You are encouraged to contact Hire Immigrants Ottawa for further discussion or information on any aspect of this Guide:

http://www.hireimmigrantsottawa.ca/?page_id=5&language=en

Hire Immigrants Ottawa 363 Coventry Road, Ottawa ON K1K 2C5 T: (613) 228-6700 F: (613) 228-6730 info@hireimmigrantsottawa.ca

The Ottawa Job Match Network (OJMN) is a partnership between LASI World Skills, Algonquin College, the National Capital Region YMCA-YWCA and Hire Immigrants Ottawa. Their staff works with internationally-trained individuals at three Ottawa locations whose services provide full preparation for newcomers entering the Canadian workforce. The OJMN connects Ottawa's employers to a richly skilled and diverse pool of job-ready candidates. You are encouraged to contact the Job Match Network for further discussion or information about recruiting qualified immigrants for specific job openings in your organization, or with specific inquiries about cross-cultural issues.

The Ottawa Job Match Network T: 613-233-0453 ext. 325 ojmn@ottawa-worldskills.org

OTHER EMPLOYER GUIDES

 The Government of Manitoba Immigration website has produced a guide to hiring immigrants for employers. It provides a good outline that you can adapt to the Ontario environment as necessary.

http://www.hireimmigrantsottawa.ca/downloads/Manitoba_Guide.pdf

• The hireimmigrants.ca program provides employers with the tools and resources they need to better recruit, retain and promote skilled immigrants. Several key business drivers for hiring immigrants are identified and explained.

http://www.hireimmigrants.ca/why

 The Skills Without Borders program has produced an Employers' Resource Guide that includes a section titled 'Why Should Businesses Hire Immigrants?'. http://www.hireimmigrantsottawa.ca/ downloads/Skills_without_Borders.pdf

• The Conference Board of Canada has produced a report titled 'Business Critical: Maximizing the Talents of Visible Minorities'. This Employer's Guide includes a section titled 'The Benefits to Organizations of Focusing on Visible Minorities'. The guide is available through the Conference Board's e-library service. http://www.conferenceboard.ca/

The remainder of this section provides additional references for your further investigation, following the same organization as the document itself.

WHY HIRE IMMIGRANTS

Each of the Employer Guides listed above includes a discussion of why it makes good business sense to hire immigrants. For specific references see the box titled 'It's Just Good Business' on page 5 of this document.

The hireimmigrants.ca initiative offers a downloadable workshop to involve key strategists in your organization in recognizing the value that skilled immigrants bring to the Canadian workforce. This workshop will help you promote discussion of business drivers and analyze strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOTs) to determine if, when and how your organization can benefit. See http://www.hireimmigrants.ca/resources/?resource=workshop&id=1

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LANGUAGE

The Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks (www.language.ca) is the centre of expertise in support of the national standards in English and French. These standards describe, measure and recognize second language proficiency of adult immigrants and prospective immigrants for living and working in Canada. The Centre promotes the recognition and use of the benchmarks as practical, fair and reliable national standards of second language proficiency throughout Canada in educational, training, community and workplace settings.

Centre For Canadian Language Benchmarks Websites:

- www.language.ca is the main website
- www.celban.org is the main website for the CELBAN (Canadian English Language Benchmark Assessment for Nurses) and the online CELBAN Readiness Self-Assessment
- www.itsessential.ca is the website for information and resources about the Canadian Language Benchmarks and the Essential Skills for the Workplace
- elearning.language.ca is the website for CCLB's Online Professional Development resources and the Work Ready: CLB Resource Kit for Counselling and Hiring Immigrants

The Ottawa CLB Language Assessment centre is located at the YM/YWCA. See http://www.ymcaywca.ca/Adults/languagesssessment/

Free online ESL lessons for learners are available at http://a4esl.org

The Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) provides a basis for the mutual recognition of language qualifications, thus facilitating educational and occupational mobility. It is increasingly used in the reform of national curricula and by international consortia for the comparison of language certificates. The Centre for Canadian

Language Benchmarks (CCLB) is monitoring CEFR activities and working to develop comparative mechanisms. http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/CADRE_EN.asp

FOREIGN CREDENTIALS AND WORK EXPERIENCE

World Education Services-Canada (WES Canada)

45 Charles Street East, Suite 700 Toronto, ON M4Y 1S2 Canada Tel. (416) 972-0070 Toll-free 1-866-343-0070 Fax (416) 972-9004 E-mail ontario@wes.org www.wes.org/ca

The Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials (CICIC)

95 St. Clair Avenue West, Suite 1106 Toronto, ON M4V 1N6 Canada Tel. (416) 962-9725 Fax (416) 962-2800 E-mail info@cicic.ca

www.cicic.ca

Comparative Education Service (CES)

University of Toronto Admissions and Awards 315 Bloor Street West Toronto, ON M5S 1A3 Canada Tel. (416) 978-2190 Fax (416) 978-7022 www.adm.utoronto.ca/ces

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International Credentials Assessment Service (ICAS) of Canada

147 Wyndham Street North, Suite 409 Guelph, ON N1H 4E9 Canada Tel. (519) 763-7282 Toll-free 1-800-321-6021 Fax (519) 763-6964 E-mail info@icascanada.ca

www.icascanada.ca

The Canadian Association for Prior Learning Assessment (CAPLA)

PO Box 56001 355 Slater Street Ottawa ON K1R 7Z0 Tel .(613) 860-1747 E-mail info@capla.ca www.capla.ca

Industry Sector Councils

Many industries have national sector councils, in addition to professional associations, that address human resource issues in their specific industry sector. Information on sector councils in general and links to each council can be found through The Association of Sector Councils (TASC) at http://councils.org

WORKING WITH CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

LASI World Skills offers a Workplace Culture Training program. The objective of the program is to provide learners with a foundation of cultural understanding as well as specific tools necessary to develop cross-cultural competence and effectiveness. Training goals include fostering the process of developing concepts and skills that facilitate changes in attitude and behaviour.

LASI World Skills

201-219 Argyle Ave. Ottawa ON CANADA K2P 1H4 Phone: 613-233-0453 ws@ottawa-worldskills.org

PREPARING YOUR WORKPLACE

The Employers in Action highlights strategies to address the challenges faced by employers in hiring and integrating skilled immigrants at skills appropriate levels into the workforce. An implementation template enables employers to measure the outcomes of these activities. The Employers in Action is available online at http://www.hireimmigrantsottawa.ca/downloads/EmployerinAction_ENG.pdf

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There are a number of local mentoring, internship, and bridge training programs. (see http://www.hireimmigrantsottawa.ca/?page_id=6&language=en). These programs help familiarize newcomers with the Canadian workplace and facilitate employers' access to the skilled immigrant talent pool. For further information contact HIO.

The hireimmigrants.ca initiative offers a number of downloadable workshops that have been developed in PowerPoint to help you implement some workplace strategies. See http://www.hireimmigrants.ca/resources/?resource=workshop

The Government of Manitoba Immigration website has produced a guide to hiring immigrants for employers. Pages seven and eight discuss strategies to assess company readiness. http://www.hireimmigrantsottawa.ca/downloads/Manitoba_Guide.pdf