
Q U I N T E LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

...a better community for everyone

**Minutes of the meeting
10 March 2015**

MEETING :	Quinte Local Immigration Partnership www.quintelip.ca
LOCATION	City of Quinte West Multi-Purpose Room Quinte West Municipal Offices 7 Creswell Drive, Trenton, ON
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 - Project Coordinator – QLIP Partnership
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmela Ruberto - Hastings County Social Services • Mike Hewitt - Coordinator - Manufacturing Resource Centre - Quinte Economic Development Commission • Paul Osborne - President - Board of Directors - Quinte Immigration Services • Bill Burns - Treasure - Board of Directors - Quinte Immigration Services • Christina Edwards-Scott - Economic Development Coordinator – City of Quinte West • Suzanne Andrews - Manager Quinte West Chamber of Commerce • Danielle Vaillant - META Employment Services • David McAdams – Human Resources Manager - Highline Mushrooms • Andrew Redden - Economic Development Manager Hastings County Development Corporation. • Janet McGrath - Citizen Services Specialist - Service Canada • Mike Whitaker - Loyalist College Community Employment Services • Veronica Hendrick-Lockyer - Spokesperson - Glass Tower Offices Corp • John Costello - Producer Belleville/Napanee - TVCOGECO • Bonnie Tincknell – Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities

DISCUSSION

• Introductions and opening remarks

- **Acknowledgement - Special appreciation to Linda Lisle** - Manager of Economic Development & Tourism - Quinte West and the City of Quinte West in providing the Multi-Purpose Room - City of Quinte West Municipal Offices
- **Acknowledgement - Sun Life Financial Representative Caroline Day** - held a Quinte Newcomer Appreciation Event at Sun Life Financial, 365 North Front Street, Belleville on Thursday February 12 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- **First Anniversary Event April 16 2015** - The City of Belleville joined the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination (CCMARD) in 2014 (as recommended by UNAC Quinte) – Celebratory events are scheduled for Thursday April 16, 2015.
- **Update: First Anniversary Event April 16 2015** will be held at The Greek Community Hall, 70 Harder Drive - 5:30 p.m. - light supper served with program to follow.
- **Update:** There is a QLIP Partnership table for 10 please contact John Robertson QLIP Project Coordinator
- **Colour of Poverty Campaign - Colour of Change** – discussions of the campaign led to the possibility of a presentation to the QLIP Partnership in Belleville at a QLIP Partnership meeting in the coming months. Post meeting arrangements for a presentation to be investigated.
- Information available at: <http://accessalliance.ca/community/advocacy/colourofpoverty>
- Disaggregated data needed on services, on immigrants and the types of immigrants – tools could involve questionnaires – support from ministries – length of time in Canada – tools used will be anonymous. Using the tools – Training Board (ECOTB) can assist – In other cities the United Way has been involved.
- **Hon Michael Chan, MPP** Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade - Future visit to the Quinte Region possible.
- **QUIS Open House** – An open house will be announced at a future date – renovations at QUIS
- **The Partners discussed possibilities for a mentorship program** in relation to newcomers – the youth programs in Quinte Region through the chambers of commerce involve an aspect of mentorship – the business community needs to be asked for possible mentors – may only need two hours a month either face-to-face or skype may be useful - newcomer employment networking/mentoring program to be investigated including funding, networks, lists of contacts to become mentors. Youth mentoring – aging workforce – Ask businesses - communicate with businesses. Possible resources may include Volunteer Information Quinte VIQ, Newsletters, Banks, and the Chambers - possible funding from the Ministry could be considered. It must be demand driven. Employment Ontario sources may be able to identify demand – Survey may be useful to determine interest in mentoring. Starting small may lead to success – phone calls to start – There needs to be a control and follow-up. Check with professional associations e.g. CGA's. Check with contacts at the Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade. Students might help in terms of contributing volunteer hours.
- **Discussion on possible new videos on immigration and newcomers** - The success of the COGECO video documentaries “Breaking Boundaries” was discussed and noted that a current video collage of the multi part series can be viewed on the QLIP site (and QUIS site). Partners discussed the fact that these documentaries were very well done and maybe there could be new videos on the success of newcomers and the advantage of hiring newcomers to the Quinte Region. The Canadian Council for Refugees may provide talking points to counter any public misconceptions that could dispelled by a new documentary. Their website is: <http://ccrweb.ca>

- **Ontario Bridge Training programs** help skilled newcomers get their license or certificate in their profession or trade, so that they find employment commensurate with their skills and experience in Ontario.
<http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/english/keyinitiatives/bridgetraining.shtml>
- **Proposed Workshop “Licensing in Ontario’s Regulated Professions”** – QLIP Partners discussed the workshop available from Global Experience Ontario (Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade (MCIT)). The workshop would be of assistance to Employment Ontario providers, job developers, settlement workers and employers in the Quinte Region and it was concluded that the workshop would best be conducted through employment services providers in the community.
- **Language Guide Posters for Interpretation Services were made available** to QLIP Partners as the composition of the QLIP meeting attendees varies from meeting to meeting - Central Eastern Ontario Translation and Interpretation Services CEOTIS Language Guide posters identify over 120 languages to assist service providers dealing with newcomer clients who may have limited English language skills.
- **Gap in Education Related Service to Newcomers Closed** - as a direct result of QLIP Partners collaborative efforts at the February 10, 2015 QLIP meeting a gap in an education related service for newcomers was closed on the day following the meeting with an efficient and cost effective solution, due to the collective efforts of QLIP Partners in the education field.
- **A QLIP Meeting in Napanee** - QLIP Partners were polled as to attending a QLIP Partnership meeting in Greater Napanee and many advised they would be interested in attending.
- **QLIP Strategy and Action Plan 2014 / 2015 / 2016** was reviewed. Quinte West Chamber of Commerce Manager Suzanne Andrews suggested an amendment on page two of the Plan. Specifically, to amend the statement “Support QLIP Partners initiative to develop a newcomer’s guide as future online resources through the newly developed Bay of Quinte Region” to add Living making it “Bay of Quinte Region Living” as this refers to the specific Bay of Quinte Region Living marketing, the Bay of Quinte Region Living Council, and refers to that part of the website that includes “Calling Quinte Home” with information on immigrating and meeting the needs of newcomers at <http://living.bayofquinte.ca>
- **Magnet Presentation discussed for Quinte Region Employers** – Discussions on a presentation in Belleville on the benefits of this powerful platform using cutting edge technology that matches applicant skills with the skills needed by employers. Magnet provides a fast and effective skills matching advantage at very low cost that pairs skilled workers with employer’s needs. Magnet will also be able to provide labour market data. Magnet is a not-for-profit social initiative with an aim to address unemployment and underemployment, specifically as it relates to youth and new immigrants.
- **UPDATE: Magnet Presentation** will be on April 07 2015 at the Pioneer Building 10:30 - 11:30.
- **Magnet compared to Job Bank – How do they differ** - the advantage of Magnet www.magnet/today lies in the ability of employers to enter the skills they need and the system shows how many people match those skills and Magnet provides employers the ability to send invitations and screen for to those identified and provides follow-up tools. An advantage for those employers who do not wish to put their job posting out to the public and receive hundreds of resumes in return.

NEXT MEETING	LOCATION	TIME
Tuesday May 12, 2015	Sir Mackenzie Bowell (SMB) Meeting Room 3 rd floor Belleville City Hall, 169 Front Street, Belleville, Ontario	10:00 a.m. to 12 noon