Workplace Integration & Promotion of Workers with Foreign Credentials

2009 Metropolis National Conference

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Saskatchewan Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour

Saskatchewan's Economy

- Saskatchewan is projected to have an estimated 86,000 job openings, 70% due to attrition and 30% due to expansion demand (economic growth), during the period 2007 to 2012.

  - Source: 2008-09 Saskatchewan Employment Forecast.

Saskatchewan's Labour Market Approach

Balanced approach to meeting labour needs:

- Training and educating our youth with an emphasis on our First Nations and Métis communities;

- Creating more opportunities for young people and attracting back those who have moved to other provinces; and,

- Expanding the number of skilled immigrants coming to Saskatchewan.

Government's Role in Workplace Integration

- Increase immigrants' access to programs and services that will more quickly and effectively integrate them into the Saskatchewan labour market

- Build capacity of employers and other stakeholders to work with and recognize the skills, training and experience of foreign workers

- Ensure long term benefits for immigrants, employers, other stakeholders and society

Government's Role Cont'd.

Government Funding:

- Government funding of $5.5M for immigrant settlement and integration services, including $3.5 M in provincial investment.

- Funding for settlement programs and services to facilitate settlement and integration of newcomers and ensure timely connection to the Saskatchewan labour market.

Government's Role Cont'd.

Language Training Programs

- English Language Training (ELT): delivered across the province to ensure new immigrants build the language skills needed for finding and retaining employment and effective community interaction

- At Work English: On-site English language training, Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) assessments and workplace language training needs assessments by qualified assessors for newcomer employees

Government's Role Cont'd.

Recognition of International Training and Education:

- Internationally Educated Health Professionals (IEHP) portal: online resource to help connect IEHPs to people, resources and services in Saskatchewan.

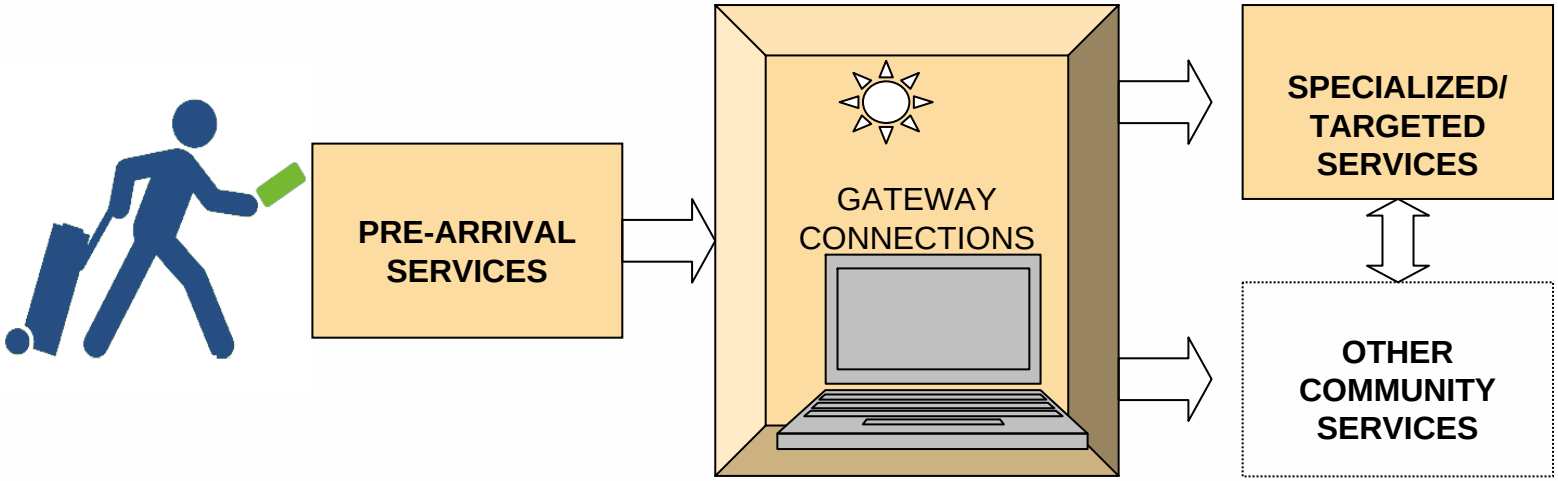
- Regulated Occupations Fact Sheets: Developed in consultation with regulators; represents a positive step in facilitating early communication between provincial regulators and immigrants seeking work in Saskatchewan.

Government’s Role Cont’d.

Services for employers:

- Canada-Saskatchewan Career and Employment Services: Work readiness training, life skills, employment supports and work experience through partnerships with community-based organizations, municipalities and employers.

Toward a New Strategy for Settlement, Retention and Competency Recognition



Contact

Yetunde Oke

Director of Policy and Program Support

Saskatchewan Immigration Services Division

Regina, Saskatchewan

Tel: (306) 798-0391

Email: yetunde.oke@gov.sk.ca