



**WELCOMING COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE:
DISCUSSION OF LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIPS AND RESEARCH
PRIORITIES**

Thursday, October 28 – Saturday, October 30, 2010

**Delta Ottawa Hotel and Suites
Ottawa, Ontario**

Agenda

The key meeting objectives are:

- **To build and solidify the WCI-LIPs knowledge partnership**
- **To prioritize key research needs**
- **To identify the major themes and cross-cutting challenges that have surfaced as the LIP program matures and transitions from strategies to actions**
- **To clarify how the LIP program can establish a robust innovation strategy that locates and builds on promising practices**
- **To determine how the WCI can support the LIPs to become the driving force in Ontario settlement planning and implementation**

Thursday October 28, 2010

Location: Delta B

6:00 – 9:00 PM

**Welcome Reception
Registration**

Friday October 29, 2010

Location: Delta Foyer

7:30 – 8:30 AM

**Breakfast
Registration**

Location: Delta Meeting Room

8:30 – 8:45 AM

**Introduction, Goals for the Meeting
WCI Co-Chairs: Victoria Esses (University of Western Ontario) and Carl
Nicholson (Catholic Immigration Centre)**

8:45 – 9:45 AM

**Local Immigration Partnerships
Introduction and Moderator: Mary Barr, Citizenship and Immigration
Canada, Ontario Region
Panelists: Clara Freire, City of Ottawa; Adriana Beemans, North York East
Local Immigration Partnership; Don Curry, North Bay Local Immigration
Partnership; Meyer Burstein, WCI**

- Brief overview, current status, and potential future
- What is the potential value-added of the LIPs
- What is needed to sustain the LIPs as an innovative strategy

9:45 – 10:45 AM

**The Role of Partnerships in Building an Integrated Society
The Honourable Jason Kenney, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and
Multiculturalism**

10:45 – 11:15 AM

Break

11:15 – 12:30 PM

The Welcoming Communities Initiative

Introduction and Moderator: Victoria Esses

Panelists: Carl Nicholson; Tracey Vaughan, Durham Local Diversity and Immigration Partnership Council; John Biles, Citizenship and Immigration Canada

- Brief overview, relationship with the LIPs, and future opportunities
- The knowledge partnership: building on strengths and working toward common goals

Research in Progress: Livianna Tossutti, Brock University; Adnan Qayyum, WCI; Zenaida Ravanera, University of Western Ontario; Caroline Andrew, University of Ottawa; Victoria Esses

- Overview of several projects in progress or at the planning stage

Location: Mystique Restaurant

12:30 – 2:00 PM

Lunch

Location: Various (see specific workshop details)

2:00 – 5:00 PM

Research Workshops

Research workshops will be repeated in Friday Sessions I and II in order to allow conference participants to contribute to two issue areas.

Each research workshops will focus on a cluster of related issues. Workshops will be asked to consider and report on four questions:

1. In what areas can research inform the LIP planning and implementation process?
2. What are the top three research priorities associated with each issue cluster?
3. What considerations are important in determining cities or sites that should be involved in pilot testing of research and ideas?
4. Where might support be obtained?

Participants should bear in mind three important target populations: visible minorities, youth and seniors.

2:00 – 3:15 PM

Research Workshops Session I

- **Research cluster 1: Children, youth and education.** (Algonquin A/B Room)
Workshop Leads: Ginelle Skerritt, Southwest Scarborough Local Immigration Partnership; Dawn Zinga, Brock University

- **Research cluster 2: Health care, including mental health, and well-being.** (Delta B Room)
Workshop Leads: Jill Murphy, Ottawa Local Immigration Partnership; Kevin Pottie, University of Ottawa
- **Research cluster 3: Labour market integration, including foreign credential recognition and business formation.** (Delta A Room)
Workshop Leads: Linda Manning, University of Ottawa; John Okonmah, Timmins Local Immigration Partnership
- **Research cluster 4: Justice issues, including policing and conflict management.** (Champlain Room)
Workshop Leads: Vic Satzewich, McMaster University; Cathy Woodbeck, Thunder Bay Local Immigration Partnership
- **Research cluster 5: Social inclusion, community connections and civic engagement.** (Algonquin C/D Room)
Workshop Leads: Fatima Filippi, North Etobicoke Local Immigration Partnership; Livianna Tossutti, Brock University

3:15 – 3:45 PM

Break

3:45 – 5:00 PM

Research Workshops Session II

- **Research cluster 1: Children, youth and education.** (Algonquin A/B Room)
Workshop Leads: Ginelle Skerritt, Southwest Scarborough Local Immigration Partnership; Dawn Zinga, Brock University
- **Research cluster 2: Health care, including mental health, and well-being.** (Delta B Room)
Workshop Leads: Jill Murphy, Ottawa Local Immigration Partnership; Kevin Pottie, University of Ottawa
- **Research cluster 3: Labour market integration, including foreign credential recognition and business formation.** (Delta A Room)
Workshop Leads: Linda Manning, University of Ottawa; John Okonmah, Timmins Local Immigration Partnership
- **Research cluster 4: Justice issues, including policing and conflict management.** (Champlain Room)
Workshop Leads: Vic Satzewich, McMaster University; Cathy Woodbeck, Thunder Bay Local Immigration Partnership
- **Research cluster 5: Social inclusion, community connections and civic engagement.** (Algonquin C/D Room)
Workshop Leads: Fatima Filippi, North Etobicoke Local Immigration Partnership; Livianna Tossutti, Brock University

