

## York Region Immigration Settlement Strategy: *Leading Change for a Stronger Community*



York Region Local Immigration Partnership Initiative Funded By:



Citizenship and  
Immigration Canada

Citoyenneté et  
Immigration Canada

York Region Local Immigration  
**PARTNERSHIP**  
LEADING CHANGE FOR A STRONGER COMMUNITY

# Purpose

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- ❑ Overview of the Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) Initiative
- ❑ Information on newcomers living in York Region
- ❑ Overview of the York Region Immigration Settlement Strategy
- ❑ Next step in the implementation of the Strategy including: early successes; CPC endorsement; and action planning

# History of the Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) initiative

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- ❑ A mechanism for local municipalities and community stakeholders to plan supports for newcomers in their communities.
- ❑ York Region is one of the approximately 45 LIP initiatives in Ontario funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

# Overview of Local Immigration Partnership Initiative

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## **Deliverables:**

- ❑ Establish a Community Partnership Council
- ❑ Develop an Immigration Settlement Strategy

## **Objectives:**

- ❑ Improve access to and coordination of immigrant integration services
- ❑ Improve labour market outcomes
- ❑ Strengthen regional awareness and capacity to successfully integrate immigrants

# Community Partnership Council (CPC)

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- ❑ The Community Partnership Council (CPC) was appointed by Regional Council in Feb 2010 to help develop the Immigration Settlement Strategy.
- ❑ Members - 24 sector representatives: settlement, education, labour market, health, Francophone community, social services, police services and local municipalities
- ❑ Co-chaired by Mayor Frank Scarpitti, Town of Markham and Stephen Lam, Catholic Community Services of York Region
- ❑ Markham representative: Sandra Tam, Senior Business Development Officer, Economic Development

