

RURAL IMMIGRATION & WELCOMING COMMUNITIES

IDEAS AND INSPIRATION

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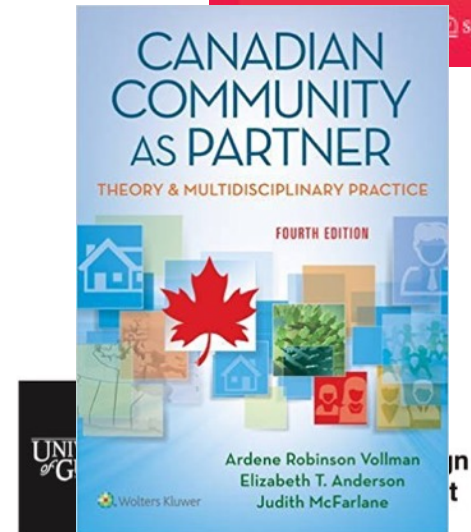
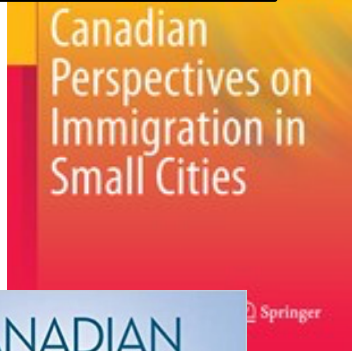
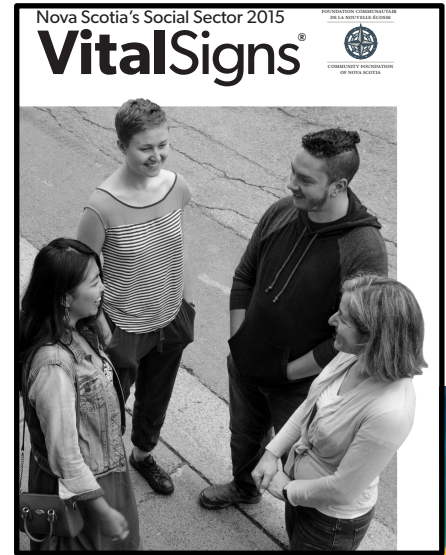
Context

» welcoming communities are fundamental to workforce development

» the past does not determine the future



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Rural Immigration



Rural Immigration

» immigrants represent approximately 5% of rural Canada population

» various recent catalyst for increases in rural immigration

» rural immigration is fundamental to workforce

» sustaining current labour force

» attracting new labour force



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Welcoming Communities



Characteristics



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Case Studies



Winkler, Manitoba

- » The Winkler Initiative started in 1997
- » welcomed approximately 4,000 immigrants between 1999-2011
- » 85% retention rate



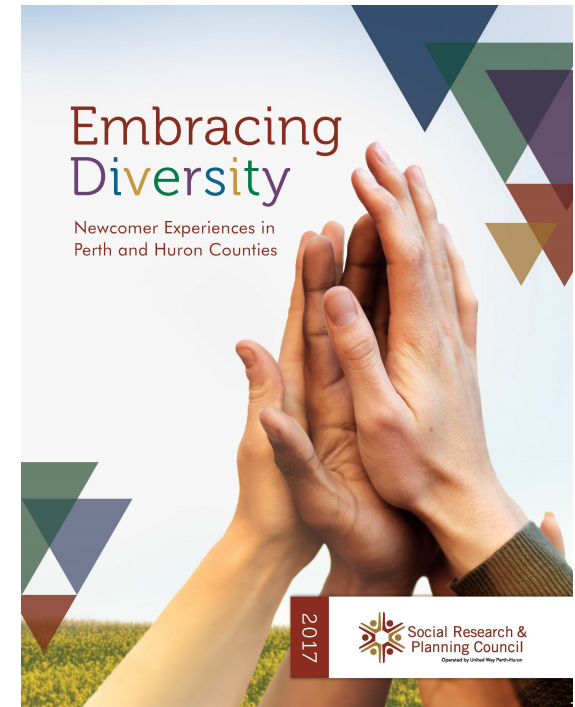
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Perth-Huron, ON

- » proactive regional plan for attraction, settlement, and integration
- » inter-agency plan
- » effectiveness to be determined



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Lessons Learned

- » need for community forums for welcoming community discussions
- » need to build relationships among local stakeholders and government actors
- » need for local strategy for attraction, settlement, and integration
- » need to share lessons with other places



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