

DOING IMMIGRATION DIFFERENTLY IN RURAL AREAS

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Metropolis 2019
Halifax, Nova Scotia

UNIVERSITY
of GUELPH

Overview

- » rural communities are doing things differently
- » rural has historically received low levels of immigration
- » increased arrival of immigrants, implications for policy, community development practice, and academia



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Menakah Yoharaja



Mallory Smith



Ryan Gibson



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Rural Canada

» distance

» density



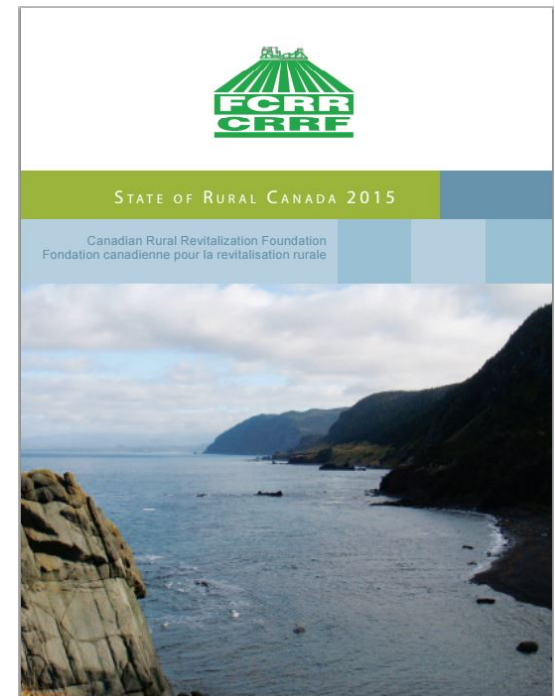
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Rural Realities

Canadian Rural Revitalization
Foundation (CRRF) released the
State of Rural Canada in 2015

- www.sorc.crrf.ca



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The Good News

- » growth in most rural communities
- » 17% of the national population
- » immigrant attraction
- » GDP contribution equals share of population



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Not So **The Good News**

- » good news is geographical uneven
- » urban population growth far exceeds rural growth
- » rural economy is more intensive, seasonal
- » creative destruction
- » labour force replacement

New Realities

- » economic restructuring
- » increased migration
- » need for collaboration



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Rural immigration

- historically low experiences
- tide has shifted ...

Is Immigration to Rural Areas in Canada's Future?

A surge in urbanization in Canada has led to the decline of rural areas, leaving Canadians with the hope that immigration can fill the void.

Canada's most recent census, administered in 2011, made it clear that Canada's major cities are booming. More than 23.1 million Canadian live in one of Canada's 33 metropolitan areas, marking just under 70% of the population as city dwellers. A total of 35% of Canada's population lives in one of Canada's three largest cities, Toronto, Montreal, or Vancouver.

While the population growth in cities is an excellent prospect for business in major cities, the growth seems to be occurring at the expense of rural areas. Much of the growth in urban areas is driven by a combination of immigration from abroad and migration from small towns and rural areas, leaving Canada's rural areas to shrink in both population and economic impact.



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Douglas Todd: Immigrants could prosper in Canada's small towns

