

Immigration to Smaller, Rural and Northern Communities

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October 31, 2019



IMMIGRATION IN CANADA

CONTEXT



In 2019
Canada will welcome
330,000 immigrants

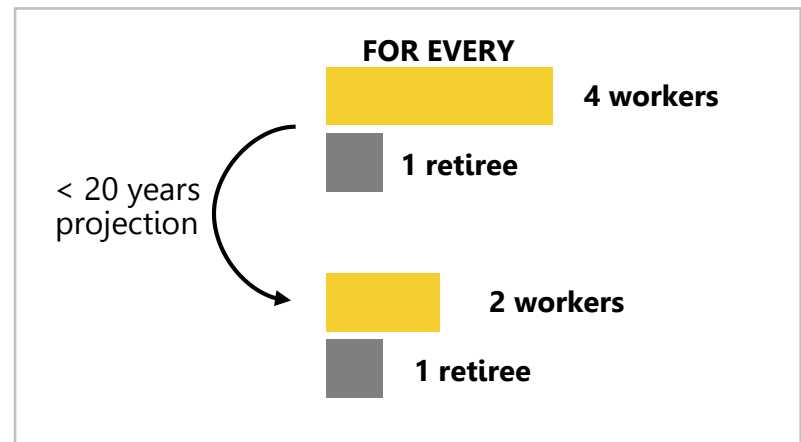
Almost 60% will be selected for their ability to **contribute** to the Canadian economy

In 2018 – **81%** of permanent resident admissions settled in the **10 largest cities** in Canada
- Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver accounted for 58% of new PRs

Approximately **87%** of economic immigrants settle in **Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec**



The Canadian population is aging



IMMIGRATION IN CANADA

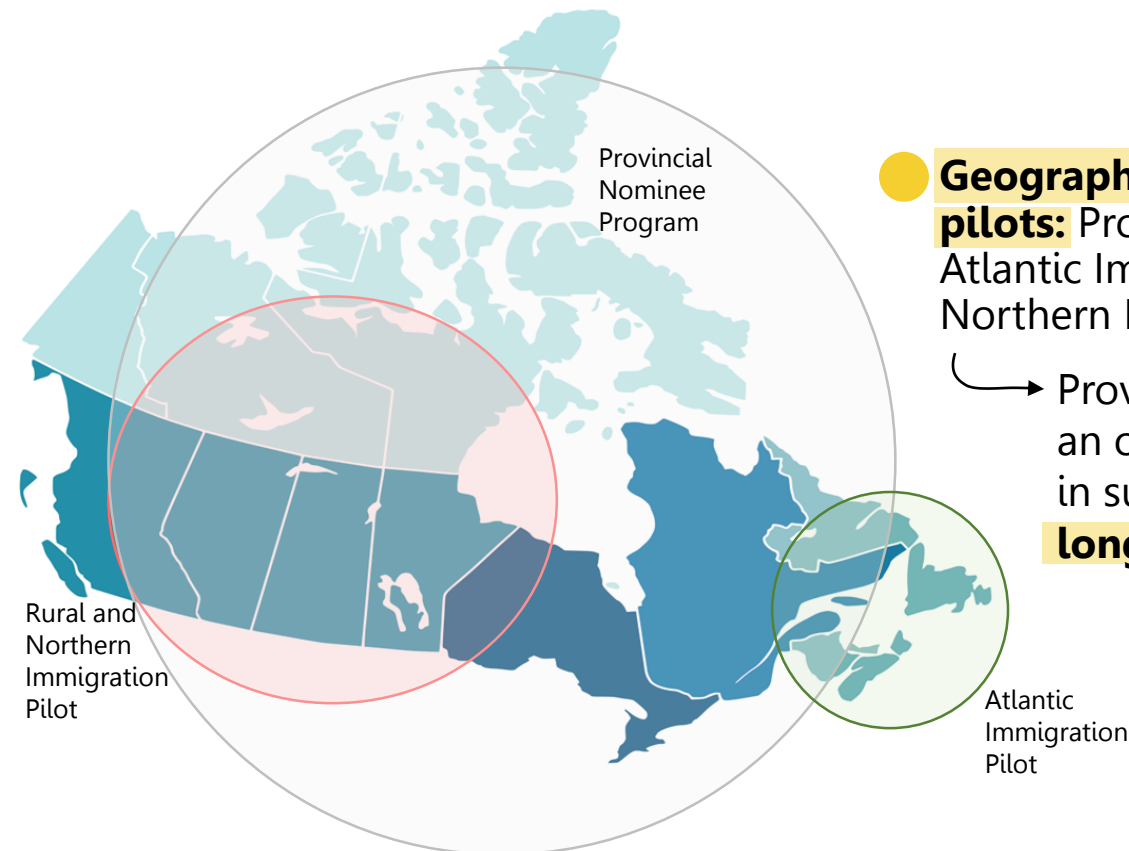
REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