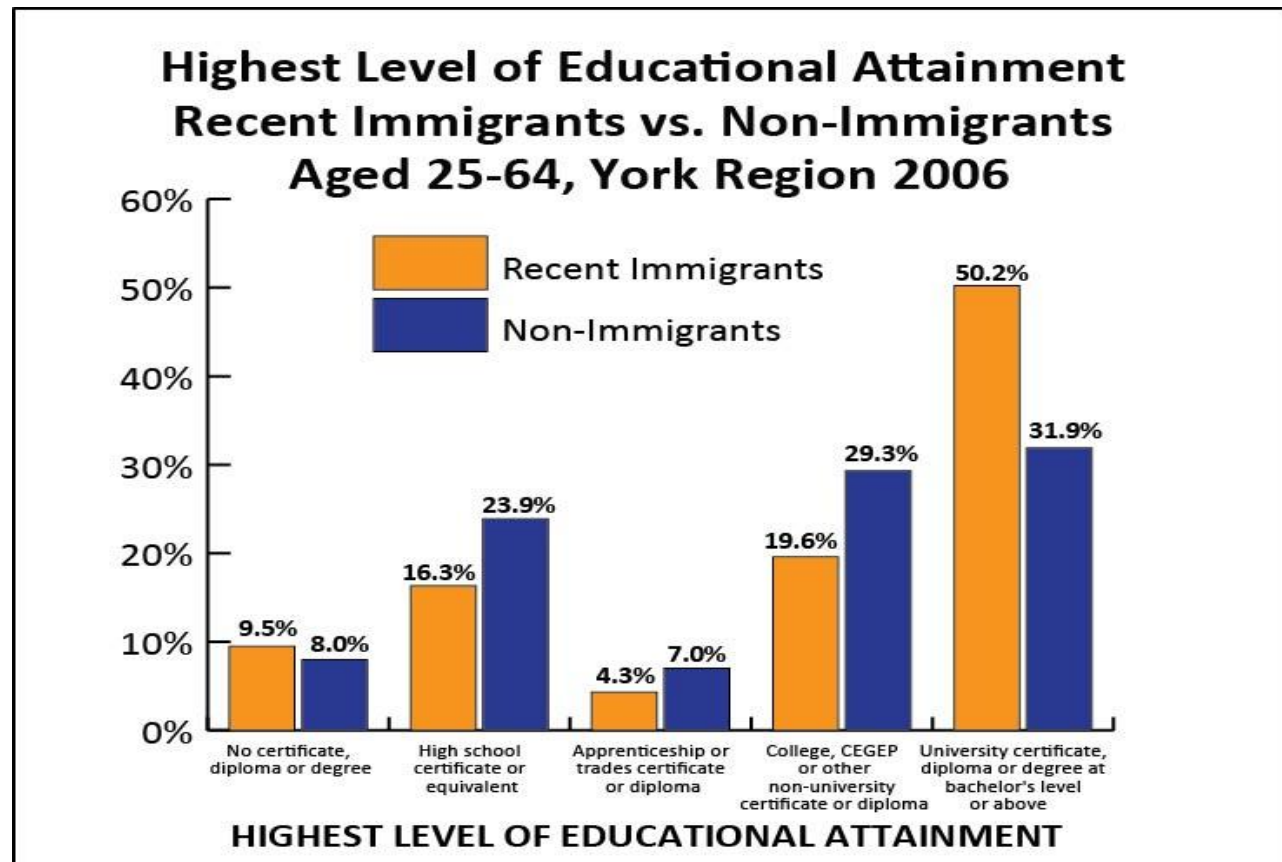
# Newcomers living in York Region

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## Changing Demographics

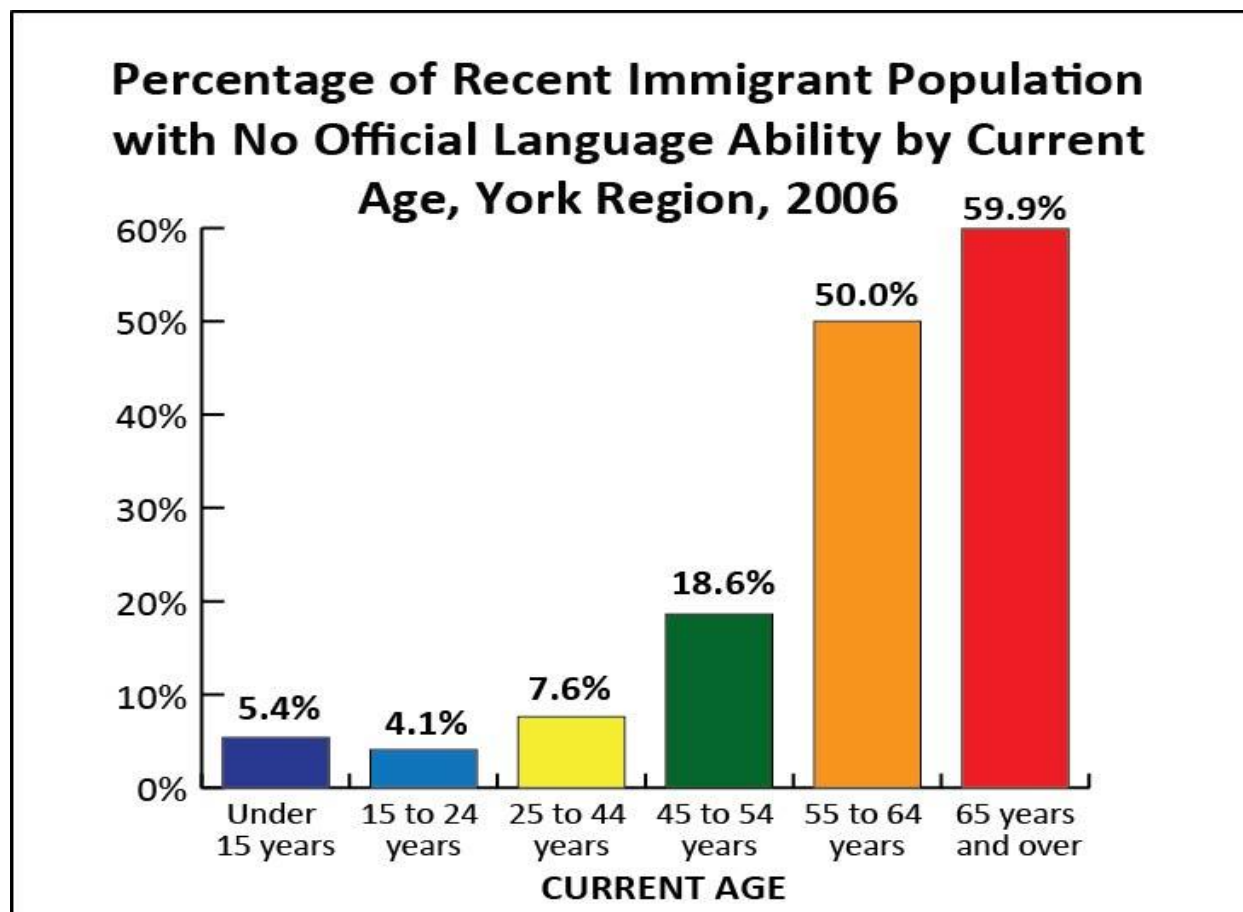
- There will be significant increases in the diversity of the population over the next two decades.
- By 2031, 55% of York Region population will be immigrants.

