



Report of meeting with the Manitoba Labour and Immigration Officials

Date: November 18, 2015

In attendance:

Province of Manitoba - Labour and Immigration

Mr. Ben Rempel, Assistant Deputy Minister

Ms. Fanny Levy, Director, Immigration and Employment Programs

Mr. Richard Zebinski, Director, Business Immigration and Investment Branch

Ms. Karmel Chartrand, Manager – Manitoba PNP

CAPIC:

Mr. Dory Jade, President

Mr. Deepak Kohli, Secretary

Mr. Jacques Therrien, Member

Executive Summary

The inaugural meeting of CAPIC with representatives of the Province of Manitoba – Labour & Immigration sought to establish the role of CAPIC among the immigration representatives and open the lines of communication for effective lobbying in future.

Both CAPIC and the Province agreed to keep the channels of communication open and look for opportunities of collaboration for program integrity.

The meeting started with CAPIC representatives providing a comprehensive overview of the mandate of CAPIC in relation to the ICCRC. CAPIC solicited the department officials' view on the consultants' within their immigration system.

Report/ Responses from the Province:

The province provided the following statistics as they related to PNP applications in Manitoba.

Applications intake & representatives:

11,000 applications were received in the last 5 years with 277 identified representatives 4,700 applications have been received since January 2014 with 164 identified representatives

Current Inventory - Approximately 12,000 applications:

6000 applications for a variety of professions pre-August 2014 4000 applications pre-August 2014 for Teachers, Nurses and Professors 2000 New applications under the new EOI system

The MBPNP receives approximately 300 emails per day with the new Expression of Interest System (EOI). With the new EOI system information on draws with number of candidates with the lowest score is published on the website.



Applications are not assessed on a FIFO - first in first out basis. The Temporary Foreign Workers in Manitoba and International Graduates are the priority with these applications being processed between 3- 6 months. Applications are managed based on labour market demand.

Applicants in certain occupations are currently not going to receive a Letter of Advice to Apply (LAA) due to barriers in entering the profession or current low market demand. Examples provided were those for Nurses, Teachers and University professors.

Applicants who have submitted their application prior to August 2014 with qualifying dependants will be grandfathered. The date of the application will be considered as the lock-in date for both the MBPNP application and the CIC PNP application.

Under the MB Business PNP Program scores remain high (80 points +) due to the type of submissions they continue to receive. Processing timeframes depend on the level of review required, especially as it pertains to the voracity of financial information. Certain financial documents from certain source countries are highly dependable, whereas other documents are not as dependable where fraud is prevalent. These factor may affect processing timeframes.

The province advised that there are significant no. of cases from Applicants not being able to support their initial submission, and requested that CAPIC members assist them in reducing such instances, when taking in clients.

Recruitment Fairs

The Province indicated that they are currently making a series of improvements and revamping their website. These fairs have been advertised in employer information section of the website. The Vienna fair is now advertised in the news section. Information on fairs and events will be more conspicuous in the future once the website improvements will be complete.

The province recognises that fairs held in other locations may be accessible to more non-European candidates, and that some may face difficulty in reaching Austria.

The province acknowledged that it has held Recruitment Fairs at different locations in the past. It was clarified that the selection of fair locations factors on the safety and security of staff attending the fair. The location of the current Recruitment Fairs meet this criteria.

Participation in Recruitment Fairs:

Any employee from any location in the world would be able to travel to Austria for an interview upon invitation by employer.

Authorized Representatives are not barred from assisting individual clients for the immigration process, even though there's no role in the recruitment process



Procedure for issuance of PNP nominee certificate at the fairs:

Candidates are not notified immediately of the results of that interview.

A letter of invitation to submit an EOI is issued only after a complete review and assessment of the candidate documentation and interview notes by the MBPNP officers and Managers. The candidate must then follow the regular Application process from that point as the EOI letter provides an additional 500 points in the selection grid.

MPNP Streams – Processing

Family stream

Manitoba Relatives, who have been permanent residents of Canada for less than 12 months, but have resided in Manitoba for at least 12 continuous months are eligible to sign the settlement plan. It is not essential that the period of residency of 12 months be as permanent residents of Manitoba.

Community support stream

The Province indicated that there were multiple agreements with community organizations and rural communities under its strategic initiatives.

The community organizations select the nominees and provide a letter of support for consideration by the MBPNP for nomination.

It was clarified that Authorized representative may be involved in the permanent residence application process but many organizations want the prospective immigrant to contact the community directly for consideration for issuance of a letter of support.

Family / distant relative

Close relatives may support of an unlimited number of applicants at any time. The province considers several factors in review of such applications. The factors could include, and are not limited to sponsor's income, past sponsorship history, sponsor's family size, size of sponsor's residence, employment prospects of applicant, applicant's family size, etc.

Distant relatives and close friends may only support one individual per 18 month period.

Forms – Use of Representative

Recommendation was made that the Province develop a PDF fillable form to facilitate the completion of the Use of Representative – Code of Conduct Form. A typewritten form is clearly legible, more user friendly and in many cases preferable to a handwritten completed form.

The province indicated that they have consciously decided not to use an on-line, fillable version of the Code of Conduct & Representative Form, as they want the client to read and clearly understand the contents. The province acknowledged that they receive and accept pre-filled typed forms, signed by the client.