

# QUINTE LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

...a better community for everyone

## Minutes of the meeting 08 March 2016

MEETING :	Quinte Local Immigration Partnership <a href="http://www.quintelip.ca">www.quintelip.ca</a>
LOCATION	Highland Shores Children's Aid - Boardroom - 363 Dundas Street West, Belleville, Ontario (10:00 a.m. to 12 noon)
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>Mike Hewitt</b> - Coordinator - Manufacturing Resource Centre - Quinte Economic Development Commission</li> <li>• <b>Mike Whitaker</b> - Loyalist College Community Employment Services</li> <li>• <b>Virginia Creamer</b> - Carer Edge – Trenton</li> <li>• <b>Chantale Blanchette</b> - Project Officer - Francophone Immigration Support Network of East Ontario</li> <li>• <b>Brigitte Duguay Langlois</b> - Francophone Immigration Support Network of East Ontario</li> <li>• <b>Karen Gilroy</b> - Manager, Facilities and Corporate Support - South East Community Care Access Centre</li> <li>• <b>Karen McCoy</b> - Family Services Supervisor - Highland Shores Children's Aid for the Counties of Hastings, Prince Edward and Northumberland</li> <li>• <b>Carmela Ruberto</b> - Hastings County Social Services</li> <li>• <b>Paul Osborne</b> - President - Board of Directors - Quinte Immigration Services</li> <li>• <b>Sarina Osborne</b> – Canadian Blast Freezers</li> <li>• <b>Rob Gilmour</b> – Principle - Loyola School of Adult and Continuing Education - Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board</li> <li>• <b>Michelle Rosebush</b> - Coordinator - Non-credit Programs - Loyola School of Adult and Continuing Education - Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board</li> <li>• <b>Barbara Dick</b> - TESL Kingston - Teachers of English as a Second Language</li> <li>• <b>Scott Hineman</b> - Human Resource Advocate/Recruiter - Highline Mushrooms, Wellington Ontario</li> </ul>

DISCUSSION

• **Introductions and opening remarks**

- **Acknowledgements:** Special appreciation to **Karen McCoy** - Family Services Supervisor - Highland Shores Children's Aid for the use of the Highland Shores Boardroom.
- **Quinte Refugee Task Forum "2"** held on March 03, 2016 in Quinte West at the Knights of Columbus Hall was successful with attendance greater than 120 including Sponsorship Groups. The program mirrored the first Forum held January 22, 2016 in Belleville with the exception of a second Panel focused on information for the Sponsorship Groups including best practices.
- A bus company representative at the Forum discussed possible solutions for the perennial transportation challenges facing Loyola to get ESL and LINC students to the school in Belleville.
- **Loyola ESL/LINC** - Sponsorship Groups may not be aware that to use the free licenced daycare one must be in class for ESL/LINC and daycare staff/child ratio must also be considered.
- **Ryerson University Lifeline Syria Challenge** – The “challenge” is a process to raise funding for Syrian Families to come to Toronto. By end March 2016 there will be 28 families in the Quinte Region that could use “challenge funding” under some “umbrella program” to cover the smaller towns in the Quinte Region like Marmora and Tweed, to provide a “path to success.”
- **Migration to Quinte Region** – With refugees still in hotels in Toronto and with few jobs available a migration to smaller centres may emerge if it is recognized that there are jobs in the Quinte Region.
- **Refugee Levels of Education – Entry level for jobs** – Many employers require grade 12 or equivalency to hire individuals and employers may need to refer to foreign education qualifications for comparability.
- **Working Group may be vital to success of Syrian refugee families in the Quinte Region**
- Sponsorship Groups in the Quinte Region and “service providers” need a common network to synchronize the information and linkages to assist Sponsorship Groups in their search for pathways to success for the Syrian refugee families. Information on services from: Loyalist College; Loyalist College Elevate Training Program; Private Sector; Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs OMAFRA; Quinte Economic Development Commission; Hastings and prince Edward Counties; the Cities of Belleville and Quinte West; and the Chambers of Commerce need to be readily available and “cross referenced”, including how programs may be linked.
- This may involve a “work plan” that includes communication with all Sponsorship Groups, to include “packages of information” with brochures, information flyers etc., including the use the previous successful publication the “Employers Tool Kit” still available through the QLIP Partnership.
- In order to avoid information overload any planning may need to employ a “concept map” and a “work plan” to put all parties and information together.
- **Information: Manitoba Start** is assisting newcomers by providing interpreters for job duties in the beginning: <http://www.mirssa.org/members/manitoba-start>
- Manitoba Start (Employment Solutions for Immigrants Inc.) connects Manitoba businesses to a world class workforce and is the leading provider of career services to immigrants to the Province. Hundreds of

employers are partnering with Manitoba Start to attract, hire, and retain the best international expertise available.

- In the Quinte Region hiring Syrian refugees may be assisted through the translation of some private sector company operational manuals and if that is the case Central Eastern Ontario Translation and Interpretation Services CEOTIS at QUIS is available for translations, and if interpreters are needed for operational instructions in the beginning of a job placement they can also be provided through CEOTIS.
- **French-Language Education for Syrian Refugee Children who speak French**
- Syrian Refugee families in the Quinte Region may have children who were schooled in the French language while in Lebanon. Sponsoring groups should check this information before enrolling children in English speaking schools as some may be more appropriately registered in French-Language schools in the Region making for a more successful approach to education.
- The Project Officer - Francophone Immigration Support Network of East Ontario advised that there are resources available to find a French-Language school at: <http://espacefranco.com/trousseelf>
- **Event on April 28, 2016 City of Belleville and UNAC Quinte - Request for a “Francophone Table”** - In concert with the usual QLIP, QUIS and a Loyola table for the second anniversary event of Belleville joining the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination (CCMARD) a request for a “Francophone Table” was suggested (Confirmed by UNAC Quinte on March 15, 2016). The event will be at the Greek Hall April 28, 2016, supper provided, Loyola Choir starts at 5:30 please come early.

NEXT MEETING	LOCATION	TIME
Wednesday June 22, 2016	<b>South East Community Care Access Centre                      Prince Edward/Hastings Boardroom                      470 Dundas St. East, Belleville (the Bayview Mall)                      NOTE: Located inside the Bayview Mall in the north east corner of the Mall.</b>	10:00 a.m. to 12 noon