

## ECONOMIC IMMIGRATION



The **LIENS** project aims to integrate francophone immigrants into the provincial economy. We accompany these newcomers as they prepare themselves to work in their new country, as they access their first work experience or as they set up a new business. We've conceived a coaching program to match Island entrepreneurs with immigrant entrepreneurs who've settled on PEI. The LIENS project also continues to promote greater awareness among employers and the public about the value of hiring immigrants. The project coordinator works very closely with our economic immigration officer. Here are their combined statistics.



### IMMIGRANT CLIENTS

- Number of clients: 41 (either here or overseas)
- Number of clients at work: 23 (including interns)
- Number of clients having attained a Working Holiday Visa: 4
- Number of clients having established a business: 5
- Number of clients considering becoming entrepreneurs: 3

### ISLAND EMPLOYERS

- Number of Island employers contacted and informed on benefits of hiring immigrants: 60



### LIENS WORK EXPERIENCE (INTERNSHIPS)

- Number of interns: 10
- Number of employers: 7
- Duration of internships: 10 to 20 weeks
- Types of work: health, daycare and community sectors

### TRAINING FOR IMMIGRANT CLIENTS

- Type of training: basic computer skills
- Number of participants: 5
- Number of courses: 3 series of 3 courses



### WORKSHOPS AND TRADE SHOWS

- Express Entry
- Pre-Departure Program
- 2016 RDÉE Canada-RIM Virtual Employment Fair
- LIENS Coaching Program
- Activities of National Francophone Immigration Week

### AWARDS PRESENTED

- 2015 Diversity Champion: Edgar Arsenault, La Coopérative Le Chez-nous Itée
- 2016 Immigrant Entrepreneur: Laure-Solange Tchamdja, Aldanel Authentic Products

## YOUTH

The primary objective of this sector is of course to help prepare youth for their integration into the work force and to create within them an entrepreneurial and co-operative mindset.

### PERCÉ

Program of paid summer internships, for PEI postsecondary students, in their field of studies (from politics to physiotherapy).

- Number of applicants: More than 100
- Number of interns: 25
- Length of internships: 12 weeks (on average)
- New this year: Number of internships increased by 5, new web site.



### YOUNG MILLIONAIRES

Entrepreneurial training program that helps youth aged 8-16 years establish and operate a business. After a series of workshops on managing a business, we help youth find locations to sell their wares (festivals and events).

- Number of participants: 20 youth from Charlottetown, Evangeline, Souris et Summerside
- Number of businesses: 17
- Sales: \$12,000
- Supports: \$100 grant for individuals and \$150 for partnerships.



### THE GOOD WORKERS YOUTH SERVICES COOP

Co-operative training program that helps youth establish a co-op to offer odd-job services to the community. Branches in the Evangeline and Charlottetown regions.

- Number of participants: 15
- Value of contracts: \$2,628
- New this year: Complete revamping of the program, using the model provided by La Fabrique entrepreneuriale du Québec.



### GARDENS FOR THE FUTURE

Project funded by the Réseau Santé en français I.-P.-É. that gave the opportunity to the members of the Youth Services Co-op to build special picnic tables for the province's francophone Early Childhood Centres (ECC). These tables are equipped with seed trays so the children can plant and harvest vegetables and herbs.

- Number of youth involved: 8
- Number of tables built: 6
- Number of ECCs having received tables: 6



## COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Most of the other projects and economic development initiatives established or supported by RDÉE PEI fall under this general heading.

### SALES MISSION TO QUEBEC

(Oct. 20-23)

- Number of participating PEI businesses: 6
- Number of businesses visited in Quebec: 50
- Number of contracts or sales: 12
- Approximate value of contracts or sales: \$250,000 (to be finalized.)



### 2016 DRAGONS CONTEST

- Number of contestants: 13
- Number of finalists: 3
- Number of spectators at the finals: 100 +
- Number of judges or "dragons": 3 at pre-selection night and 3 at finals
- Winners: Karine Gallant and Iain MacInnes, Productions Piroune (malt house)
- Prize presented to winners: \$10,000 to help with start-up costs



### SUPPORT TO FINALS OF LES JEUX DE L'ACADIE

The entire RDÉE PEI team supported the Finals of the Games in Charlottetown in June 2015, either with the preparation of funding proposals, recruiting of volunteers, accounting, writing of reports and volunteering in various sectors at the Finals.

