

# **WCI MEASURING OUTCOMES RESEARCH PROJECT**

**Welcoming Communities Conference  
Ottawa, 28-30 October 2010**

## MAIN GUIDELINE: THE REPORT

# *“Characteristics of a Welcoming Community”*

Victoria M. Esses, Leah K. Hamilton, Caroline Bennett-AbuAyyash, and Meyer Burstein

Report for the Integration Branch of Citizenship and Immigration Canada



## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Identify and collate data to assess indicators of characteristics of a welcoming community
  - For each characteristic of a welcoming community, identify objective indicators for which data can be obtained
  - Produce datasets that correspond with these objective indicators



## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To help communities developing LIP councils determine:
  - how they stand on these measures
  - the quality of welcome in the community and
  - areas in need of attention

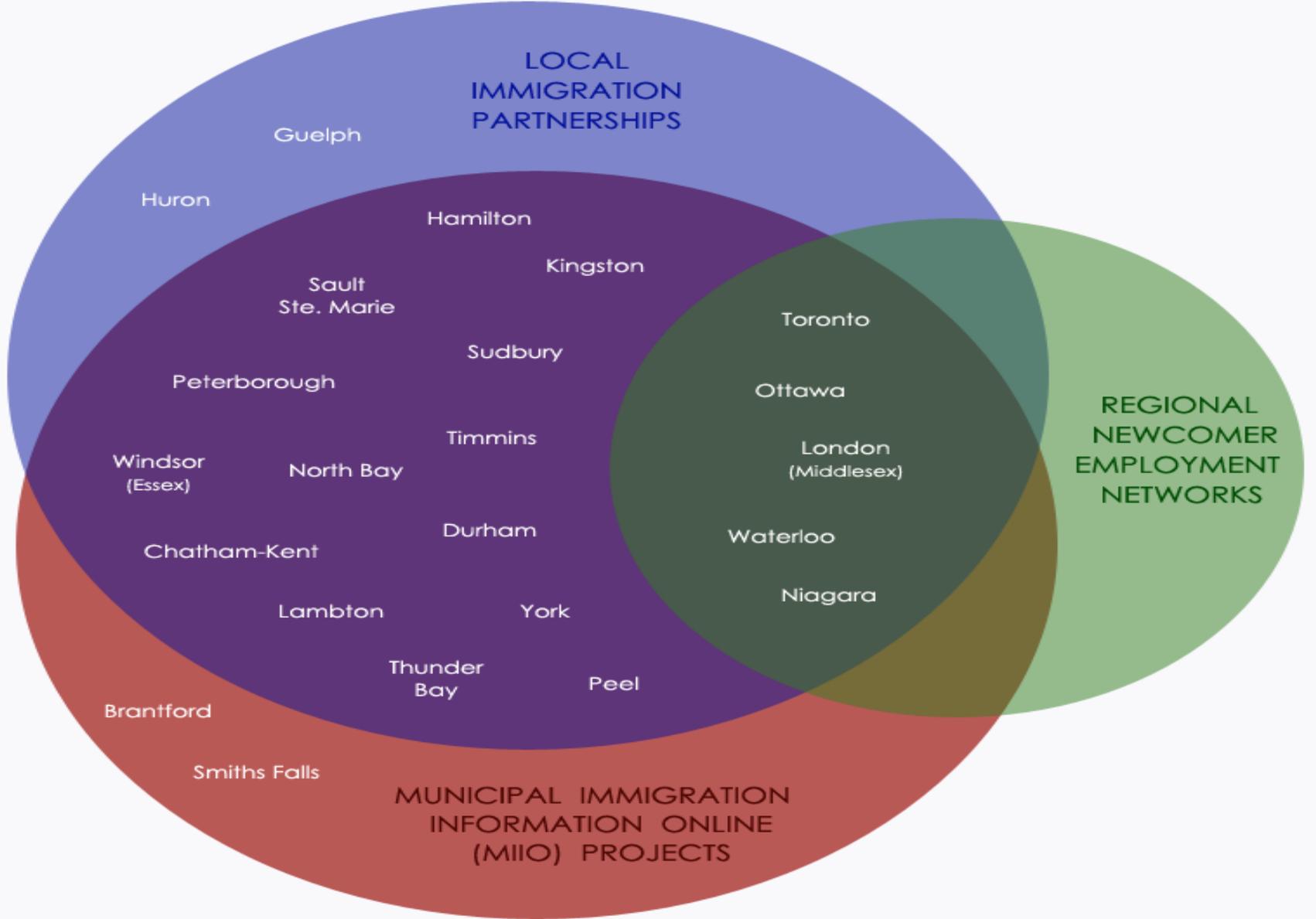


# THE TEAM

## AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

- Researchers / PhD students
  - Alexandra Bozheva – Sociology / Demography
  - Natalia Lapshina – Psychology
  - Claudia Rangel – Geography
- Faculty / Project Supervisors
  - Rod Beaujot – Sociology / Demography
  - Jason Gilliland – Geography
- Team leader:
  - Zenaida Ravanera – Sociology/ Demography
- Adviser:
  - Vicki Esses – Psychology





## 17 CHARACTERISTICS

1. Employment Opportunities
2. Fostering of Social Capital
3. Affordable and Suitable Housing
4. Positive Attitudes toward Immigrants, Cultural Diversity, and the Presence of Newcomers in the Community
5. Presence of Newcomer-Serving Agencies that Can Successfully Meet the Needs of Newcomers
6. Links between Main Actors Working toward Welcoming Communities



## 17 CHARACTERISTICS (CONT'D)

7. Municipal Features and Services Sensitive to the Presence and Needs of Newcomers
8. Educational Opportunities
9. Accessible and Suitable Health Care
10. Available and Accessible Public Transit
11. Presence of Diverse Religious Organizations
12. Social Engagement Opportunities



## 17 CHARACTERISTICS (CONT'D)

13. Political Participation Opportunities

14. Positive Relationships with the Police and the Justice System

15. Safety

16. Opportunities for Use of Public Space and Recreation Facilities

17. Favourable Media Coverage and Representation



## INITIAL DATA SOURCES

- 2006 Census
- 2008 General Social Survey on Social Engagement
- Canadian Community Health Survey



## PLANNED OUTPUT

- Interim products in the WCI website
- Report that includes
  - data collated and analyzed
  - indicators not available
- If possible, publications in journals

