Compiled for the launch of "A Newcomer's Guide to Services in Peel, Halton and Dufferin".

June 19th 2007

Workforce Today

From the Peel-Halton-Dufferin Training Board Special Immigration Trends Issue

Inside this Special Issue:

- ◆ Immigration Trends in Canada, 1997-2006.
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IMMIGRATION TRENDS IN CANADA

Canada has a very high level of ethnic diversity in its population. This newsletter provides an overview of annual immigration to Canada by using official data from the Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC)'s online statistical publications. It also provides the cultural characteristics of immigrants in Canada. Immigrants (Permanent Residents) refer to people who have been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities. According to CIC, immigrants (Permanent Residents) must live in Canada for at least 730 days (two years) within a five-year period or risk losing their status. Immigrants have all the rights guaranteed under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms such as equality rights, legal rights, mobility rights, freedom of religion, freedom of expression and freedom of association. They do not, however, have the right to vote in elections. For more information on citizenship and immigration trends, please visit the CIC website at www.cic.qc.ca.

Table 1. Distribution of Immigrants (Permanent Residents) by Province or Territory, 2006*

Province or Territory	#	%
Ontario	125,919	50.1%
Quebec	44,708	17.8%
British Columbia	42,204	16.8%
Alberta	20,561	8.2%
Manitoba	9,990	4.0%
Saskatchewan	2,658	1.1%
Nova Scotia	2,580	1.0%
New Brunswick	1,633	0.6%
Prince Edward Island	565	0.2%
Newfoundland and Labrador	508	0.2%
Northwest Territories	100	0.0%
Yukon	65	0.0%
Nunavut	9	0.0%
Province or territory not stated	11	0.0%
Total	251,511	100.0%

*Note: 2006 data are preliminary estimates provided by CIC.

Highlights

- In 2006, there were 251,511 persons that immigrated to Canada (compared to 216,038 in 1997).
- In 2006, the largest category of immigrants (permanent residents) in Canada was economic immigrants (138,193).
- In 2006, the top three largest proportions of immigrants at the provincial level were Ontario (125,919), Quebec (44,708) and British Columbia (42,204).
- In 2006, the top three largest proportions of immigrants within Ontario were Toronto (99,142), Ottawa-Gatineau (6,271), and Hamilton (3,948).
- In 2005, the top five mother tongue languages for immigrants in Canada were Mandarin (37,320), English (22,907), Arabic (19,512), Spanish (17,105) and Punjabi (17,034).
- In 2005, the top five countries of origin for immigrants in Canada were China (42,291), India (33,146), Philippines (17,525), Pakistan (13,576) and United States (9,262).

Implications for Human Services Sector

 Increased demand for culturally appropriate services, social justice, etc.



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Next Issue (July 2007):

Transportation and Warehousing Industries

Figure 1: Immigrants (Permanent Residents) by Year: Ontario and Canada, 1997-2006



^{*}Note: 2006 data are preliminary estimates provided by CIC.

Figure 2. Immigrants (Permanent Residents) by Immigration Category: Canada, 2006