# Recent immigrants continue to be well-educated but often hold jobs that don't match their skills



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, Custom Tabulation

# Knowledge of official language impacts all aspects of integration

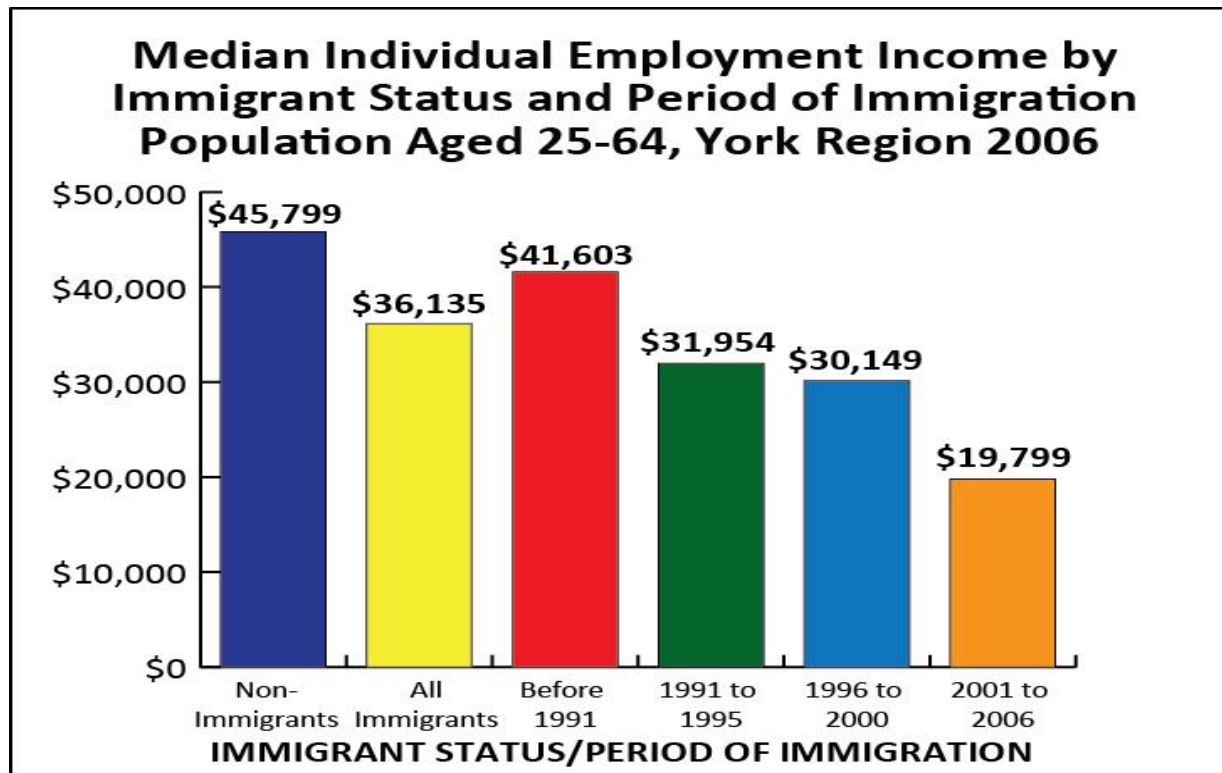


Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, Custom Tabulation



# How are newcomers faring?

After 15 years of living in Canada immigrants still earn slightly less than Canadian born residents



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, Custom Tabulation

# Newcomers are important to York Region's vitality

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- Newcomers contribute to the economy by becoming homeowners, consumers and entrepreneurs
- Newcomers bring cultural richness and vibrancy to our communities

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# The York Region Immigration Settlement Strategy

