

ACTION PLAN FOR MANITOBA IMMIGRATION PROJECT

OBJECTIVE: Sign an agreement with the Federal Government prior to January 1, 2002 that meets the objectives of the Business Council of Manitoba and other partners.

GOALS:

1. Total international immigrant arrivals to Manitoba of 10,000 per year.
2. Provincial power to select immigrants arriving under Agreement.
3. Delegation by Manitoba to a relatively autonomous agency to implement program.
4. Financial agreement with Federal Government that reflects terms of Quebec Agreement.

KEY ELEMENTS OF MANITOBA PROGRAM:

1. Partnership with Business, communities and ethnic groups.
2. Recruitment strategy that is deliberate in its target of skills, geographic and ethnic origin and supportive of communities that can implement absorption programs.
3. Focus on success of new arrivals – develop retention strategy.
4. Maintain geographic, ethnic and skills balance of immigrants such that wide community support is maintained.

CONCERNS TO BE ADDRESSED:

1. Create employment intermediary or work with existing agencies to maximize employment experience of new arrivals.
2. Support development of a broad-based Immigration Council that can guide the program.
3. Develop measures to monitor absorption and retention of immigrant flows.
4. Develop ability to monitor nature of work done by immigration agents, agencies and immigration lawyers to assure compliance with goals and spirit of program.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIONS:

1. July - Identify and employ consultant
2. August - Research immigration agreements and other data
- Identify partners for negotiation phase and develop unified position
3. September - Consult with department to determine degree of cooperation
- Inform political allies of goals, program and strategy
4. Oct/Nov - Focus on reaching agreement with Ministry
5. December - Target for signing of agreement