DOUGLAS TODD Updated: September 1, 2017



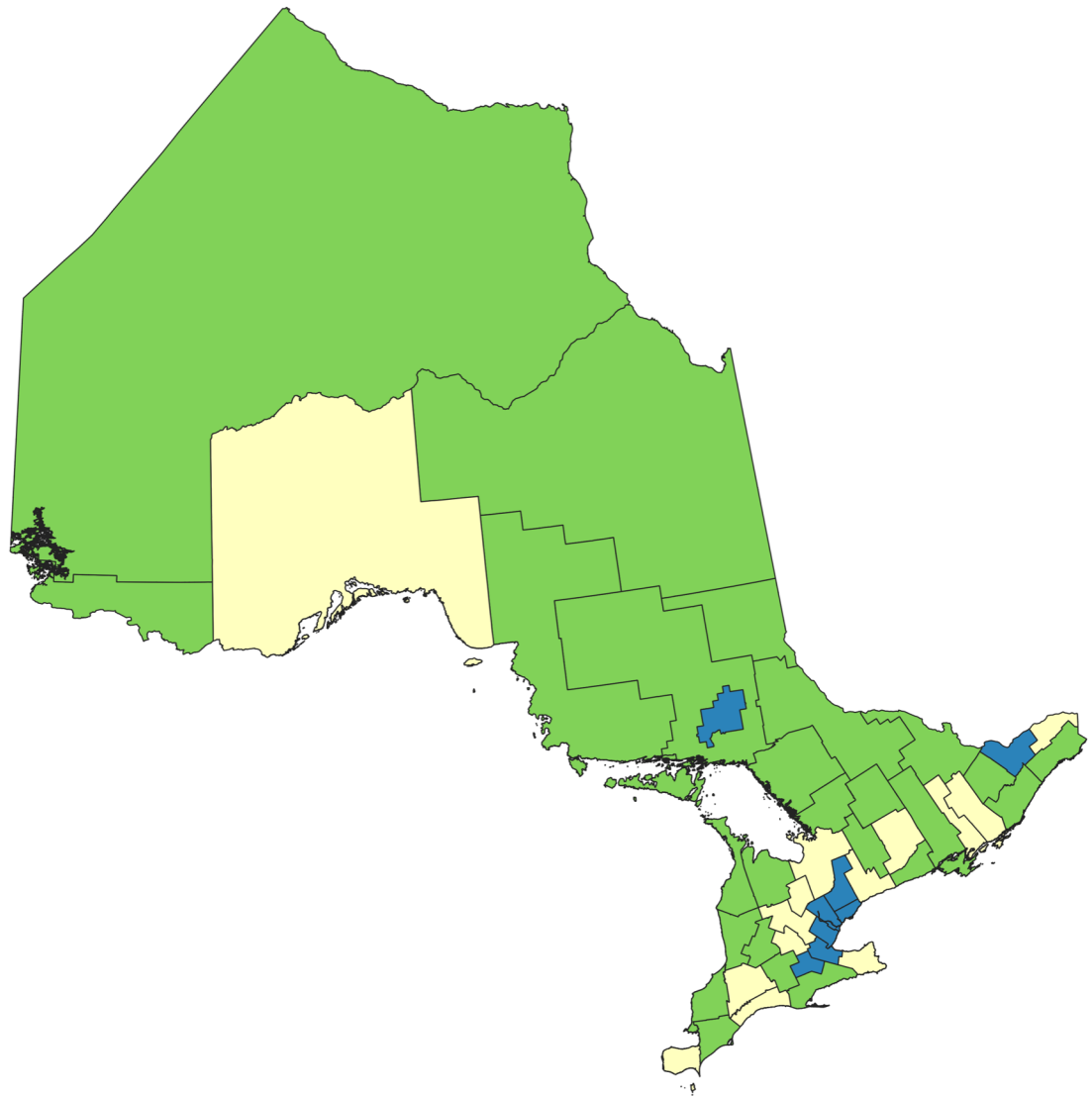
» Metro Census Division

» Partially Non-Metro
Census Divisions

» Non-Metro Census
Divisions



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