

# Who Takes the Lead on Immigration in Cities?

Tenth National Metropolis Conference, April 2008

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Greater Halifax Partnership

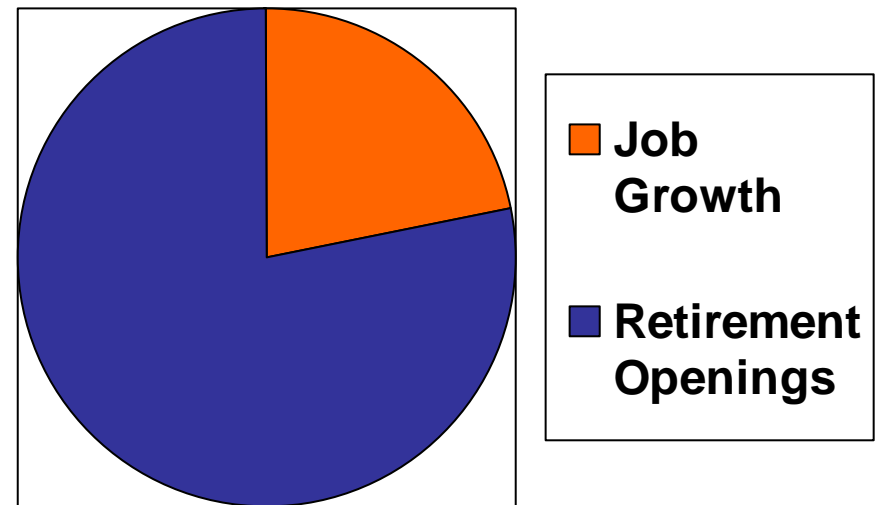
# Global Trends

- Demographic Shifts;
- Urbanization;
- Globalization..

# Demand for Workers Taking Off

- 64,000 job openings from 2007 to 2012
- 50,000 retirements
- 14,000 new jobs

Nova Scotia



# Cities

- Global shift to cities
- “Cities are the chief motors of economies. You can’t talk about economies without talking about cities” *Jane Jacobs*
- “The Regions that succeed will be those that are magnets for the highly educated, highly mobile, innovative people that high-wage, high-growth companies need to hire”.  
*Richard Florida*

# Strategic Directions

- Two strategies have been created to address the “people” problem
- Halifax’s first economic strategy
- Halifax’s first immigration strategy

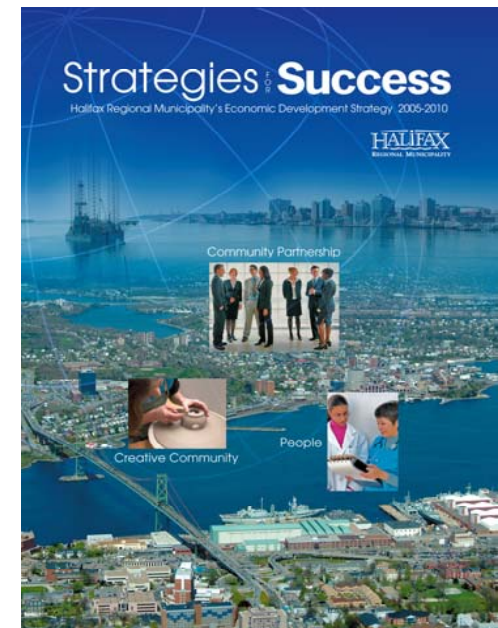
# Halifax Region Immigration Strategy

- Three focus areas:
  - Leadership and infrastructure,
  - Attraction,
  - Integration and retention.
- There are about 75 – 80 organizations involved some way in immigration and multiculturalism



# HRM Economic Strategy

- Its about people
- “If you want 1 year of prosperity, grow grain, if you want 10 years of prosperity, grow trees, if you want 100 years of prosperity, grow people” *Chinese Proverb*
- 50 economic development organizations



## Economic Strategy Targets for Immigration

- Attract more Immigrants;
- Retain more Immigrants;
- Increase population growth;
- Improve employment growth;
- Decrease unemployment rate;
- Enhance participation rate.
- Supports targets of Halifax Immigration Strategy

# PIT People

- **Passion**
- A little **information**
- Lots of **time**
- 50 organizations in economic development, 80 in immigration
- Leadership by committee doesn't work



# M&Ms in Halifax

- Specific organizations playing a critical role:
  - **Mandate and Money**
  - Halifax Regional Municipality
  - Nova Scotia Office of Immigration
  - Halifax Chamber of Commerce
  - Metropolitan Immigrant Settlement Association
  - Halifax Immigrant Learning Centre
  - Greater Halifax Partnership



