

Local Immigration Partnership and Opportunity for HRM

April 12th, 2013 Gerry Mills gmills@isisns.ca



This presentation includes:

What is the context for immigration in HRM?

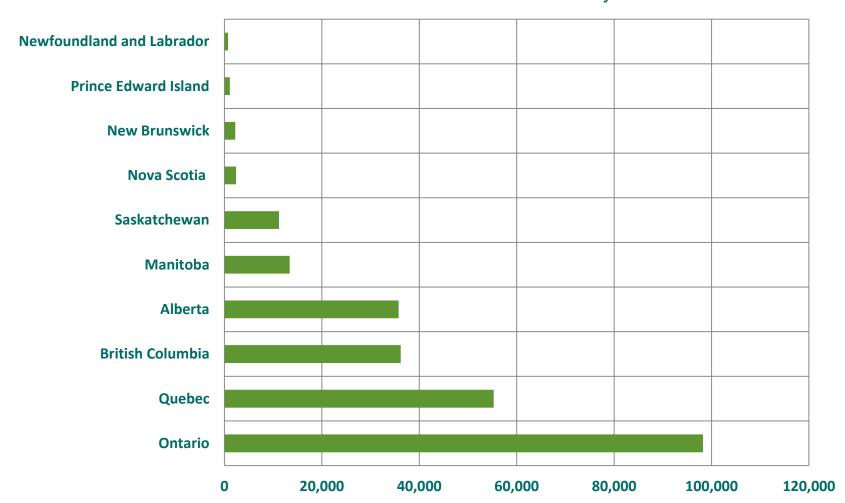
What is a Local Immigration Partnership (LIP)?

How is the LIP initiative an opportunity for HRM?



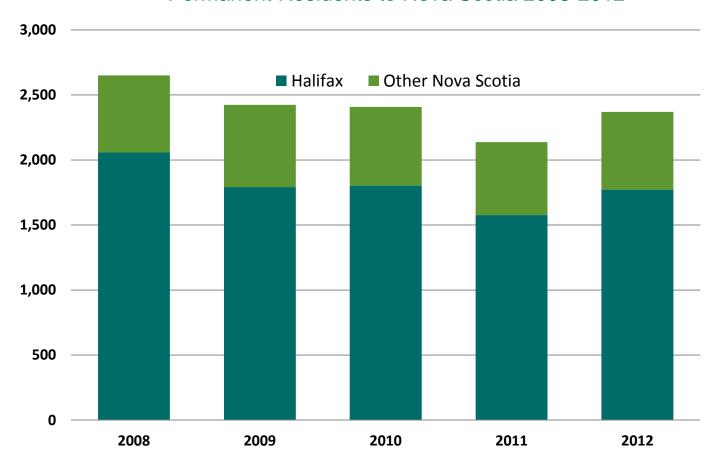
ISIS | Immigrant Settlement & Integration Services | Nova Scotia receives fewer than 1% of immigrants to Canada

Permanent Residents to Canada by Province 2012



Immigration to NS has been decreasing gradually

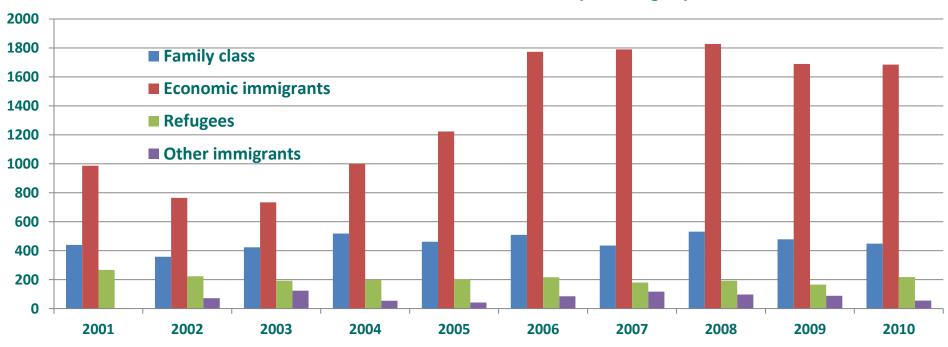
Permanent Residents to Nova Scotia 2008-2012





ISIS | Immigrant Settlement & Integration Services | Nova Scotia is bringing in mostly economic immigrants

