Conference Board of Canada Roundtable on Immigration

Immigration Strategies for Rural Communities

Brandon April 18, 2013



Regional Immigration and Integration

Manitoba has supported the successful settlement of immigrants in Manitoba's regional communities:

- over 25,000 immigrant have settled in more than 130 regional communities across Manitoba since 2000; 6,000 of which settled in Brandon
- In 2012, Brandon (584) was the top regional immigrant destination with 584 landings

Regional Immigration and Integration

- Manitoba and local communities have worked together to establish settlement programs in regional centres to support newcomers as they begin a new life in our province.
- •Currently there are 12 regional settlement service centres around the province
- •Under the CMIA, Manitoba administered funding for settlement programming for the last 15 years.
- •Although Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) is resuming the administration of most settlement service in Manitoba, Manitoba Immigration and Multiculturalism (IAM) will continue to administer regional settlement EAL programs for another year.

Regional EAL/Settlement Supports

Planning

- Community planning
- Planning for immigration and attraction
- Settlement/EAL needs assessment and program planning (committees, etc.)
- Welcoming Communities
- Research—rural development

Stakeholder engagement

(facilitating local responses/ownership)

- Community services
- Chambers/Employers
- Municipalities, Community Economic Development Agencies
- Government
- Institutions

Program development & coordination

- Regional coordination (Online/ teleconferencing, etc.)
- Local Service Provider Networks,
 Program Advisory Committees
- Service Hubs (collocated and/or coordinated Settlement and EAL services, where possible)
- Professional development

Formula for Success

- Employment Opportunities
- Community Immigration Planning and Settlement Committees
- Involvement of community partners such as Municipalities, Economic Development Officers, Chambers of Commerce, School Divisions, Regional Health Authorities, Employers
- Accessible services (settlement, housing, health and education)
- A welcoming community

3

- Regional Coordinator facilitated dialogue, supported planning and program development
- Continued partnerships
- On-going needs assessment and planning to address issues and gaps
- Incremental development of programs with service providers to develop programs e.g. Capacity building e.g. interpreter services at Brandon Community Language Centre; Westman Immigrant Services' new building

Probe Report:

Evaluation of the Manitoba Immigrant Integration Program

"One of the major lessons learned from the evolution of the MIIP is that it takes into account community needs. Indeed, several stakeholders indicated that one of the main reasons why the MIIP has succeeded is that it has taken community needs into account in a systematic and consultative manner."



Manitoba Manitoba my new home

Manitoba Manitoba ma nouvelle patrie



Manitoba selection to settlement pathway

