



# Francophone Immigration Network System

**SOUTH WESTERN ONTARIO LIP MEETING**  
**July 20, 2012**

**THE FRANCOPHONE IMMIGRATION NETWORK SYSTEMS, BY CAROLINE ANDREW & MIREILLE PAQUET**

A study of the three Francophone Networks has been conducted by a team of researchers from University of Ottawa, here are some excerpts:

**Comparison between the Francophone Immigration Network Systems and the Local Immigration Partnerships**

The comparison of the two models is based on the following: Mandates, Structures and Activities. It will be very easy to list clearly the complementarities and tensions between the two models.

**Mandates**

In spite of the similarities regarding the organization of the dialogue meetings at the local and regional level related to immigration and retention, the Networks and LIPs have differing mandates, especially in terms of the way they operate.

Networks	LIPs
1) Multi-sectoral collaboration (public institutions, community agencies, private organizations) related to francophone immigration  2) Formulate recommendations to CIC's Sub-Steering Committee and the Steering Committee in order to implement the objectives of the strategic plan	1) Creation of a multi-sectoral council across localities (composed of representatives from the non-profit (community-based) agencies, private organizations and public institutions)  2) Creating and implementing an action plan based on multi-sectoral collaboration

We note the following differences in mandates:

- According to their mandate, the coordination activities of francophone networks are designed in part to make recommendations to regional and national initiatives to achieve the objectives of the Strategic Plan. On the other hand, the LIPS are anchored in a feedback structure more complex and less direct.
- The strategic plan serves as a general framework to guide networks actions. The LIPS have no equivalent plan to structure their collaboration and action.
- The mandate of LIPS indicates a more formal role of municipalities in the council. However, the networks have relationships with municipal authorities that are more informal and vary greatly from region to region.
- Finally, the intervention of networks tends to be both at the regional and local levels while those of LIPS focus mainly on the municipalities

**Possible areas of collaboration between francophone networks of Ontario and LIPS:**

- 1) Development of a partnership with municipalities to set the agenda of issues related to immigration
- 2) Collaboration on the development of models to approach and engage employers, and implementation of collaborative projects in this area
- 3) Implementation of common strategies to improve relations with the government of Ontario, especially with Ministries of Health, Education and Citizenship and Immigration
- 4) Exchange of collaborative models between small agencies and Informal Sector Organization
- 5) Collaboration to develop service models for specific clientele (elderly immigrants, immigrant students (settlement workers in schools program), immigrant women)



**Réseau de Soutien  
à l'Immigration Francophone  
Région Centre-Sud-ouest de l'Ontario**

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### THE FRANCOPHONE IMMIGRATION NETWORK SYSTEMS WORK-PLAN 2012-2013

With the participation of our immigration committees representatives, we completed the first draft of our work plan for the year 2012-2013. It is based on the mandate of the network and the five objectives included in the strategic plan

#### THE FIVE OBJECTIVES INCLUDED ON THE STRATEGIC PLAN:

- Increase the number of French-speaking immigrants to give more demographic weight to francophone minority communities
- Improve the capacity of francophone minority communities to receive francophone newcomers and to strengthen their reception and settlement infrastructures
- Ensure the economic integration of French-speaking immigrants into Canadian society and into francophone minority communities in particular
- Ensure the social and cultural integration of French-speaking immigrants into Canadian society and into Francophone minority communities
- Foster regionalization of francophone immigration

#### MANDATE AND GOAL OF NETWORK

- Organise dialogue meetings at the local and regional levels to identify and analyse the services rendered to francophones, particularly with service providers who facilitate the reception and integration of newcomers and to formulate recommendations.
- Carry out needs assessments of francophone immigrants, do the analysis and, based on the results obtained, formulate relevant recommendations and submit these to the sub-steering committee.
- Develop a communication tool that will inform partners, key players and members of the community on the activities of the Network and the current situation of francophone immigration in the central south-west region of Ontario.
- Promote an effective and efficient network system within francophone minority communities to foster dialogue among multi sectors.
- Identify best practices of reception and integration of francophone immigrants and share the information with agency partners and members of the community.
- Contribute to the empowerment of francophone minority communities through various activities (training, conferences, workshops, etc.).
- Inform Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) of all particular situations (i.e.. massive arrival of francophone immigrants at a border, etc.) and collaborate in the identification and implementation of an operational plan.

#### STRATEGIC CHOICES

- Raise the awareness of employers in the region about benefits and advantages of francophone immigration
- Analysis of the labor market in the regions covered by the Network
- local entrepreneurship support initiatives
- Raise awareness among francophone immigrants about entrepreneurial opportunities
- Identification of immigrant route
- Youth outreach through arts activities
- Increased collaboration between LIPS and Réseau –exchange of best practices and settlement strategies to facilitate better planning of immigrant services
- Build the capacity of francophone community organizations to make them more dynamic and performers (collaboration between organizations)