

The Role of Municipalities in Immigration

Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities

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Who we are

- Formed as a merger of 2 organizations in 2009, we celebrate 35 years of service to immigrants in 2015
- Primary contact on refugee, settlement & immigration issues for **2,000+** organisations, employers, govt depts. & individuals annually
- **4,188** clients served last year
- **2,222** new clients
- **450+** trained volunteers
- **120** qualified staff
- **90** countries of client origin
- **100+** NS communities served
- **45** countries of staff origin



What We Do

Distance and Online Services

We provide many opportunities for immigrants to develop skills and make connections pre-arrival, online and throughout Nova Scotia.

Settlement

We help immigrants to settle and gives orientation to living in Nova Scotia.

English

We offer a variety of language programs for immigrants to Nova Scotia.

Business and Workforce Integration

We provide services and support to immigrants at all stages of business start-up and development.

Employment & Bridging

We help immigrants to be independent and effective in their job search.



What We Do

Temporary Foreign Workers

We provide support for Temporary Foreign Workers and their families.

Employer Support

We help employers build strong and diverse workplaces.

Community and Volunteers

We connect immigrants with volunteers and the community.

Support Services

We offer training and a variety of opportunities for volunteers.

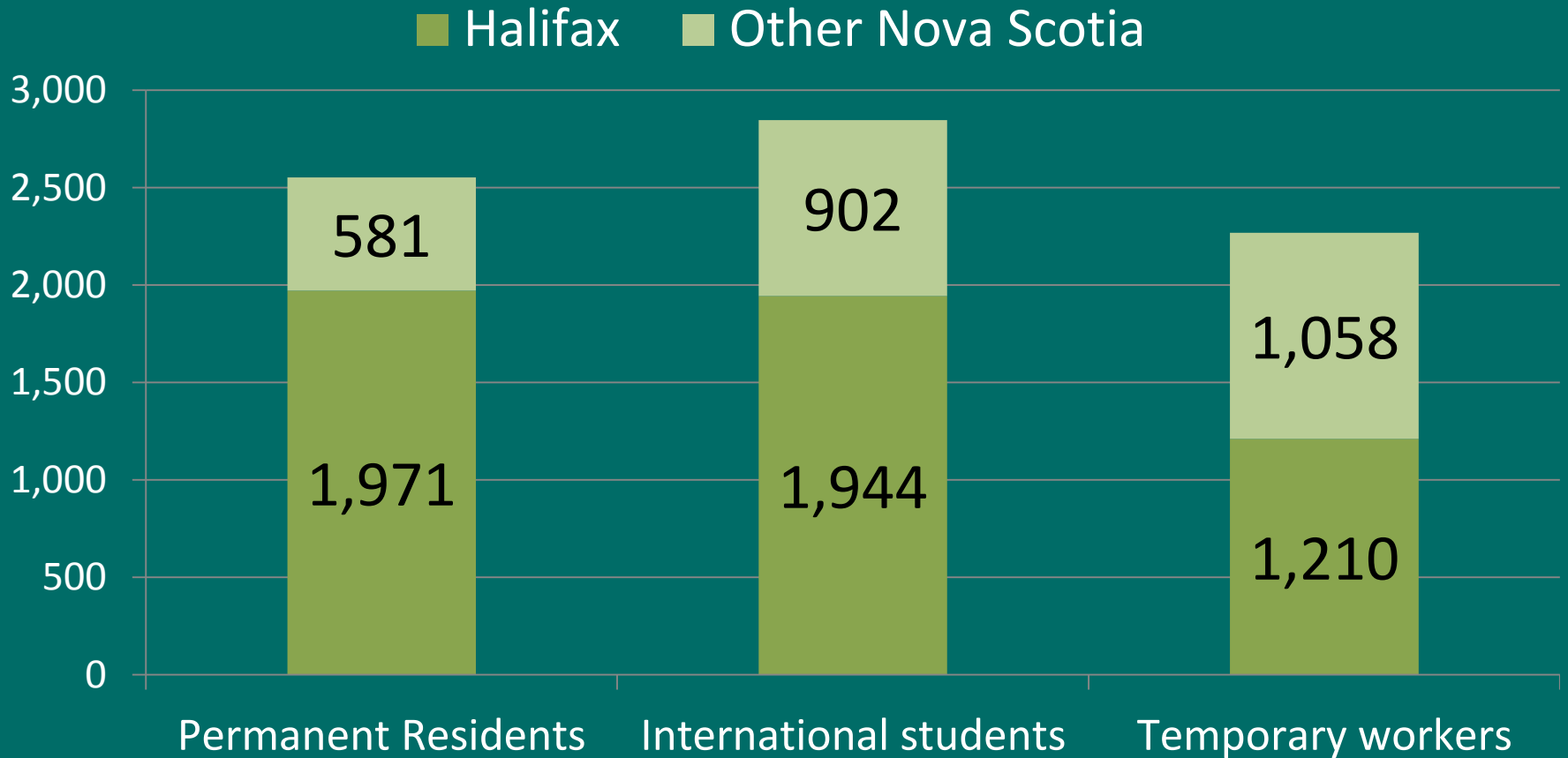
Resources

Our resources are available online at www.isisns.ca

ISIS Services available across Nova Scotia

- 5 offices – Halifax, Bridgewater, Truro, Sydney and Kentville
- 90% ISIS services available at a distance, including
 - Language
 - Business
 - Online courses
 - Pre-arrival
 - Employment/Employer Engagement
 - English in the Workplace
 - Professional Bridging Programs
 - Orientation
- 25+ language, business, employment & orientation courses online
- Pre-arrival access to all N.S. destined immigrants including all provincial nominees

