
Q U I N T E LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

...a better community for everyone

**Minutes of the meeting
27 March 2013**

MEETING :	Quinte Local Immigration Partnership
LOCATION	Community Resource Centre, Main Floor – Common Room (One floor below Quinte United Immigrant Services) 41 Octavia Street, Belleville, Ontario
PROJECT COORDINATOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John L. Robertson - Project Coordinator – Quinte Local Immigration Partnership - Email: lip@quis-immigration.org • Orlando Ferro – QLIP Administrator / Facilitator Executive Director – Quinte United Immigrant Services QUIS
ADMINISTRATOR /FACILITATOR	
NOTE TAKER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John L. Robertson
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Osborne - President Quinte United Immigrant Services • Kevin Jackson - Board Member - Quinte United Immigrant Services • Charlene Bessin - Business Consultant - Small Business Centre • Roberto Almeida – Program Manager – Communicable Disease Control & Tobacco Control - Health Unit – Hastings & Prince Edward Counties • Jodie Russett - International Students - Loyalist College • Ali Black - Community Advocacy & Legal Centre • Carmela Ruberto - Hastings County • Todd Davis - Community Development Coordinator - County of Prince Edward • Malika Séguin-Gervais - Agente de projet / Project Officer Réseau de soutien à l'immigration francophone de l'Est de l'Ontario / Francophone Immigration Support Network of East Ontario

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION	
Introductions - Discussion Topics and Open Discussions and review of Minutes from February 21, 2013	

DISCUSSION
Special appreciation goes out to Dr Aruna Alexander United Nations Association in Canada - Quinte, Karen Poste, Manager, Economic & Strategic Initiatives City of Belleville and Albert College Head of School, Keith Stansfield, for their great contributions to the event “Inclusive Community and Economic Development” March 21, 2013

QLIP New Trends for 2013 – 2014

- New immigration trends: changes in the services delivery contracts in the region, small changes in client eligibility, reporting, funding levels, and programs. Also discussed, was the temporary worker program review, and new concepts such as a “social bond” similar to that used in other countries where a large investment is made to a bank trust account and is used to fund projects.
- Assessment overseas where a large skilled worker data bases will be created was discussed and the impact on the Local Labour Market Integration.
- Settlement Services may decline in the future as newcomers will be arriving with fluency levels in the official languages and should be better informed, and with the possibility of having employment pre-arranged there will be a need for services for employers hiring newcomers, with employers paying for the cost.
- QUIS may eventually be able to extend services to employers to ease the stress of the process of hiring from overseas.
- Can a responsive system be built, that if workers are needed in three weeks? The need cannot be met.
- Consultants may be used to implement the process but contracts are cumbersome
- Many changes in immigration – will they make “good business sense”
- As the further changes in the immigration system build and evolve the need for more definitive data for the Quinte area increases and that data may be a challenge to obtain.
- The Federal Government takes a role in managing the national scope of immigration while the Provinces and Municipalities will be expected to contribute as well because of the benefits immigration will bring and therefore both may also become more involved in the process.
- The QLIP is looked upon as a model for newer LIPs being formed as there has been communication with the new LIP in Calgary and an LIP in a community in Eastern Ontario that is in its beginning phase.

Francophone Community

- Language and bilingualism and Francophone immigration needs to be encouraged as it will lead to more businesses benefiting and growth in having a growing client base. LIP plays a key role in community involvement, if francophone’s are encouraged to come to the Quinte area that will build upon the “communities” in place and increase the ability to obtain services in both languages
- QLIP Coordinator has been in contact with Josée Cloutier Community Liaison Officer - Agente de liaison communautaire & éducatrice EPE Conseil des écoles catholique du centre-est (CECCE). She was unable to attend this QLIP meeting but will be invited to future meetings. www.ecolecatholique.ca
- The idea of a Francophone community with a stronger sense of community will lead to more growth affecting the economy, employment and cultural aspects
- Prince Edward County is making advancements in providing services in French to enhance contact experience, and is making attempts at attracting Francophone’s through the media

Small Business Centre (update) As of April 3rd, 2013 the Small Business Centre will operate two satellite offices located in downtown Trenton every Wednesday, and downtown Picton every Tuesday and Thursday to support local Quinte West and Prince Edward County Entrepreneurs.

Working Groups in: Health, Education and Training, Economic Development, Labour Market Integration, Social Justice, Public Education, Official languages, Interpretation and Translation Services, were discussed. Need to determine from all groups if there were those who would like to be on different groups i.e., Social Service and Legal Services, QLIP Administrator/Facilitator and the QLIP Coordinator will be on all groups to provide services and support. The challenge will be how to engage the groups and not get “lost in translation” and time, email will not work. Timing and getting groups together will need to be determined with the common purpose of streamlining services and closing gaps for newcomers.

Newcomer's to the Quinte area statistical information will be needed in relation to services. Data and information on gaps, creating solutions will need a current baseline on statistics, and information will need to be related to our strategy.

Police services should be involved in the QLIP as is the case in many other similar organizations.

Discussion on ease of access to information on what services are available in all of Quinte for newcomers, plus Call 211 for community services was discussed.

Deputation: Napanee & District Chamber of Commerce has invited the QLIP to make a deputation to their Board. All attending Partners were in favour of moving forward with this, and the initiative to include Napanee. One suggestion presented was to contact other interested parties in Lennox & Addington County and see if the QLIP could do a group presentation. **Note:** The Manufacturing Resource Centre (MRC) <http://www.manufacturingrc.ca> embraces an area that includes Lennox & Addington County and the addition of organizations from Lennox & Addington County will bring the QLIP closer to a similar coverage area.

NEXT MEETING	LOCATION	TIME
To be determined - Projected for early May 2013		