

QUINTE LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

...a better community for everyone

Minutes of the meeting 02 November 2017

MEETING :	Quinte Local Immigration Partnership www.quintelip.ca
LOCATION	Belleville Public Library & John M. Parrott Art Gallery, Meeting Room 3rd floor, 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 • Esthel Issa - Treasurer - Board of Directors - Quinte Immigration Services • Trevor Pross - Chief Executive Officer - Belleville Public Library and John M. Parrott Art Gallery • Karen Poste - Manager of Economic and Strategic Initiatives - City of Belleville • Jill Raycroft - Chief Executive Officer - Belleville Chamber of Commerce • Brad Labadie - Executive Director East Central Ontario Training Board ECOTB • Barbara Dick - TESL Kingston - Teachers of English as a Second Language Kingston • Joanne Leith - Site Coordinator / Employment Consultant - Community Employment Services Loyalist College • Trevor Crowe - Community Development Coordinator - Corporation of the County of Prince Edward

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions and opening remarks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgement: Special appreciation to Trevor Pross - Chief Executive Officer - Belleville Public Library and John M. Parrott Art Gallery for the use of the Third Floor Boardroom and technical assistance in terms of presentations in the meeting. • Discussion – recent CBC videos on immigration that clarify and also shatter a few myths. • QLIP Partners discussed the videos and provided comments and observations. • The information for the videos was drawn from Statistics Canada data and published through the CBC article, Canada immigration explained: Answers to 9 common questions “We tackle questions involving border crossings, health care and crime as it relates to immigration.”

Reference: CBC News Posted: Oct 25, 2017 9:51 AM ET Last Updated: Oct 26, 2017 10:24 AM ET

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/canadian-immigration-video-explainers-1.4370680>

- Immigrants vs. refugees: How are people getting into Canada?
- How is Canada's immigration system different from that of the U.S.?
- What happens when an asylum seeker gets picked up at the border?
- Are border crossers breaking the law and jumping the queue?
- Does immigration lead to an increase in crime?
- Do refugee claimants automatically get access to our hospitals and doctors?
- Can Canada's health-care system cope with immigration?
- How much do refugees and immigrants get in social assistance?
- Is immigration good or bad for an economy?

- **Discussion on the labour market covering many areas of local concern**
- A more comprehensive look at the labour market can be found at the East Central Ontario Training Board's (ECOTB) site <http://focusontraining.com> where the ECOTB Local Labour Market Plan 2016 (LLMP) is available, and directly at: <http://focusontraining.com/wp-content/uploads/2016-LLMP-Report-website.pdf>
- The LLMP "...updates labour market supply and demand data and offers insight into the workforce challenges and opportunities in the counties of Hastings, Lennox & Addington and Prince Edward..."¹

- **Belleville Inclusion Committee (BIC)**
- The QLIP Partners discussed the BIC and hopes to invite the BIC to a future QLIP meeting to enable input from the QLIP Partners in reference to the BIC's strategic direction.

- **Farmers Feed the World FFTW Pilot Project**
- The FFTW progress was presented to the Partners through a PowerPoint presentation (attached as a pdf) "New Horizons – Providing Online Webinar Modules in Farming and Agra-foods industries in Ontario" offering a brief overview of the pilot project from its beginnings to present day. This included the official launch in Colborne at the Ontario Agri-Food Venture Centre in August of 2016, through successful Information Sessions with large numbers of Syrian refugee participating, to the Skills Matching Events for Syrian Refugees. Information Session Webinars (11) will soon be made available in Arabic.

- **Discussion - Information on Talent Beyond Boundaries TBB**
- Note: TBB representative is enthusiastic about the prospect of speaking to employers in the Quinte Region.
- Many employers face recruitment challenges and TBB is working with Australia, the United States, and Canada opening a new safe and legal pathway for refugees to access international employment through labor migration. TBB has an online platform to collect detailed information about refugees' skills and work experience. Current database has over 10,000 candidates (38% report some level of English proficiency). QLIP Partners at the meeting agreed it would be beneficial to have the TBB Canadian Partnerships Advisor speak to local employers, to possibly include manufacturers, Chamber(s) of Commerce members, Counties of Hastings and Prince Edward and the City of Belleville (City of Belleville lead to coordinate a possibly TBB speaking engagement). (Attached information pdf)
- **TBB Contact:**
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¹ East Central Ontario Training Board ECOTB, 2016/17 Local Labour Market Plan, p.1

- **Housing - Available and affordable housing - Quinte Region needs** – discussion on available and affordable housing and rental inventory which are important aspect in regard to employment/recruitment.
- **Note: The Poverty Roundtable of Hastings Prince Edward** has a **Housing First Working Group (HFWG)** and their site <http://povertyroundtablehpe.ca/housing/> provides information on their work and links to Quinte Region housing plans.
- **Foreign trained professionals – Credential recognition** - The question of credential recognition and organizations like **World Education Services WES** was discussed. WES verifies and authenticates the degrees and transcripts of foreign professionals seeking to obtain licensing in Canada.
- **World Education Services WES** <https://www.wes.org/ca>
- Other assessment service providers in Ontario:
- **University of Toronto - Comparative Education Service (CES)**
- <https://learn.utoronto.ca/international-professionals/comparative-education-service-ces>
- CES credential assessment reports can be used for immigration programs through Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) applying for employment, to further ones education, or obtain licensure in Canada.
- **International Credential Assessment Service of Canada ICAC.** ICAS provides a wide range of services for employers, education institutions and community agencies. <https://www.icascanada.ca>
- **Alliance of Credential Evaluation Services of Canada (ACESC) members:**
- <http://www.canalliance.org/members.en.stm>
- **Bay of Quinte Immigration Portal** discussed in terms of its holistic approach to updating <http://immigration.bayofquinte.ca>
- **Next Meeting: December 07, 2017 (Thursday) Belleville City Hall SMB Meeting room 3rd floor**
- **2018 Upcoming QLIP Meetings** (10 a.m. to 12 noon)
- January 10, 2018 (Wednesday) Quinte West Multipurpose Room Municipal Offices
- February 14 2018 (Wednesday) Highland Shores Children’s Aid CAS Boardroom Belleville
- Mar 21, 2018 (Wednesday) Belleville City Hall SMB Meeting room 3rd floor

NEXT MEETING	LOCATION	TIME
December 07, 2017 (Thursday)	Belleville City Hall Sir Mackenzie Bowell (SMB) Meeting Room 3rd floor, 169 Front Street, Belleville, Ontario	10 a.m. to 12 noon