

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 set up the new Employability and Entrepreneurship Resource Centre in our Charlottetown office. We've continued our coaching program that matches 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 worked very closely with our economic immigration officer. Here are their combined statistics.

IMMIGRANT CLIENTS

- Number of clients: 40 clients on PEI and 27 clients overseas
- Number of clients at work: 22 including interns
- Number of clients having attained a Working Holiday Visa: 4
- Number of clients having established a business: 6 clients, 5 businesses
- Number of clients considering becoming entrepreneurs: 3 potential employers
- Number of clients who have used the Resource Centre: 40 clients

ISLAND EMPLOYERS

- Number of Island employers contacted and informed on benefits of hiring immigrants: 85 (of which 60 participated in our activities)

LIENS WORK EXPERIENCE (INTERNSHIPS)

- Number of interns: 10
- Number of employers: 8
- Duration of internships: 10 to 15 weeks
- Types of work: health, daycare, culinary, community and communications



TRAINING FOR IMMIGRANT CLIENTS

- Type of training: IRCC programs, networking with employers, entrepreneurship, preparation for employment, languages (French or English)
- Number of participants: 70 (some in more than one training)

WORKSHOPS AND TRADE SHOWS

- Breakfast meeting on Express Entry with Canadian Embassy in Paris and IRCC (30 participants)
- Session on employer-client networking in collaboration with ANCPEI (60 participants)
- Session on employer-client networking in collaboration with UPEI (35 participants)
- Workshop during National Francophone Immigration Week in collaboration with CIF (20 participants)
- Destination Canada (promoted 23 positions for 15 employers; received more than 600 résumés)
- Virtual Employment Fair (promoted 6 positions for 4 employers; received 150 resumes)

ASSISTANCE REQUESTS

- 160 requests for assistance received from clients interested in moving to Canada (mostly PEI)

AWARDS PRESENTED

- 2016 Diversity Champion: Isabelle DaSylva-Gill, Charlottetown
- 2017 Immigrant Entrepreneur: Joseph Sammoun, Shaddy's Restaurant, Charlottetown

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.

- Number of applicants: 115
- Number of interns: 23
- Number of employers: 23
- Length of internships: 12 weeks (on average)
- New this year: 5 promotional videos were produced

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: 26 youth from Charlottetown, Evangeline, Souris et Summerside
- Number of businesses: 23
- Sales: \$15,000 (25% increase)
- Profits: \$8,000 (33% increase)
- Supports: Grant of up to \$100 for individuals and up to \$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 Evangeline region.

- Number of participants: 13
- Number of contracts: 19
- Value of contracts: \$3,261 (24% increase)
- New this year: Full implementation of the model provided by La Fabrique entrepreneuriale of Québec.



GARDENS FOR THE FUTURE

This second phase of the project, funded for a two-year-period by Farm Credit Canada's Expression Fund, gave the opportunity to the members of the Youth Services Co-op to build special six additional 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. The youth also set up raised beds as small vegetable gardens.

- Number of youth involved: 16 teens and about 125 children aged 0-5 years
- Number of tables built: 6
- Number of raised beds set up: 12 (2 in each of the 6 regions)
- 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 MONTREAL

(Oct. 31 to Nov. 3)

- Number of participating PEI businesses: 8
- Sectors of participating businesses: Book illustration, digital art, blueberries, fruits and vegetables, sports uniforms, hands-free technology, skin care products, bamboo bicycles.
- Number of potential buyers visited: 72
- Approximate value of contracts or sales: \$150,000 +
- Supports provided: Matching of Island businesses with potential buyers, reimbursement of a portion of trip expenses.



2017 DRAGONS' CONTEST

- Number of contestants: 9
- Number of finalists: 3
- Number of spectators at the finals: 60 +
- Number of judges or "dragons": 3 at pre-selection night and 3 at finals
- Winners: Ghislaine Cormier, Kaneshii Vinyl Press, Charlottetown
- Prize presented to winners: \$10,000 to help with start-up costs, gift certificates, memberships to two Chambers of Commerce.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE

- Participation in various committees working on restructuring community governance and sharing of services (including Developers' Network)
- Preparation of funding proposals
- Management of a project for the preparation of business plans for three new shared services for the Acadian and Francophone community (communications, human resources, research, analysis and planning)
- Participation in the development and implementation of new Global Development Plan



SUPPORT TO TOURISM AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- Preparation of funding proposals
- Support in the organization and promotion of community tourism planning events
- Implementation of tourism marketing initiatives
- Participation in various tourism trade shows and conferences
- Participation in various local, regional, provincial, Atlantic and national committees
- Collaboration in the development of a national Tourism, cultural and heritage corridor.

