Establishing roots beyond the perimeter: Immigrant retention strategies

Anisa Zehtab-Martin

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Manitoba Migration

• Immigration – policy response for population and labour growth

• Permanent & temporary residents, both significant

• Provincial economy outpacing growth of provincial labour market
Retention

- Improvements for social and economic integration
- Rural retention factors – special consideration
- Rural communities – lack of capacity to serve diverse needs

(Say I do, 2002)
Retention

- Inventory of retention strategies

- Retention factors affecting rural communities
  - Regionalization
  - Housing
  - Employment
  - Social capital
  - Education

(Say I do, 2002)
(1) Regionalization

- Increasingly common strategy to revitalize growth
- Manitoba has been used as a great example to follow

Example:
Strategy: Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program - Employer Stream
(2) Housing

- Availability of affordable, appropriate, and acceptable housing
- Limited financial resources
- Unfamiliarity with the local housing scene.

Example

Strategy: Create housing units to provide newcomers with temporary housing
(3) Employment

- Acceptable employment opportunity
- Field of employment that match their skills

Example:

Strategy: Avenues for paid work experience to help newcomers build employment skills
(4) Social capital

- Connections within and between individuals
- Presences of rooted social networks

Example:

Strategy: Create events that increase cultural awareness by celebrating changing community diversity
(5) Education

- Training workers
- Recognition of credentials
- Consider the needs of both youth and adults

Example:

Strategy: Streamline the licensing or certification processes for foreign trained engineers

(Say I do, 2002)
Conclusion

Rural and remote setting of Manitoba – unique

Public policy focus on rural and remote.