Building welcoming communities

Wm. (Bill) Ashton
Director
ashtonw@brandonu.ca 571-8513

Presented to
Collaborating to Building a Welcoming Community
Stakeholders’ Forum
November 16, 2009
Moving to Action

• What expectations/hopes do you have for RDI over the next 6 months?
• What expectations do you have of the Welcoming Communities Steering committee?
• What actions do you see others taking over the next 6 months (please specify)?
• Are you willing to stay engaged in these activities? To what extent and how would you like to stay engaged?
Next steps

Immediate steps
- Summary & implications (workshop)
- More analysis – by theme

Other steps
- New analysis (same data)
- New data and new analysis

New project
- Building Welcoming communities (overview)
- New project coordinator
Building Welcoming Communities: a multi-sectoral regional collaborative approach to rural immigration 2009-2010

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Multi-stakeholder focus

Who:
- Community leaders
- Employers
- Service providers
- Government
- Researchers
- Service NGOs
Goal

Why: *Improve ability of communities to welcome immigrants*

How: *Local & regional collaborative engagement with multiple stakeholders*
Goal (continued)

What: Indicators of welcoming communities from stakeholders

**Welcome**  **Settle**  **Retain**

- **W** - Awareness
  - Initial experiences
  - Indicators
- **S** - Initial experiences
  - Experiences
  - Indicators
- **R** - Experiences
  - Indicators
Objectives

Where:

Southwest MB rural communities (5-10):

- Best practices
- Assess the nature of “WSR” in rural communities
- Regional approach
Guiding Questions

**WSR communities / region**
- Barriers of becoming WSR?
- Resources, knowledge, skills?
- Effective knowledge transfer?
- WSR indicators?
- What’s happening elsewhere?
Working groups

WSR communities / regions

1. More communities (up to 10)
2. WSR action groups (local and regional stakeholders defining meaningful indicators)
3. Transfer WSR findings
4. Expert commentary, connections
5. Project admin & assessment
Anticipated Results

- Stakeholder dialogue sessions
- WSR indicators
- Knowledge transfer:
  - website, workshop, papers
- Explore WSR communities beyond MB
- Regional forum (Feb. 2010)
- Build student researchers
Connect with RDI

- Join a working group
- Participate in dialogue sessions
- Email update on project

Bill Ashton
ashtonw@brandonu.ca
204-571-8513

Donna Epp
epp@brandonu.ca
204-571-8513

www.brandonu.ca/rdi