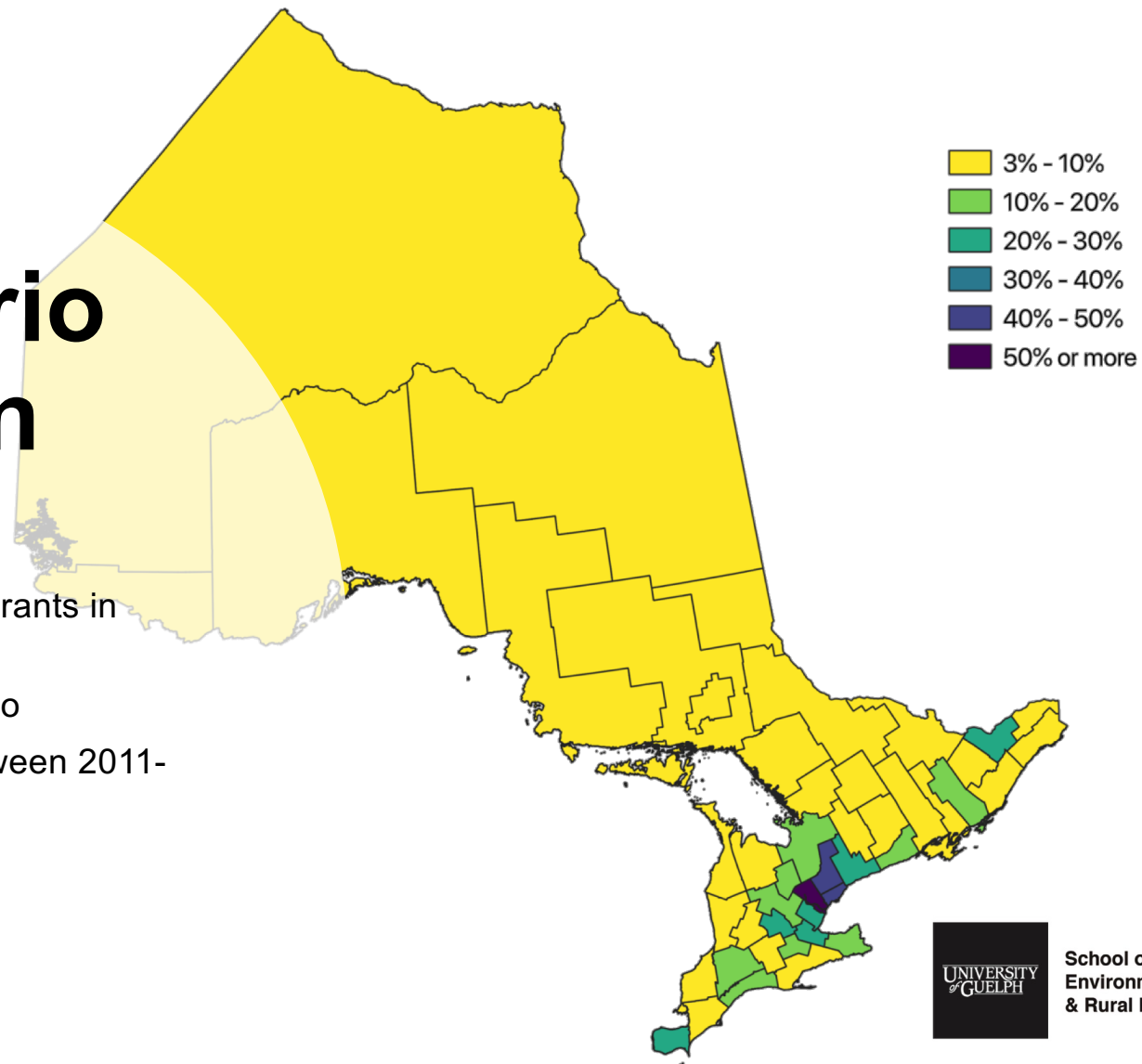


Rural Ontario Immigration

- » approximately 146,010 immigrants in rural Ontario
- » 5% of all immigrants in Ontario
- » 7,955 immigrants arrived between 2011-2016
- » 62% arrived before 1980



