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# Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot: About the process

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**i** *This pilot is currently only open to communities*

The information on these pages is for **communities** interested in participating in the pilot. Information for **permanent residence applicants** will be available later in 2019.

## About the pilot

The Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot was developed to help spread the benefits of economic immigration to smaller communities throughout Canada. The Government of Canada will work with local communities to:

- use immigration to help meet local labour market needs and support regional economic development
- test a new pathway to permanent residence in rural Canada for skilled foreign nationals at various skill levels
- create welcoming environments that encourage and help new immigrants to stay in their new communities

We're looking for communities that are interested in participating in this pilot.

If your community is interested, your community must work with a local economic development organization to complete your application. The economic development organization must be the one to submit the application.

The application must have the support of:

- your municipal leader(s) **and**
- a local or regional immigrant-serving organization

## **What is an economic development organization**

An economic development organization would have:

- economic development as a central part of its mandate
- an economic development or strategic plan, or would fall under a broader economic development plan
- available resources to participate in the pilot

This organization could be:

- a community futures organization
- a chamber of commerce
- another independent or not-for-profit economic development organization
- a hybrid organization of a municipality with an independent board of directors made up of community stakeholders

## **If your community is selected**

The community-based economic development organization that submits the application is expected to manage the pilot for your community. This involves working with community stakeholders, including employers, to attract and integrate newcomers.

The Government of Canada will help selected communities establish ways to attract and integrate newcomers to their community.

**Next: Communities that can apply ➔**

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