# Immigration Settlement Strategy: Collaborative Planning Process

*Development of the York Region Immigration Settlement Strategy*



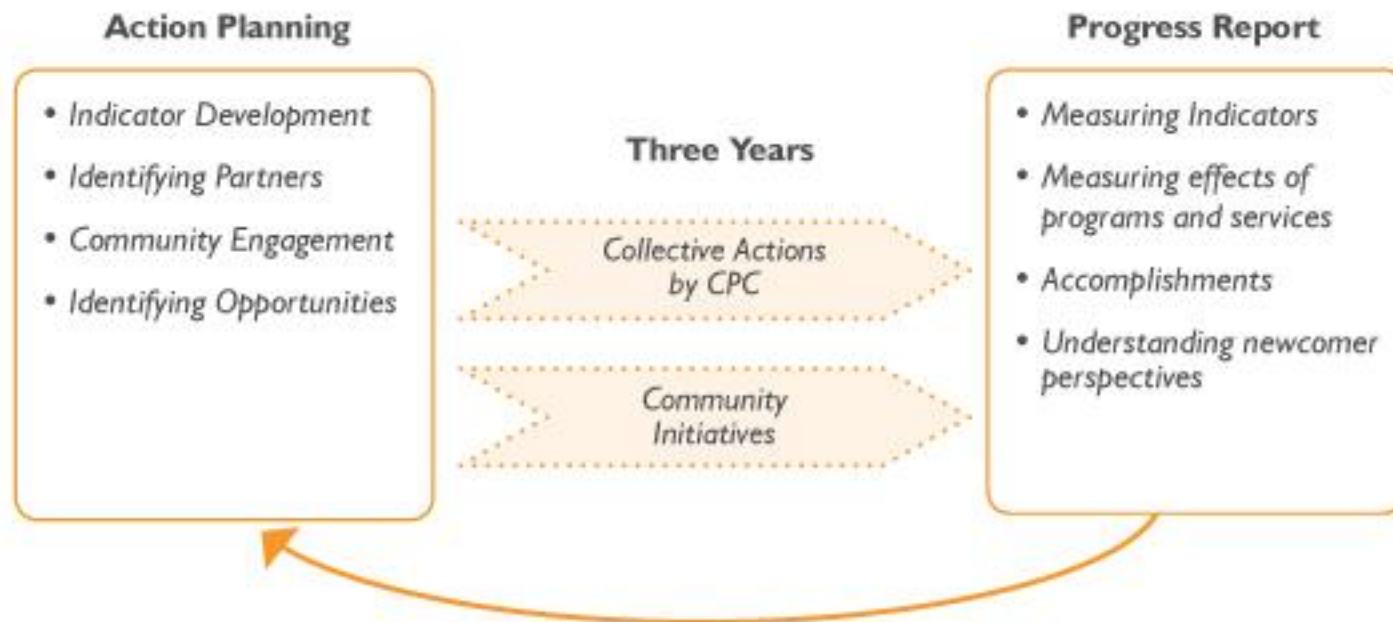
# The Strategy takes a holistic perspective that sets a long-term vision for the well-being of newcomers

*Community Results for the York Region Immigration Settlement Strategy*



# Immigration Settlement Strategy: Implementation Framework

## DEVELOPING AN ACTION PLAN



# What does the Strategy mean to us?

By endorsing the Strategy, we will move the Strategy from talk to action by:

- ❑ Supporting the strategic priorities and use the Strategy as a lens to look at the way we do work
- ❑ Sharing knowledge, develop partnerships and help to build capacity
- ❑ Understanding our individual contribution and participate in collective action being taken by the CPC
- ❑ Become community ambassadors for the Strategy

# How the Strategy can benefit to the Community

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Provides a focal point for collaborative action to respond to growing and diverse population by:

- ❑ Informing program and service and resource allocation
- ❑ Building capacity in York Region and be used for funding allocation
- ❑ Enhancing the quality of life for newcomers and all residents in York Region.



# Next Steps and initial successes resulting from the Strategy

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- ❑ **Immigrant Priority Groups (Women, Youth, Seniors, Francophone) Profiles**
- ❑ **Maximizing the use of York Region Immigration Portal**
- ❑ **Exploring new partnerships and collaboration between funders**
- ❑ **Developing an International Educated Professional conference**
- ❑ **Establishing Municipal Diversity Reference Group**

# Critical Elements for Successful Implementation

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- Collaborative leadership from the Community Partnership Council and the Region
- Engaging the broader community
- Leveraging partnerships and increasing capacity in the Region

# How can we lead change for a stronger community?

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We can start by answering the following four questions:

- ❑ Which Community Result(s) do we contribute to and how?
- ❑ What can our organization do better that is low or no cost to the community results?
- ❑ What is preventing us from taking action?
- ❑ Who are some partners that can help make a difference?