

# A Review of the Host Program on Prince Edward Island



**UPEI** UNIVERSITY  
*of Prince Edward*  
**ISLAND**



# Rationale

- Importance of Host Program in Settlement Experience – and Suggestions for Improvement.
- Changing Clientele

43 Respondents to Questionnaire (Summer 2009):  
9 Refugee / 24 Korean PNPs / 10 Others

Retention Rate (Refugees & PNPs) = **28%** after 18-24 months of arrival to PEI.

# Breaking Into PEI Society (1)

- Employer (with off island recruitment)
- Local church
- Alternative forum
- Community broker (neighbour, relative, friend)

**1. How well does the Host Program (Friendship – ESL – Holiday Host ...) serve as a Community Broker ?**

# Breaking Into PEI Society (2)

8 out of 9 Refugees ---- 8 out of 19 Korean PNPs

8	making friends amongst Islanders	4
8	getting invited to people's homes	2
7	going shopping	0
5	making friends amongst other newcomers to Canada and PEI	2
5	learning/practising official language	5
3	opening bank account/securing bank loan	0
2	finding/buying/renting a home	0
2	buying a car	0
2	getting to know the neighbours	0
2	joining a sports team	0
2	finding work	3
0	getting to know elected politicians	2

# Why not use the Host Program (1)

- Planning to Leave PEI (work/education/food)  
PEI is a “stop over place”

“People have moved here and left. First, because this is a small province and there are not many opportunities for employment. [Second,] those who were used to life in big cities find it difficult to settle in a small community like here. [Third,] people tend to go near where friends or relatives are. .. Other factors may have to do with availability of ethnic food. Here, some items have to be shipped in from out of province; whereas, in larger cities, oriental markets exist and it is very easy to locate items needed” (R#11).

# Why not use the Host Program(2)

- Have other Community Supports (e.g. Church)
- Embarrassment and Language Barriers
- Restricted Mandate and Scope of Program  
(more beyond language into practical assistance – for working/self-employment/health care/living?)

**2. How can Host Program Volunteers improve the Immigrants' Settlement Experience? Should the Host Program mandate be broadened? And, if yes, how?**

# Relationship between Host and Client

Equal	Host-Guest	Unequal
Friend/Brother/Sister	<b>Attitude to Host by Client</b>	Provider of Assistance
Friend/Brother/Sister	<b>Attitude to Client by Host</b>	Requiring Assistance
Mutual Trade / Exchange	<b>Nature of Relationship</b>	Dependence/Support
Long Term	<b>Long-Term Prospects</b>	Instrumental/ Short Term

**3. How would you define your relationship with your Host Program Client(s)? What are the effects of this?**

# Any Other Contribution?

- Suggestions Welcome!
- On behalf of the Team . . . **Thank You!**

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