- Number of athletes: 1,100
- Number of volunteers: 650
- Number of spectators: 20,000
- Economic spin-offs: \$1.7 million



### COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE

- Participation in various committees working on the restructuring of the community governance and the sharing of services

### SUPPORT TO TOURISM AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- Preparation of funding proposals
- Hiring of tourism photographer-videographer for the summer of 2015
- Assisting in the coordination of meetings of the Association touristique Évangéline
- Support in the organization and promotion of community tourism planning events
- Implementation of tourism marketing initiatives
- Support to the project developing the concept of a "citizen school"
- Participation in various tourism trade shows and conferences
- Participation in various local, regional, provincial, Atlantic and national committees

## ACADIAN AND FRANCOPHONE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF PEI



Every year, the **CCAFIPE** organizes activities under the themes of NETWORKING, SHARING and LEARNING to reinforce the business or entrepreneurial capacities of its members. A few of these are recreational. The majority are organized in collaboration with various organizations, most often with the Wellington Rural Action Centre.

### GENERAL ACTIVITIES

- Number of activities organized: 31
- Number of participants: 1,133
- Learning and sharing events: Coaching program, yoga, Etsy, motivational conference with Gaétan Frigon, annual meeting and launching ceremony, preparation of job ads, conference on demystifying numbers with Ron Robichaud, employment standards, welcoming refugees, Pre-Departure program, Members' Luncheon, evaluating job candidates and interpreting financial reports.
- Networking: Business mixers with the Summerside and Charlottetown Chambers of Commerce, joint birthday celebration
- Recreational: Deep-sea fishing, Acadian Golf Tournament (benefit), benefit casino and Christmas party.

### 2016 ENTREPRENEURS' GALA



Twenty-six nominations were received for our 7 awards. About 136 people attended our entrepreneurial recognition gala. The 2016 winners were: Laura Solange Tchamdja from Aldanel Authentic Products in Charlottetown (2016 Immigrant Entrepreneur); Darin Foulkes from Foulkes Productions in Charlottetown (2016 President's Award of Excellence); Sylvette Morneau from Mom's Woodshop in Hunter River (2016 Business Woman of the Year); Nico Durant from LaFun in Mont-Carmel (2015 Young Millionaires Award); Michael MacEwen from Simply Sno-Cones of Charlottetown (2016 Young Enterprising Person of the Year), Velma Robichaud, representing Italo Marzari from Sirenella Ristorante of Charlottetown (2016 Distinguished Entrepreneur), and Edmond Gallant from La Coopérative de développement culturel et patrimonial de Mont-Carmel (2016 Co-op of the Year).



Île-du-Prince-Édouard

Votre conseil de développement économique



Services de développement économique et communautaire  
Business & Community Development Services



ACCOMPLISHMENTS  
2015-2016



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



### Plenty of reasons to celebrate!

This past year, we took the time to celebrate RDÉE Prince Edward Island's 15th anniversary. Looking at the list of projects and initiatives we either developed or supported, how could we not be proud of everything we've been able to accomplish! We have certainly contributed to the economic development of our communities and our province. We have without a doubt helped people – especially our youth – become more “employable”. Thanks to our Acadian Chamber of Commerce and our Rural Action Centre, we have been able to support entrepreneurs on their journey, their training and their search for new markets. Our youth programs have helped develop an entrepreneurial culture in the minds of our young people. We're also helping to repatriate our postsecondary students back to PEI. Our LIENS project is helping us integrate immigrants into the local workforce and into the world of entrepreneurship.

During this 16th year of operation that we've just completed, we have attempted to broaden our services and activities to contribute even more to the development of our provincial economy. A quick glance at this pamphlet will prove that we've accomplished our mission! Thanks to the members of our board of directors for their devotion and congratulations to Bonnie Gallant and her hard-working team who've implemented all of this programming! Thanks also to the funding partners and sponsors who believed in our ability to deliver the merchandise.

Jeannette Arsenault  
President

## CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

### Busy but satisfying year

We've just completed a very busy but very satisfying year since we've been able to attain terrific, tangible results that have contributed to the economic development of the Acadian and francophone community of PEI and to the province as a whole.

For example, we organized the Dragons' Contest, which greatly encouraged entrepreneurial development, and we led a sales mission to Quebec, which generated great sales for our participants. As well, our programs, initiatives and supports have ensured that a substantial number of youth have been able to stay on PEI to make a life and to start a career, that a number of businesses have been established, that a number of newcomers have anchored themselves into the Island community by finding jobs or establishing businesses, etc. In addition, we continue to be actively involved in a Canada-wide network that has several national sector committees. We're working together on national projects that contribute to the development of our provinces.