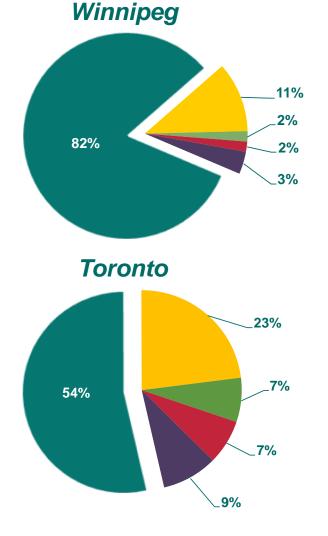
Permanent Residents to NS by Category



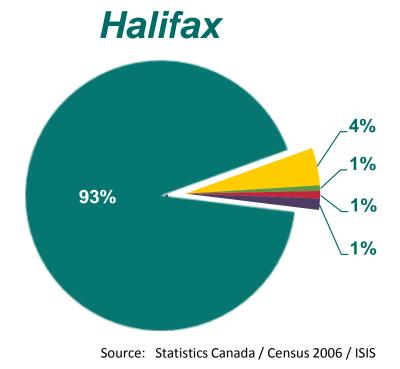


Is Is Immigrant Settlement & Integration Services Halifax has very few immigrants in terms of population

Population immigration status





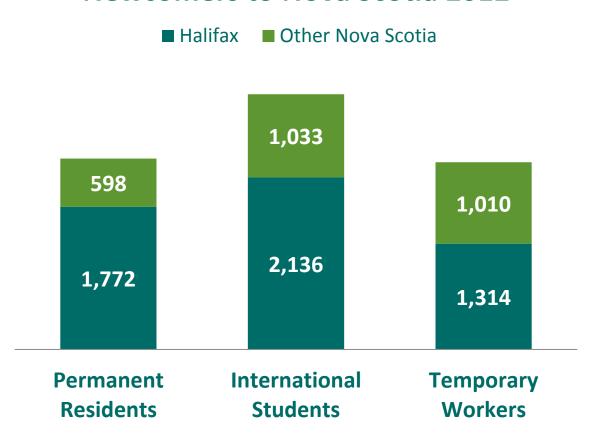




Many people say Nova Scotia has become more diverse –

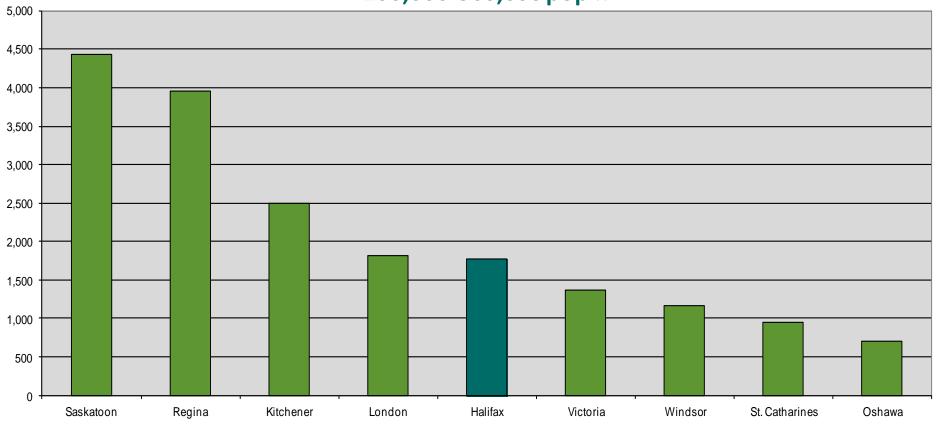
this impression is due more to the increase in temporary residents rather than an increase in immigration