- Economic and demographic shifts in Canada are felt more **acutely** in certain **regions** and **rural areas**.

↳ **Hindering** economic growth where employers have difficulty filling jobs.

- **Geographically focused programs and pilots:** Provincial Nominee Program, Atlantic Immigration Pilot & Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot.

↳ Provide smaller & remote communities with an opportunity to **attract specific skill sets** in support of **economic development** and **long-term retention**.



REGIONAL ECONOMIC IMMIGRATION PROGRAMS

The Provincial Nominee Program, Atlantic Immigration Pilot, and Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot have been **designed** to help distribute the **benefits of immigration** and fill **local** employment gaps.

How:

- (1)** Support regional economic development by addressing labour market needs
- (2)** Economic independence
- (3)** Retention

PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM (PNP)

OBJECTIVE:

The Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) provides provinces and territories with an opportunity to address their specific economic development and labour market needs while distributing the benefits of economic immigration across Canada.

KEY FEATURES

Complementarity

The PNP complements federal immigration programs, which prioritize human capital over place-based considerations.

Flexibility

Provinces and territories work with IRCC to design streams that meet their unique immigration and labour market needs, including the development of nomination criteria.

Innovation

Increasing desire to try new and innovative approaches to immigration through the PNP.

TARGET AUDIENCES



Workers



Entrepreneurs



International students

PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM (PNP)

Lessons Learned

WHAT WE'VE OBSERVED

- 1 Increasing PT engagement in immigration as the Provincial Nominee Program matures and jurisdictions enter period of significant economic growth.
- 2 The PNP has become the main source of economic immigration for many PTs and continues to grow.
- 3 Provincial nominees have high rates of in-province/territory retention and economic establishment.
- 4 Continued efforts to improve performance measurement to better assess the results of new streams and pilots, and share best practices across jurisdictions.

NEED FOR REGIONAL PILOTS

The **Atlantic Immigration Pilot** and **Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot** are testing innovative approaches to addressing chronic demographic and economic issues, distributing the benefits of immigration beyond major cities, supporting regional economic development, and growing regional labour markets.

COMMON CONCERNS



Aging Population & Low Fertility Rate

The population in Atlantic Canada that is over 65 years old has increased by 5.17% over the last ten years, compared to a 3.46% increase nationally.

In addition to the decline in birth rates, now lower than the national average, Atlantic, rural and northern employers are facing many challenges in filling labour needs locally.



Need for Skilled Labour

Steady rise in job vacancies across the Atlantic, rural and northern communities have led to mounting labour pressures for businesses of all sizes.



Impact on social services

An aging and declining population has many impacts on public services, social programs and infrastructures (e.g. universities, high schools, small businesses, hospitals, and banking services).

Both pilots have **embedded settlement services** in their design to support long-term retention of newcomers.