ACADIAN AND FRANCOPHONE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF PEI

Every year, the CCAFLIPE 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: 29
- Number of participants: 892
- Learning and sharing events: Economic exchanges with St-Pierre-et-Miquelon, "How to increase your profits" with Ron Robichaud, succession by co-operation, eForcePEI (2), Ignition Startup Fund, annual meeting and launching of summer programming, Entrepreneurs' and Co-operators' Luncheon with guest speaker Sébastien Richard speaking on business leadership, ACOA programs, employment standards, Members' Luncheons (2), "How to measure the performance of your employees" with Diana Larivière.
- Special event: Pioneer Fishermen's Luncheon. We honored 32 PEI francophone fishers who were aged 50 years and older and who had at least 20 years of experience.
- Networking: Business mixers with the Summerside and Charlottetown Chambers of Commerce.
- Recreational: Dinner-theatre, deep-sea fishing, Acadian Golf Tournament (benefit), benefit casino and Christmas party.

2017 ENTREPRENEURS' GALA



Twenty-one nominations were received for our seven entrepreneurial awards. About 110 people (including the premier, a minister and two Members of Parliament) attended our business recognition ceremony, the 2017 Entrepreneurs' Gala on March 18 in Summerside. The winners were, from left, Nicole Allain, representing Ten Strings and a Goat Skin (2017 Young Enterprising Person of the Year); Gerald Arsenault from Wellington Service Station (2017 Business Personality of the Year); Claude Gallant from Egmont Bay Construction (2017 President's Award of Excellence); Roger Arsenault, formerly from The Co-operators (2017 Distinguished Entrepreneur Award); Colette Arsenault from Le Chez-Nous Co-operative (2017 Social Economy Business Award); Janika Godin from Jabling (2016 Young Millionaires Award); and Joseph Sammoun from Shaddy's Restaurant (2017 Immigrant Entrepreneur of the Year).



ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2016-2017

Sleeves rolled up and getting down to work

At the end of our 17th year of operation, we really have nothing left to prove. RDÉE Prince Edward Island is recognized as a partner of choice in community economic development and entrepreneurial develop, not only by the Island's Acadian and francophone community but also by federal, provincial and municipal governments as well as the national francophonie. We're being asked more and more to play a role in economic issues of all kinds and to share our experience and expertise with other communities and provinces. Some of our projects, such as PERCÉ and LIENS, are even considered best practices at the national level.

We'll readily admit that reaching this position hasn't been easy. It took a lot of work. Evidently, there's still much work to be done to ensure that our community reaches it full economic potential. But as always, we're ready to roll up our sleeves and to get down to work.

On behalf of the board of directors and the entire community, I want to sincerely thank Bonnie Gallant and the entire team for its great work. Congratulations to the RDÉE, to the Acadian and Francophone Chamber of Commerce of PEI and the Wellington Rural Action Centre for your accomplishments. We also want to thank our funders, sponsors and partners that trust us so much. Your support is greatly appreciated; it is because of this collaboration that we are able to develop such magnificent projects. Finally, I want to thank the devoted members of your board of directors, who guide all of this great work.

Jeannette Arsenault, President



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Entrepreneurial representative – East Prince

HUBERT LIHRMANN
Vice-president
Entrepreneurial representative – West Prince

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Executive member/CCAFLIPE spokesman
Entrepreneurial representative – Queens

LÉO-PAUL ARSENAULT
Entrepreneurial representative – Evangeline

PATRICK VILLENEUVE
Entrepreneurial representative – Queens

MIKE BRADLEY
Entrepreneurial representative
– East Prince

RONALD CAISSIE
Economic development sector
(Société de développement de la Baie Acadienne)

NANCY CLEMENT
Economic immigration sector
representative (PEI Association of Newcomers to Canada)

ALBERT ARSENAULT
Tourism sector representative
(Association touristique Évangéline)

CHRISTIAN LACROIX
Knowledge economy sector
representative (University of Prince Edward Island)

More great successes and achievements

Some days, we get the impression that things are moving nearly fast enough. Other times, it feels like everything is going at a hundred miles an hour! But one thing is for sure: we certainly don't have the time to get bored.