# Economic Strategy Committee

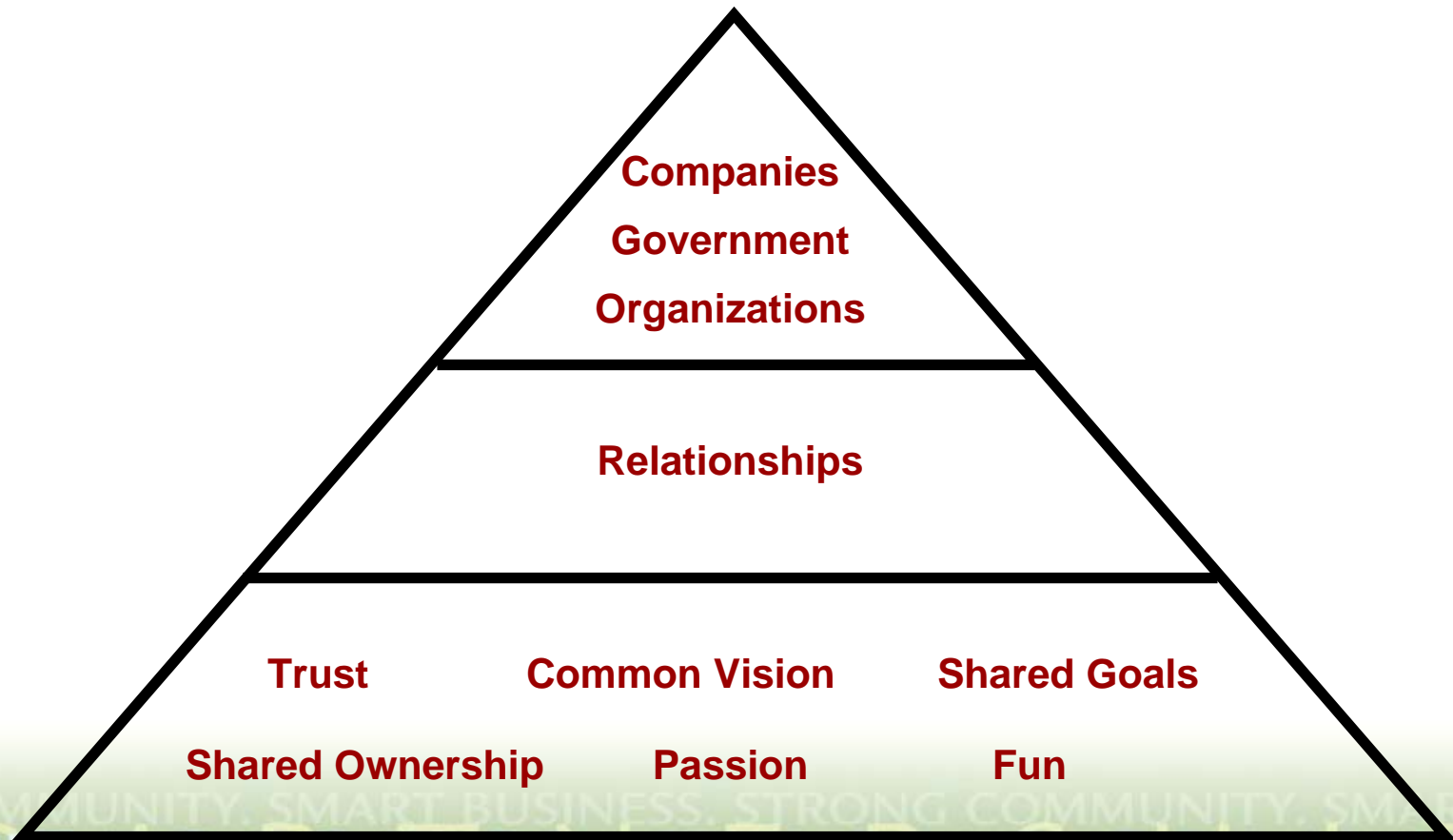
- Representation of stakeholders from the three levels of **government, private sector, universities, and community college**
- Outcome focused
- Roles involve:
  - Aligning processes, projects and people
  - Working the partnership pyramid



HALIFAX CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE

*stronger together*

# The “Partnership Pyramid”



# Implementation: Leadership and Partnership

- Too much to do for any one group
- Using partnerships to avoid turf wars and build leverage
- Leaders and believers