ATLANTIC IMMIGRATION PILOT (AIP)

The Atlantic Immigration Pilot was launched in 2017, as part of the **Atlantic Growth Strategy**, with a focus on creating the conditions conducive for retention and economic growth in the Atlantic provinces.

KEY FEATURES

- 1 Employer Driven**
Employers play an active role in the recruitment and retention of candidates, providing support to newcomers.
- 2 Settlement Plan Requirement**
Participants and family members receive a settlement plan to enhance integration into the community and long term retention.
- 3 New Partnerships & Program Delivery Approach**
Ongoing collaboration among IRCC, provincial governments, the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, and Settlement Service Provider Organizations.

WHAT WE'VE OBSERVED

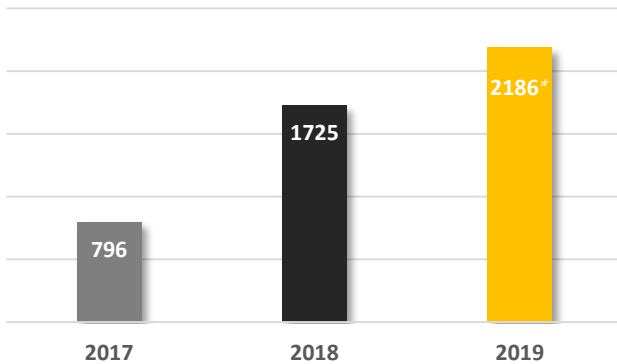
From March 2017 - 2019

- Employers are considering immigration for the first time to address labour shortages but need support (Dedicated Service Channel).
- Settlement is not "one size fits all." Employers are providing additional supports.
- Provinces, SPOs and the ACOA have been instrumental in launching the pilot & building momentum.
- Part of a broader economic development strategy to help drive economic growth.

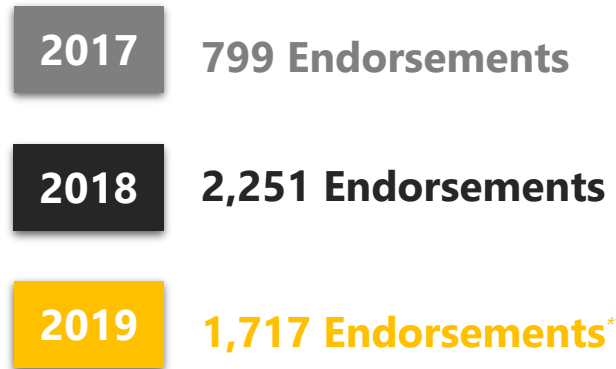
ATLANTIC IMMIGRATION PILOT (AIP)

Uptake And Early Outcomes

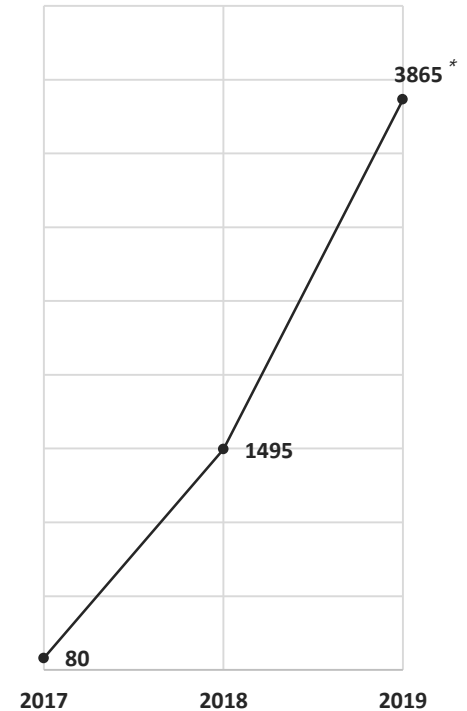
Designated Employers



Job Offers Made



Admissions



5,200+

Needs assessments and referrals for principal applicants and accompanying family members completed by service provider organizations

