Partnerships

By

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Presented at
Leaders’ Roundtable on Immigration
Conference Board of Canada
Brandon, MB
April 18, 2013
Rural Immigration: Research, Partnerships, Insights & Policy

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Bill Ashton, PhD
Director, Rural Development Institute, Brandon University

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Overview

Topics

- Research & context
- Partnerships
- Insights & policy implications

Main messages

Applied research informs partnerships, enlarges discussions, and clarifies policy implications
Rural research

- Engaging communities
- Collecting data/analysis
- Informing policy & practices

Research context:
- Rural, remote/northern Canada
- International comparisons
Faculty engagement
500+ faculty in MB, Cda, OECD
22 Research affiliates
91 faculty peer reviewed articles,
4 books and chapters, 39 reports,
25 conferences/posters
since 2009

Student engagement
229 BU students
100 other students
31 reports, presentations &
$334,000+ student wages
since 2009
Rural Immigrants in Canada: An Overview

Natural balance (births minus deaths) is projected to be negative in about 2030: then, all of Canada's population growth would come from immigration.

Population Forecast

For Canada, deaths are expected to exceed births by 2030.

From that point forward the only source of population growth will be from immigration.
Rural Immigrants in Canada: An Overview

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Project 1951-2095

Annual change in population (,000)

- Annual net immigration (,000)
- Annual change in total population (,000)
- Annual natural increase (births minus deaths) (,000)


(www.statcan.go.ca/bsolc/english/bsolo?catno=91-520-XIE#formatdisp)
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Regional Distribution of Immigrants, 2008

- Total: 247,423

Legend:
- Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver (MTV)
- Total Immigration to Region

Regions:
- Atlantic Canada
- Quebec
- Ontario
- Prairies
- British Columbia
- Territories

Total: 247,423
Immigration has many meanings:

- Local economic development strategy
- Reduce declining population
- Revitalize and reinvestment
- Diversify work force and community
- Keeps essential services local
- Rural lifestyle attractive
Partnership

Individual level

With involvement
- Better integration
- Quicker jobs
- Reduce stress
- Improve health

Without involvement
- Social isolation
- Loneliness
- Depression
- Lack of identity

Source: CIC. 2011. Local immigration partnerships.
Typically, immigrant household have adequate earnings to afford a house.

### MB PNP (outside of Wpg)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 centres</td>
<td>7,816</td>
<td>75%</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 centres</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2,123</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside</td>
<td>10,497</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Typical immigrant-MB

- 80% married
- 70% with children
- 85% employed
- 66% spouse working
- $49k avg income
- 18% <$30k/yr
Growth strategies

- Housing
- Schools
- Health care
- Transportation
- Business growth
- Cultural training
- Business hours

Access existing govt services with better coordination across Depts eg.,

- Special projects
- Inter-dept Cmt
- Inter-dept planning board
- Cmt of Cabinet
At lot of them [TFW’s] haven’t lived in cold climates, economic standards are different. Rural living isn’t for everyone and sometimes that’s the hardest thing.

Our history with these people [TFWs] is that they are committed to the job. It’s in our best interest [employer] to make sure that they’re well settled & happy so we certainly endeavour to do that.

Through the LMOs [Labour Market Opinion] there’s no leeway it’s like simon says – one wrong move and you’re out…that’s the thing we dislike most is the fact that once it’s rejected you have to start all over again.

There is a huge cost to recruitment, so it is better to retain the TFW’s, settle them & have them contribute to the community.
Hiring TFW: information pathway

1. Confirm Labour Market Shortage: Recruit Canadian Citizens/Permanent Residents
   - Obtain CRA payroll number from CRA
   - Prepare a position description
   - Post position on Service Canada's Canada Job Bank

2. Register Your Business with the Manitoba Employment Standards Branch
   - Complete registration for WRAPA
   - If successful, receive Certificate of Registration
   - If not successful, re-apply

3. Choose recruitment strategy:
   - Participate in International Labour Mobility Agreements
   - Use Recruitment Agency
   - Recruit on your own

4. Assemble information for LMO application
   - Complete LMO application form
   - Print, sign and send by mail or fax
   - If successful, receive a positive LMO
   - If receive negative LMO, provide new information and request re-assessment

5. Apply for Labour Market Opinion from Service Canada

6. TFW applies for a Temporary Work Permit & Visa (if applicable)
   - Employer sends job offer & copy of LMO to TFW
   - TFW completes work permit application from CIC
   - If successful, TFW receives approval letter for a Work Permit

7. TFW enters Canada
   - TFW must bring:
     - Passport
     - Signed job offer
     - Authorization letter approving work permit
     - A copy of the positive LMO
     - Evidence of credentials (if applicable)
     - Temporary visa (if applicable)
     - TFW issued work permit & enters Canada
     - *If TFW not eligible to enter Canada - sent home

8. Welcome & Settle Employees
   - Employer:
     - Arranges for housing for the TFW
     - Ensures TFW applies for a Social Insurance Number from Service Canada
     - Ensures TFW applies for applicable health coverage from Manitoba Health

Note: Times vary:
- Takes a minimum of 2 weeks
- Takes approximately 1 - 2 weeks
- Takes considerable time, duration varies
- Takes approximately 4 - 6 weeks
- Takes considerable time, duration varies
- Temporary foreign work permits vary from 6 months to 2 years
Insights & policy implications

- Partnerships reflect various rural circumstances
  - Immigrants unevenly distributed in rural MB
- Better on-going coordination across Depts – especially for rapid growth
- WISR – focus on retention (all people)
Acknowledgements

- Brandon Welcoming Communities Dialogue Grp
- Southwest Rural Immigration Committee
- Rural Employers
- Rural and Cooperative Secretariat, Ag Canada
- Federal and Provincial government agencies, esp. MB Immigration & Multi-culturalism
- Local governments, agencies and organizations
- Metropolis, P2P, and CWICC