordinator RevUp** - QuinteVation’s RevUp Pilot is a 6 month program, designed to help Innovative companies with scaling and rapid growth challenges. Through this structured program, participants benefit from working with a team of Entrepreneurs in Residence (EIR’s). <http://www.quintevation.ca/rev-up-quinte>
- **Jacques Pilon - Entrepreneur in Residence EIR - Launch Lab** – Helping entrepreneurs succeed – they are a team of entrepreneurs helping entrepreneurs providing advisory services by pairing entrepreneurs with their team of experienced business owners from Kingston and most of southeastern Ontario for one-on-one mentorship and guidance, the Quinte area included. <https://www.launchlab.ca>
- **All three presentations were well received and included Q&A sessions throughout.** There are many connections related to area newcomer projects and programs encouraging entrepreneurial newcomers to come to the Quinte Region including the QUIS Pilot Project “Economic Development Through Immigration EDTI” and the QUIS / QLIP interactions with the Rural Employment Initiative REI in Peel Region to refer skilled newcomers who are “job ready” to the Quinte Region from the Greater Toronto Area GTA who are interested in relocation to rural Ontario. These efforts are reinforced by the information on the skills shortages in the Quinte Region. QLIP Partners support these efforts to bring skilled qualified newcomers to the region.
- **The publication “Bridging Two Worlds: Supporting Newcomer and Refugee Youth”** was contributed by Mike Hewitt to the QLIP Partnership. Information at: <http://ceric.ca/resource/bridging-two-worlds-supporting-newcomer-refugee-youth> and <http://ceric.ca/publications> “Bridging Two Worlds provides teachers, school administrators and counsellors with the knowledge and practical resources to deliver more informed and culturally responsive career development and guidance to newcomer and refugee youth from Kindergarten to Grade 12. This book and the study upon which it is based grew out of the Canadian spirit of cultural diversity and inclusivity. Bridging Two Worlds offers data-informed curriculum development and instructional ideas that recognize and address educational gaps as well as cultural or experiential differences that impede progress.” (Ref: website for this publication shown above.)
- **International Students boom at Loyalist College** – Loyalist is a very popular school for international students with over 500 currently enrolled and upon graduation may apply for post-graduation work permits that will allow the graduating student to work in their field in Canada from nine (9) months to three (3) years depending on the length their school program and could eventually lead to staying in Canada. Quinte Immigration Services QUIS

Settlement Workers have been diligently assisting well over 100 Loyalist College international graduates applying for post-graduation work permits in May and June while carrying their regular client workload. The numbers are growing each year and it has become apparent that QUIS through its Settlement Workers and Loyalist College representatives need to arrive at a method or protocol to assist the large numbers of international students collectively to process their applications for post-graduate work permits possibly at the college in a computer equipped room, in the spring.