Permanent and Temporary Residents to Nova Scotia 2013



Permanent Residents by Category Nova Scotia

Category	2012		2013	
	Number	%	Number	%
Family Class	470	20	595	23.5
Economic Immigrants	1,625	69.4	1,680	66.4
Refugees	195	8.2	200	7.9
Other Immigrants	55	2.4	55	2.2
Total	2,340	100%	2,530	100%

Permanent Residents to Nova Scotia

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Annapolis	34	49	38	24	9
Antigonish	22	32	20	22	30
Cape Breton	82	46	118	86	66
Colchester	46	89	75	106	88
Cumberland	20	20	17	21	16
Digby	19	25	15	20	15
Guysborough	3	7	2	3	4
Halifax	2057	1792	1803	1576	1772
Hants	2787	32	29	44	30

Permanent Residents to Nova Scotia

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Inverness	25	14	18	18	15
Kings	56	79	67	43	89
Lunenburg	61	76	56	68	87
Pictou	50	29	20	27	33
Queens	13	2	4	6	3
Richmond	17	7	6	6	4
Shelburne	20	14	25	13	19
Victoria	13	10	8	11	0
Yarmouth	29	20	26	35	23

Immigrants are doing well in Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia immigrants:

- contribute a higher % income tax than Canadian born
- earn a higher % income through self employment than Cdn born
- are less likely to receive social assistance than other Cdn immigrants
- are more likely to be working than immigrants in other provinces
- are more likely to be in business after 3 years than Canadian born
- have an IMG/IPG exam pass rate that is way above national average
- are twice as likely to be working in their professions

What can municipalities do?

- Discuss with fed/prov governments what to do to attract immigrants
- Support local initiatives that promote a welcoming community
- Provide free access to one recreation program
- Campaign on importance of immigration, (targeting business)
- Provide (culturally appropriate) welcome visit
- Look through an immigration lens at policy and programs
- Post a welcome sign in different languages (from ISIS)
- Ask depts what they are doing to hire/welcome/serve immigrants
- Provide a welcome letter/card and newcomer guides
- Consider sponsoring refugees

An example of a welcoming community