All of our activities and projects are organized strategically to attain economic, entrepreneurial and employability development objectives. There's still a lot of work to do, but we're really to roll up our sleeves and keep hacking away. Thank you for your support and collaboration!

Bonnie Gallant  
Executive director

## RDÉE PEI TEAM



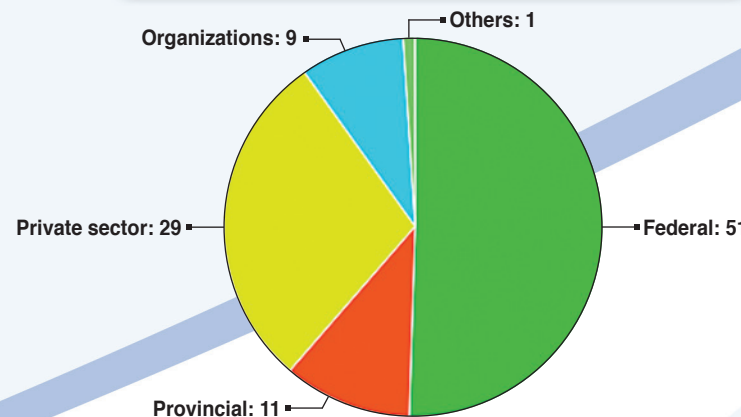
Seated, from left: Robert Maddix, development officer (economic immigration); Bonnie Gallant, executive director; Raymond J. Arsenault, communications officer and Chamber coordinator. Standing, from left, Stéphane Blanchard, development officer (youth); Catherine Rioux, LIENS project coordinator; Velma Robichaud, client services officer of the Wellington Rural Action Centre; Amy Richard, financial administrative assistant; Rachel Chappell, development officer (PERCÉ and Dragons' Contest); and Gregory Urier, development officer (community economic development and tourism).

## ECONOMIC SPIN-OFFS

RDÉE PEI receives an annual contribution of \$520,000 from the Canadian government's Enabling Fund for Official Language Minority Communities, through Employment and Social Development Canada. This amount must be used not only to pay the team's salary and the RDÉE's operating expenses but also as leverage to generate other funds and in-kind contributions for projects for the Island's Acadian and francophone community. We are extremely pleased to inform you that, this year, we have been able to generate three times that amount in financial contributions to reinvest into the community. In addition, we have multiplied these sums six times over in in-kind contributions, either through volunteer time or in various other services.

### Financial contributions generated: \$1,542,553

Federal .....	\$788,331.48 .....	51%
Provincial .....	\$166,680.00 .....	11%
Private sector.....	\$447,152.45 .....	29%
Organizations .....	\$139,389.44 .....	9%
Others.....	\$1,000 .....	1%



### In-kind contributions generated: \$3,188,388

Federal .....	\$98,720.00 .....	3%
Provincial .....	\$2,697,598.00 .....	85%
Organizations .....	\$308,556.50 .....	9%
Private sector.....	\$67 128,00 .....	2%
Municipal .....	\$750.00 .....	0.02%
Various.....	\$15 635.00 .....	0.5 %

**TOTAL FINANCIAL AND IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS  
GENERATED:  
\$4,730,941**

## WELLINGTON RURAL ACTION CENTRE



This centre provides support to entrepreneurial and community development projects in the Evangeline and surrounding areas. Since it is the only bilingual centre in the province, it also supports all francophone projects that could be addressed to the Island's other Rural Action Centres. Development officers and project officers from various federal and provincial departments regularly visit the centre to meet regional clients. The RAC is also the Acadian Chamber's principal partner in the organization of lunch-and-learns, workshops, information sessions and networking events. This year, the RAC developed a new partnership with the Summerside Chamber of Commerce to help deliver its Mentoring Program in French.



## A FEW STATISTICS

**22** New clients served this year

**Returning clients served this year 21**

**21** Number of events co-organized

**Number of participants at these activities 500**

**906** Business visits at the office – in person

**Business phone calls 461**

**419** Information requests by email

**RDÉE**  
**Île-du-Prince-Édouard**  
*Votre conseil de développement économique*

RDÉE Prince Edward Island Inc. is the provincial francophone economic development council of PEI. Its mission is “to contribute actively to entrepreneurial and community economic development within the Acadian and francophone community of Prince Edward Island, while collaborating toward the economic development of the province.”

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**RDÉE** Membre du Réseau de développement  
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**Canada**

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**Canada**

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à [www.rdeeipe.net](http://www.rdeeipe.net), onglet Documentation.)