These days, we are perceiving a co-operative energy like we've never felt before within the provincial francophone associations' network... a collective collaboration that will surely thrust us forward into the future. The completion of our Global Development Plan, which for a first time ever is a joint school-community plan, has never been done in our province but we're extremely pleased to see that all facets of the community want to move in a united direction.

Our team has remained very busy throughout the year in implementing and managing various projects, initiatives, activities and services. Our clientele keeps growing so we have the responsibility of serving them to the best of our abilities. We are therefore continuing to improve our skills and are trying, as much as possible, to expand our services to assist as many people as possible.

Again, this year, we've seen some amazing results and successes: our second mission to Montreal yielded some awesome sales, our gardening project multiplied its expanse, our Dragons' Contest gained more momentum and generated some extremely innovative business ideas, our Entrepreneurs' Gala attained new heights, our youth projects attained record participation and we assisted a record number of immigrants. All of that happened while we were actively collaborating towards the establishment of three major joint administrative services for the province's francophone associations

Our approach has always been collaborative and cooperative. Without the help of our partners and collaborators, we would simply not be able to do our work. Our sincerest thanks to all who supported us in one way or another. I too want to thank our team for their hard work and the board of directors for its constant support.

Bonnie Gallant, Executive director



2016-2017 RDÉE PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND TEAM



BONNIE GALLANT
Executive director



AMY RICHARD
Financial administrative assistant



RAYMOND J. ARSENAULT
Communications officer and CCAFLIPE coordinator



VELMA ROBICHAUD
Communications officer and CCAFLIPE coordinator



SYLVAIN DUGUAY
LIENS project coordinator



ROBERT MADDIX
Development officer (Immigration)



STÉPHANE BLANCHARD
Development officer (Youth)



GREGORY URIER
Development officer (Tourism and CED)



JOSÉE OUELLETTE
Development officer (CED)



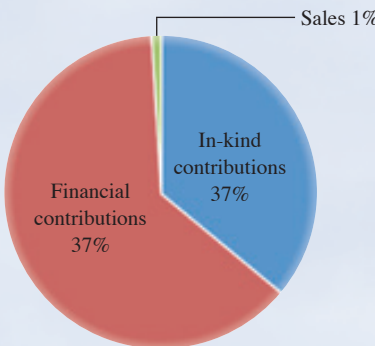
NICOLE ALLAIN
Dragons' Contest and PERCÉ coordinator

RDÉE Î.-P.-É. reçoit annuellement une somme de 520 000 \$ du Fonds d'habilitation pour les communautés de langue officielle en situation minoritaire du Gouvernement du Canada, par l'entremise d'Emploi et Développement social Canada. Ce montant doit être utilisé non seulement pour payer les frais salariaux et opérationnels de l'équipe mais aussi comme levier pour générer d'autres fonds et d'autres contributions en nature pour des projets pour la communauté acadienne et francophone de l'Île. Nous sommes très contents de vous informer que nous avons réussi, encore cette année, à multiplier la somme investit dans le RDÉE et nous l'avons réinvesti dans la communauté. De plus, nous l'avons aussi multiplié à plusieurs fois en contributions en nature, soit en bénévolat ou en services divers.

TOTAL GENERATED CONTRIBUTIONS:

\$2,267,117

In-kind contributions: \$845,498 (37%)
Financial contributions: \$1,397,704 (62%)
Sales: \$23,915 (01%)



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 continued its partnership with the Summerside Chamber of Commerce to help deliver its Mentoring Program in French. Our statistics keep multiplying themselves.

A FEW STATISTICS

	2016-2017	2015-2016
New clients served this year	27	22
Returning clients served this year	49	21
Number of events co-organized	33	21
Number of participants at these activities	813	500
Business visits at the office – in person	1 661	906
Business phone calls	725	461
Information requests by email	870	419



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 to the economic development of the province."

HEAD OFFICE

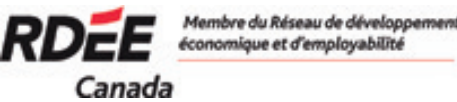
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