Newcomers to Nova Scotia 2012



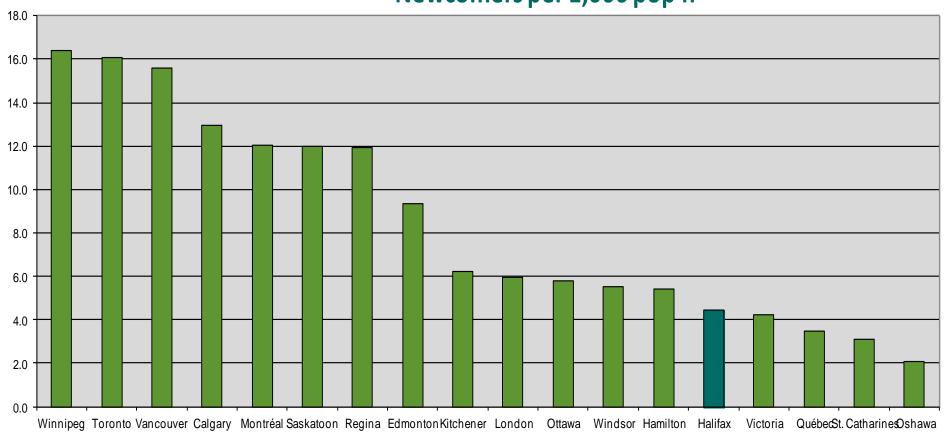
Halifax is at or below average of mid-sized cities

Immigration by City 2012 200,000-500,000 pop'n



Halifax is well below other major cities

Immigration by City 2012 Newcomers per 1,000 pop'n





Immigrants, who settle here, are doing well

Retention rate increased from 48% to 75%

- 40% int. educ. immigrants in NS are working in their fields. (24% Ont; 22% BC; 60% Cdn born)
- Immigrants in Halifax earn more than non-immigrants, but not in Toronto. (A.Akbari SMU)
- In 2009, the unemployment rate of all immigrants in NS was 7.4%. (In Canada -10%)
- Among recent immigrants, unemployment rate in NS was 10.7%. (In Canada -15%)
- Immigrants to NS contribute a higher % of their income to income tax than Cdn. Born.



What is a Local Immigration Partnership (LIP)?

- Initiated and funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC). Now over 40 LIPs in Ont., Calgary and more in development.
- Municipally-based and focused, a LIP is a collaborative community initiative to promote the settlement and integration of immigrants.
- Builds on a community's strengths and promotes linkages between sectors by engaging a range of stakeholders, including mainstream institutions.
- It is <u>NOT</u> a provider of services or programs.



What is one municipality saying about their LIP?

"..one overarching achievement that encompasses all others, is that the Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council (HIPC) has been the catalyst for bringing together approximately 80 individuals representing diverse communities, sectors and organizations, who are sharing resources, ideas and creating innovative ways to address the needs of newcomers to Hamilton."



What has happened to date with forming a LIP in Halifax?

- Funding from CIC was received by ISIS to investigate forming a Halifax LIP (Phase 1).
- Research on different models has been completed.
- A LIP advisory group with reps from YMCA, HRSB, ISIS, GHP and HRM was formed.
- Community forum with 90 participants to explore creating a Halifax LIP was held in March.
- Proposal (Phase 2) submitted to CIC for funding for p.t. coordinator for 3 years approved in principle and CIC is ready to negotiate.



What were the recommendations that came out of the forum?

- Negotiate with CIC for 3 year funding.
- Form a Halifax LIP to establish a local collaborative approach to building a welcoming community for immigrants.
- Overwhelming support for HRM to take the lead.
- After setting up the LIP, focus on:
 - a) facilitating conversations to enhance collaboration
 - b) developing and implementing a social marketing plan to create a cultural shift that will make Halifax a more welcoming community.



Why should HRM take the lead?

- Fits with the timing of the update of HRM's Immigration Action Plan.
- Demonstrates that Halifax is 'open' to immigrants and provides a focus for activity.
- Responds to HRM's current thrust towards being an internationally recognized city.
- Demonstrates commitment to establishing Halifax as a welcoming community.



What might the LIP Coordinator do?

- Research best practices.
- Develop LIP values, outcomes, priorities & measures.
- Ensure diverse, multi-stakeholder representation on LIP initiatives.
- Leverage partnerships within the community.
- Organize HRM staff and community forum.
- Take lead on education & promotion around welcoming communities initiative.
- Provide updates to CP&ED Committee.



What might the role of HRM be?

- Negotiate funding agreement with CIC for 3 year funding. (Proposal submitted by ISIS was around \$60,00/yr for pt staff person, meeting expenses and overhead)
- Administer/supervise the LIP coordinator. (office, payroll, etc)
- Contribute in kind support office, materials, supervision etc.
- Encourage a welcoming community lens when developing HRM's Brand. (both HRM Corp Comm & GHP)
- Develop action plans on the outcomes described in the HRM Immigration Action Plan.





An example of a Welcoming Community

Thank you

Questions?