Saturday October 30, 2010

Location: Delta Foyer

8:00 – 9:00 AM Breakfast

Location: Various (see specific workshop details)

9:00 – 12:00 PM LIP Workshops

Where applicable, workshops will be asked to focus on and report on three topics:

1. Lessons from experiences to date
2. Next steps
3. Research and analytic needs

9:00 – 10:15 AM Workshop Session III

Workshop 1: Transitioning from strategic planning to implementation
(Delta A Room)

Workshop Leads: Meyer Burstein, WCI; Laureen Rennie, Peel Region Local Immigration Partnership

What process should be followed to make the transition from LIP strategic plans to implementation and action? Who should be responsible for this transition and how should it be supported? What incentives or resources are needed to maintain the effort and to ensure active local participation? What gaps in capacity must be addressed for LIPs to move beyond planning?

Workshop 2: Improving the model – lessons from the current LIP process
(Delta B Room)

Workshop Leads: Caroline Andrew, University of Ottawa; Tim Rees, Hamilton Local Immigration Partnership

What major lessons have emerged from the existing planning process in regards to the structure of the LIP council, the functions of the LIP secretariat or coordinator, and the process by which strategic plans are developed? What were the major barriers or problems? What methods proved particularly effective?

Workshop 3: Exploring the Municipal Immigration Information Online (MIIO) program and opportunities for partnerships
(Algonquin A/B Room)

Workshop Leads: Lynne Kranidis, Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration; Donna Marentette, Windsor Local Immigration Partnership

What is the vision for the MIIO program? How does the MIIO culture of partnerships and sharing promote innovation and program growth? What lessons have been learned from the MIIO program, and how might they be applied to the LIP program? What partnerships or mutually supportive relationships might be developed between the MIIO and LIP programs?

Workshop 4: Identifying key LIP outcomes to be measured

(Algonquin C/D Room)

Workshop Leads: Hindia Mohamoud, Ottawa Local Immigration Partnership; Zenaida Ravanera, University of Western Ontario

How should measurement be introduced into the LIPs action plans? Should there be a trans-LIP process for deciding on key measures? What are the key areas of focus and the key outcomes for which baseline and continuing data will be required in order to manage and assess the LIP process? What type of data would the LIPs find most useful? How often should these data be compiled over time? What opportunities are there to collect data that are not currently available but are priorities for the LIPs?

10:15 – 10:45 AM

Break

10:45 – 12:00 PM

Workshop Session IV

Workshop 5: What next for the LIP planning architecture?

(Delta A Room)

Workshop Leads: Neil Bradford, University of Western Ontario; Scott Fisher, The Greater Sudbury Local Immigration Partnership

Is there a continuing role for the LIP Councils, Steering Committees and sector committees that have been created as part of the LIPs process? How should this role shift in the transition from planning to implementation and the (possible) introduction of a planning-implementation cycle? How might the planning architecture be supported?

Workshop 6: How can the LIPs promote innovation and promising practices?

(Delta B Room)

Workshop Leads: Victoria Esses, University of Western Ontario; Elisabeth White, London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership

The LIPs process operates on a broad provincial palette offering numerous opportunities for learning and for transferring good ideas across sectors and between cities. A 'machinery' for accomplishing these important tasks must now be developed. What ideas exist for building such a machinery? Where should it address itself? Who should it be responsible to ... and how should it be managed?

Workshop 7: How should cross-cutting concerns be dealt with?

(Algonquin A/B Room)

**Workshop Leads: Karen Bird, McMaster University; Bill Sinclair, West
Downtown Toronto Local Immigration Partnership**

What cross-cutting concerns that cannot be addressed at the municipal level have been identified by the LIPs? How should such concerns be aggregated, analyzed and addressed? Where should responsibility be vested for addressing such issues and what role might the LIPs play in this process? What structures already exist for this purpose and how might they be better supported? What strategies would be best for addressing these cross-cutting concerns?

Workshop 8: The role of LIPs in promoting community connections

(Algonquin C/D Room)

**Workshop Leads: Mary Ellen Bernard, Windsor Local Immigration
Partnership; Aurelie Lacassagne, Laurentian University**

What LIP 'models' have emerged regarding how best to promote relations between settlement service provider organizations and mainstream community organizations? Similarly, what 'models' have emerged regarding how best to promote relations between settlement service providers and ethno-cultural agencies? What incentives would be needed to foster and institutionalize such relationships?

Location: Mystique Restaurant

12:00 – 1:15 PM Lunch

Location: Delta Meeting Room

**1:15 – 2:45 PM Workshop Reports
Moderator: Reza Shahbazi, New Canadians' Centre of Excellence**

- 5-minute reports from each workshop; the repeated research workshops will be paired
- Discussion

2:45 – 3:00 Break

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Extending the WCI-LIP Partnership: Engaging and Integrating New Stakeholders

Moderator: John Biles, Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Panelists: Deborah Tunis, Citizenship and Immigration Canada; Francois Bertrand, Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, British Columbia; Ashraf Ghanem, Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour, New Brunswick; Danny Marafioti, Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, Ontario; Petra Wolfbeiss, Association of Municipalities of Ontario

- How might the LIPs engage a broader set of federal and provincial government departments? What structures or processes could support this engagement?
- What role might municipalities play in helping the LIPs
- What other organizations or institutions could be mobilized to support the engagement process?

4:00 – 4:15 PM

Closing Remarks and Next Steps

WCI Co-Chairs: Victoria Esses and Carl Nicholson

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