

# Office of Immigration

December, 2005

Office of Immigration



# Immigration Strategy

- Launched January 2005
- Nova Scotia welcomes and embraces immigrants recognizing the important contributions they make to our social, economic, and cultural fabric.
- The Government of Nova Scotia will take a lead role to engage and work with partners in the attraction, integration, and retention of immigrants.

# Strategy Pillars

- Welcoming Community
- Attraction
- Integration
- Retention

# Strategy Targets

- Improved integration and retention
  - Increase retention rate to 70%
- Increased number of immigrants to 3,600 by 2010

# Strategy Update

- Creation of the Office of Immigration
- Staffing
  - 12 staff by January 2006
- 2005 – 2006 Budget at \$2.7m
  - \$1.5m for Settlement and Integration Funding

# Office Core Business Areas

- Attracting New Immigrant Families
  - Market NS as an attractive immigration destination
  - Manage the Nova Scotia Nominee Program
- Helping Immigrants Settle, Succeed, and Stay
  - Provide funding for settlement services
  - Raise public awareness
- Planning, Policy and Program Development
  - Establish partnerships with stakeholders

# Nova Scotia Nominee Program (NSNP)

- Federal – Provincial Agreement signed in 2002
- Immigration recruitment and selection program which allows provinces to nominate to the federal government, individuals who can meet our economic and labour market needs and have intention and ability to settle in Nova Scotia
- Following federal health and security checks, nominees may become permanent residents of Canada.

# NSNP Streams

- Skilled Worker
- Economic
- Community Identified

# Skilled Worker

- Employer driven
- Must have a guaranteed job offer from NS employer (unable to find NS worker)
- Permanent, full-time work
- Competitive wages and working conditions
- Basic skills in English or French
- Legal working age (18 and over)
- Min. of high school completion
- Work experience, education, and skills to do the position
- Demonstrated intention and ability to settle in Nova Scotia

# Economic

- Between 25 and 60 years of age
- Basic literacy skills in English or French
- Minimum education of grade 12 (or equivalent).
- Must have owned/operated a business,  
OR
- Must have two years of management experience during the last five years.

# Economic cont.

- Net worth of \$300,000 Cdn
- Must make a contribution of \$130,500
- Demonstrated intention and ability to settle in Nova Scotia

# Economic cont.

Nominees receive

- Middle management position with an approved NS business
- A six-month employment contract of at least \$20,000
- Mentorship and Canadian work experience

# Community Identified

- Not eligible for Skilled Worker and Economic
- Letter of support from a mandated organization (RDA's and Fédération acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse)
- Established association with community through family, ancestry, established relationships and property
- Basic skills in English or French
- Demonstrated intention and ability to settle in Nova Scotia
- Evidence of financial resources to support settlement.

# NSNP – Possible new streams

- Family Business
- International Student
- Entrepreneurship



Thank You

Questions?

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**NOVA SCOTIA**