

New Realities, New Opportunities for Immigrants

A remarkable multi-stakeholder council is working in the Toronto area to improve access to employment for immigrants, so they are better able to use the skills, education and experience they bring with them to Canada.

The Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council (TRIEC) is tackling a specific need - the effective integration of immigrants into the labour market - but what makes this collaboration so unique is the diverse membership it has attracted and the number of initiatives and strategies it is pursuing.



Established in September 2003 by the Toronto City Summit Alliance and the Maytree Foundation, TRIEC is comprised of members representing employers, labour, occupational regulatory bodies, post-secondary institutions, assessment service providers, community organizations, and all three orders of government.

Members sit on six very active [working groups](#) that deal with a wide range of issues, from promising practices for employers to mentoring to intergovernmental awareness.

The integration of immigrants into the labour market is a key challenge facing the Toronto Region. The Region receives over 100,000 immigrants each year. They are expected to account for 100% of net labour force growth by 2011 and 100% of net population growth by 2031.



TRIEC's primary goal is to find and implement local solutions that lead to more effective and efficient labour market integration of immigrants in the Region. With 6 out of 10 immigrants forced to make a downwardly mobile shift in career once arriving in Canada, the importance of that goal cannot be underestimated.

TRIEC is focusing on increasing access and availability of value added services that support labour market integration of skilled immigrants, changing the way stakeholders value and work with skilled immigrants and changing the way governments relate to one another in planning and programming around this issue.

Related Links:

- [More on TRIEC](#)
- [TRIEC website](#)
- [Immigrants in Canada's Census Metropolitan Areas](#)