

SESSION ABSTRACT

Immigration to Manitoba

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Manitoba is making tremendous strides in increasing our population through immigration. Accounting for 77 per cent of all our newcomers in 2011, the Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program (MPNP) continued to be our largest source of labour market-destined immigrants. The MPNP helped immigration grow to 15,962 arrivals in 2011 from 3,725 in 1999. This represented the most immigrants received in a single year since the start of modern record keeping in 1946.

With our partners, Manitoba continues to provide high-quality immigration services from selection to settlement. It includes resources and supports to help Manitoba-destined immigrants with pre-arrival settlement and career planning. After arrival, it includes orientation, referral services, English as an additional language services, and support with employment and social integration.

One of our program goals is to increase labour market success for our internationally educated immigrants by helping them get their qualifications recognized so they can work in their fields sooner. To this end, Manitoba has implemented new tools to assist immigrants begin their settlement planning prior to arriving, enacted The Fair Registration Practices in Regulated Professions Act and funded bridging programs such as the successful IEEQ Program for internationally educated engineers.

Manitoba recognizes that immigration is critical to building a strong and vibrant economy and helps our communities grow and prosper. Our overall goal is to advance our economy and our multicultural society by promoting our province as an immigration destination for skilled workers who meet local labour market needs, and by helping immigrants settle successfully in our province.