



ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA MUNICIPALITIES POLICY BRIEF – April 14, 2022

MINISTER OF ADVANCED EDUCATION, SKILLS AND
IMMIGRATION | JON REYES |

The AMM appreciates the opportunity to meet with Minister Jon Reyes and representatives of Manitoba Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration. The AMM encourages the Province to consider municipal concerns as well as the effects of funding decisions on local communities throughout the budget process. This document outlines the AMM's position and recommendations on a number of important municipal issues relevant to the AESI portfolio. The AMM looks forward to working with the Province of Manitoba to strengthen provincial-municipal growth and partnership opportunities.

TOP POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- Provincial and federal travel restrictions have affected immigration to Manitoba and Canada overall.
- As immigration remains a key pillar of economic development, it is vital that the Province reaffirm its commitment and take steps to further attract, settle and retain new Manitobans as local communities look to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Many communities in Manitoba are pursuing immigration as part of their growth strategy, the municipal-provincial partnership will be key to strengthen and grow local communities moving forward.
- It is vital that the Province help expedite the recognition of foreign credentials so individuals trained abroad can effectively utilize their knowledge and skills to better enter Manitoba's workforce and grow the economy.
- The AMM welcomes the Skills, Talent and Knowledge Strategy to promote positive outcomes, accelerate recovery and inform skills to bolster immigration.

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

1. PROVINCIAL IMMIGRATION STRATEGY

While the Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program (MPNP) has proven useful to responding to local economic and community needs, gaps in providing settlement services, language training and credential recognition remain. This is especially problematic in rural areas, as many communities endure labour shortages of doctors and other health care practitioners.

The AMM recommends the government:

- ❖ ***Consult with the AMM on the development of an immigration strategy.***