*Data as of July 31, 2019

RURAL AND NORTHERN PILOT (RNIP)

KEY FEATURES



Meaningful
economic
opportunity

+

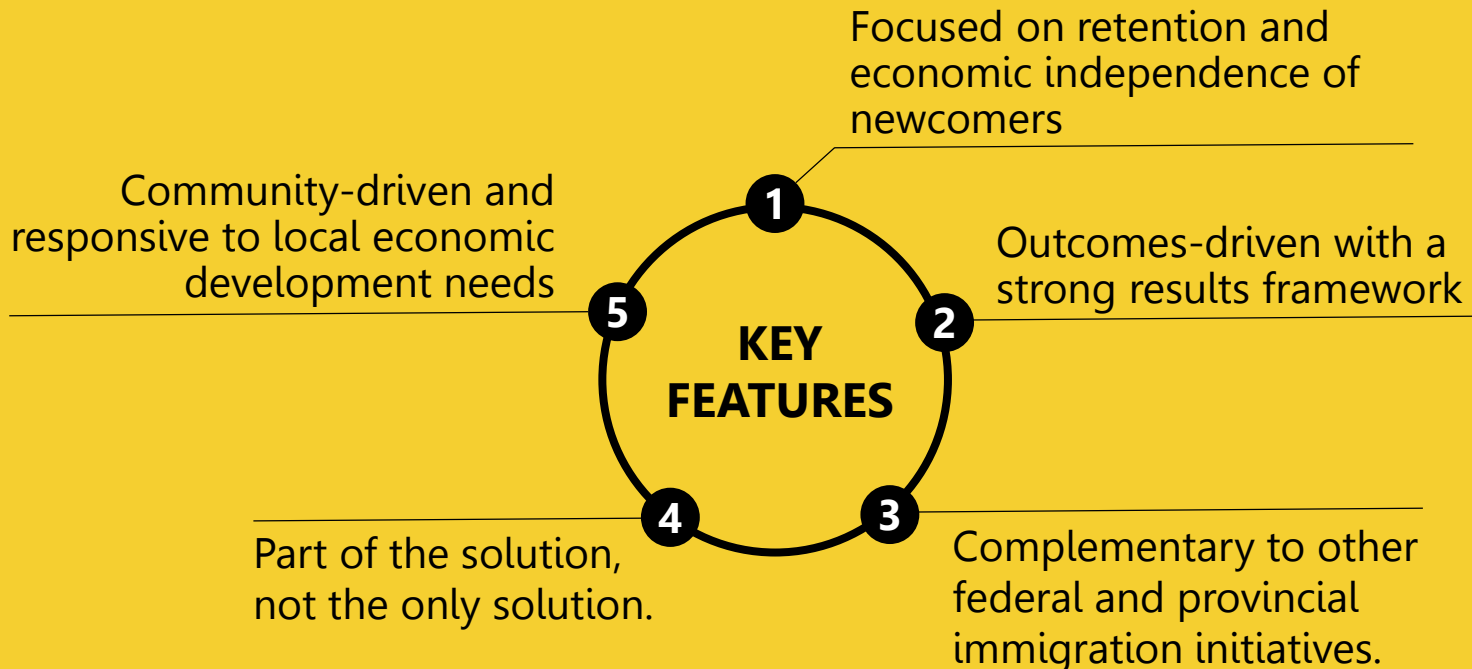


Community-based
wrap-around
supports

=



Sense of Belonging
to promote retention
and economic
establishment



KEY SETTLEMENT FEATURES OF RNIP

The pilot aims for long-term retention of newcomers, so participating communities **commit to supporting the settlement and integration** of those who arrive through the RNIP.

Specifically they have committed to:

- **championing the benefits** of immigration to community members and employers;
- **matching newcomers** with established members of the community, for mentoring and support;
- connecting newcomers with **settlement services** and other core social services after their arrival.