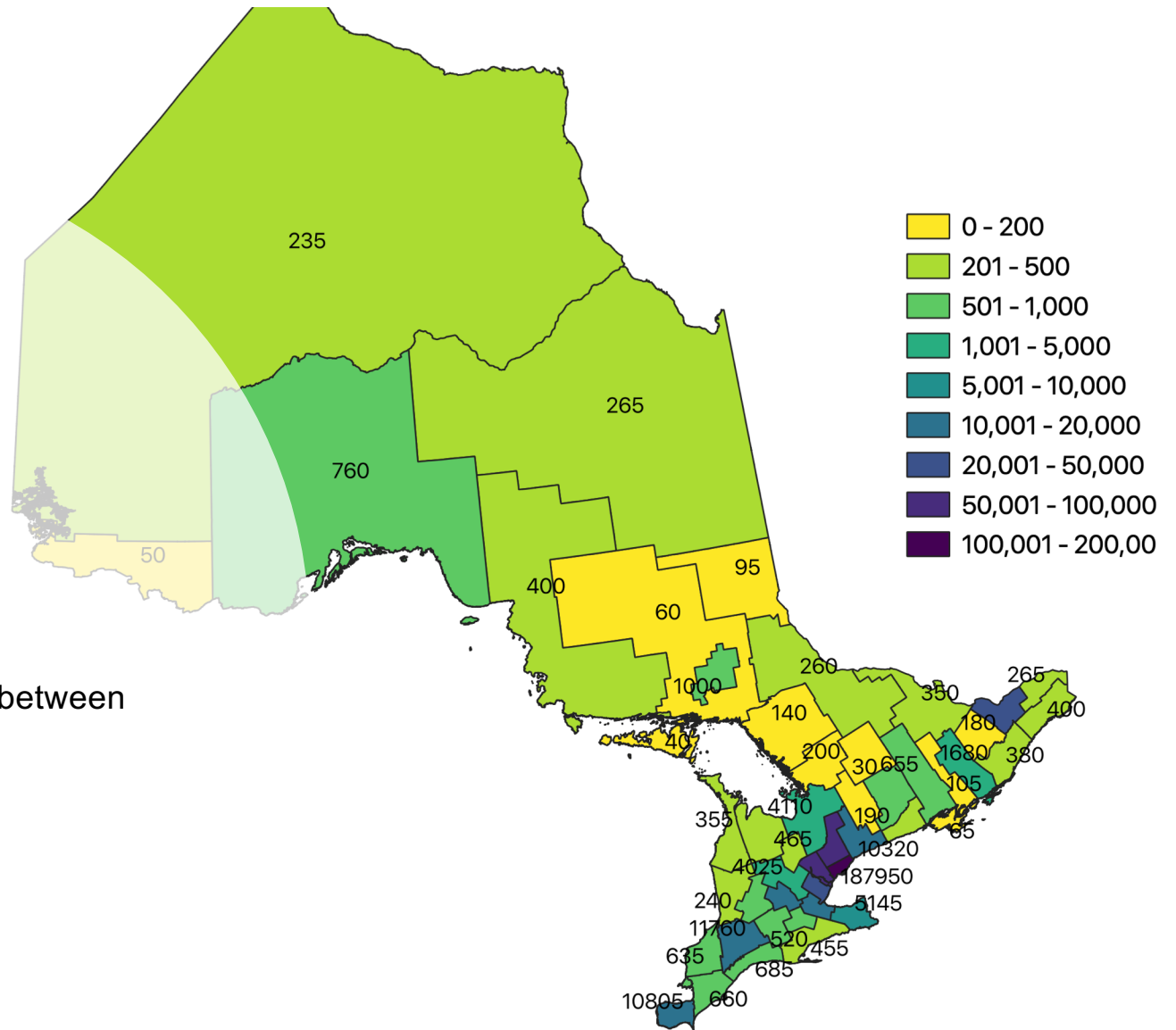
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Rural Ontario Immigration