- **Employing skilled newcomer graduates** to fill workforce gaps within the Quinte Region including those related to the growth of entrepreneurs through programs like QuinteVation and its RevUp project and Launch Lab and the establishment of newcomer entrepreneur businesses flowing from projects like the Economic Development through Immigration EDTI Pilot Project at Quinte Immigration Services QUIS and other attraction methods.
- **Economic Development through Immigration EDTI Pilot Project** – designed to assist immigrant businesses including entrepreneurs wishing to move or relocate to the Quinte Region within Canada and internationally, and also to match newcomers with job opportunities in relation to labour shortages. The Pilot Project is housed at Quinte Immigration Services QUIS with information available on the QUIS website and marketed through the “Bay of Quinte Immigration website”.
- Partners contributing to the EDTI include:
 - City of Quinte West Economic Development
 - Prince Edward County Economic Development
 - City of Belleville Economic Development
 - CEOTIS (QUIS) Translation Interpretation Services
 - QLIP Quinte Local Immigration Partnership (57 stakeholders)
 - East Central Ontario Training Board ECTOB skills/labour research
- **Rural Employment Initiative REI – “skilled workers ready to relocate to the rural Ontario including the Quinte Region”**
- **Real solutions:** The REI connects skilled immigrants in Peel Region and the Greater Toronto Area with employers in rural Ontario that have sustainable job opportunities, and facilitates their movement from the metropolitan GTA to rural Ontario.
- **REI has over 300 skilled immigrant clients who are seeking employment outside of the GTA**, interested in relocating to rural Ontario. Many of these candidates have skills in areas such as healthcare services, Human Resources, skilled trades and business management. <http://www.ncpeel.ca/services/look-for-employment>
- **Employers and Employment Consultants in the Quinte Region** may find the REI initiative a positive force in recruiting established skilled workers to fill skill shortages. The REI goal is to connect job ready highly qualified immigrants having a Canadian language benchmark of CLB 6 or higher, who are ready to relocate to rural Ontario for viable job opportunities. A pdf copy of the [REI brochure](#) is provided with these minutes.
- Currently there is a Veterinary Technician (working with farm animals) available and interested in opportunities in the Quinte Region.
- For more information on the REI initiative - email: REIproject@ncpeel.ca
- REI Initiative: phone # 905-306-0577 ext. 308
- The QLIP Coordinator recently met with the individuals responsible for the REI and can also connect you to the right person at the REI initiative:
John L. Robertson - Program Coordinator - Quinte Local Immigration Partnership QLIP
Phone: (613) 968-7723 ext. 23 Email: lip@quinteimmigration.ca
- **Poverty Roundtable Hastings Prince Edward, PRT**
- Christine Durant - Director Poverty Round Table Hastings Prince Edward (PRT) Link: <http://povertyroundtablehpe.ca> Discussion - Recent reports and the initial beginnings in creating a community benefits network in Hastings and Prince Edward Counties HPE

- Overview of community benefits Ref: Mowat Centre, Apr 21, 2016 Community Benefits and Social Procurement Policies A Jurisdictional Review: <https://mowatcentre.ca/community-benefits-and-social-procurement-policies/>
- PRT document distributed (online through link below) “MOVING FORWARD - Recommendations for Community Action: Recommendations for Community Action” is a document that belongs to all of us who are working to end poverty across Hastings and Prince Edward counties. <http://povertyroundtablehpe.ca/prt/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Moving-Forward-Report-FINAL.pdf>
- **Belleville Inclusion Committee (BIC)**
- Dr. Aruna Alexander - UNAC Quinte - Belleville Inclusion Committee (BIC) provided an update on the BIC since the recent meeting at City Hall in Belleville and also provided the new printing of the window display BIC logo with a white background that can be read and identified easier. Suggestions included the logo and message be in place in places frequented by the public. etc.



- The BIC plans to be active at the Festival in July 2018
- [Belleville Waterfront & Multicultural Festival - 2018](#) Thursday Jul 12, 2018 - Sunday Jul 15, 2018
- **FFTW Farmers Feed The World Pilot Project** (Quinte Immigration Services QUIS)
- FFTW Farmers Feed The World - Update – the website is now online
- At the wrap-up of the meeting the two pdf “flyers” that contain links to the FFTW website leading to webinar links in Arabic and English, and also live on the Smart board screen (pdf’s attached).
- The Quinte Immigration Services QUIS pilot project sent “Flyers” to all FFTW Syrian newcomer contacts via email and WhatsApp containing links to the live FFTW website with webinars in Arabic and English. Both websites were displayed on screen during the QLIP meeting displaying the content of webinars.
- The website contains information to support the transition to agricultural employment and Agra-industry employment for Syrian newcomers, this including the publication “Get a Strong Start Business Resource Guide for New Farmers” from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) in English and translated into Arabic.
- The webinars include among others, topics on: Starting a Business, Financing a Farm Business, Land Prices, Ontario Crops & Soil, and Market Trends in Agriculture in Ontario.
- English FFTW website
- <http://farmersfeedtheworld.org>
- Arabic FFTW website
- <http://ar.farmersfeedtheworld.org>

NEXT MEETING	LOCATION	TIME
Proposed for mid-September 2018	To be Determined	10 a.m. to 12 noon