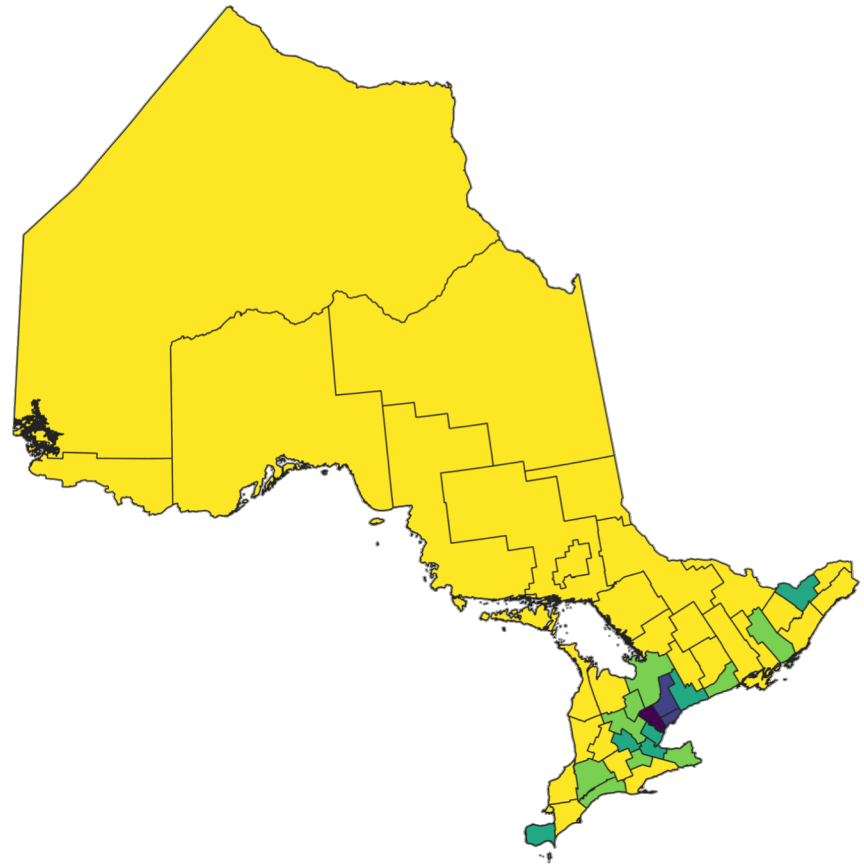
» Number of immigrants arriving between 2011-2016



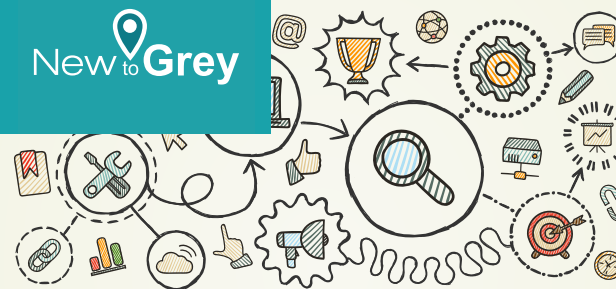
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Innovative Approaches

- » place-based strategies
- » integrating technology
- » Innovative partnerships
- » enhancing education



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Lake
Huron

REGIONAL FORUM: RURAL NEWCOMER INTEGRATION

Western Ontario Wardens Caucus and Workforce Planning West present

Western Region Workforce Forum

Building workforce solutions together



Thursday, December 13, 2018
10 am - 3 pm
Stoneridge Inn - London, ON



**Immigration Summit:
The Economics of Rural Immigration**
February 20, 2019: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

February 20, 2019: 8:00 am- 3:00 pm

Agenda

Registration

8:00 - 9:00

Welcome

9:00 - 9:15

Welcome

Immigration to Wellington County, Historic Context

South County Of Wellington, Museum and Archives

9:15 -

Kyle Smith: Country
ation: A Labour Force Perspective
Planning Board Wellington,

ation: A Labour Force Perspective
Planning Bo

Different Approaches

- » addressing distance and density issues
- » place-based
- » collaborative



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