

## Immigration in Nova Scotia: How will the province look in twenty years?\*

### Overview:

This unit will introduce the topic of immigration to students. Nova Scotia is at an interesting point in its history. For the first time there is a provincial immigration minister and the government has put forth a plan to increase immigration over the next 20 years. According to the recently released "Nova Scotia's Immigration strategy" document:

"We are facing a number of demographic and economic challenges—slow population growth, an aging population, low birthrate, out-migration of our young people, urbanization, low immigration numbers—all of which may lead to labour shortages, slowing demand for goods and services, and increasing fiscal pressures in the years to come.... Immigration is one way by which Nova Scotia can help meet our long-term population, economic, and labour force needs."

According to 2001 census data Nova Scotia saw 41,315 immigrants arrive as opposed to 706,965 and 3,030,075 that arrived in Quebec and Ontario respectively. The following numbers are not bad considering the size of Nova Scotia compared to the other provinces. However what the census does not indicate is the actual number of immigrants that stayed in Nova Scotia to raise their families and join the economy. Also consider Nova Scotia's birth rate for 2004-2005 which is projected to be 9.1, the second lowest in Canada, only Newfoundland was lower at 8.8. Now looking at the death rate for the same period, Nova Scotia has the third highest at 8.9, behind Saskatchewan and Prince Edward Island with 9.2 and 9.3 respectively. By looking at just these two pieces of statistical data it is easy to see that Nova Scotia is in need of immigration to sustain the population.

By having our students research current and past immigration trends we are giving them the knowledge that they will need to make informed decisions regarding immigration in the future. Also we are asking them to think critically about immigration and the issues that are inherent to that topic. We constantly are told that Canada is a mosaic as opposed to a melting pot like the United States, yet many immigrants don't feel at home in many places. These immigrants move to larger centers to get a sense of community, why is this? Why don't new immigrants want to stay in small rural communities or towns, why do a vast majority move to the larger cities? What can we do as Nova Scotians to attract and keep immigrants here and help the province grow and prosper? These are some of the questions that I would like my students to explore. After all it is the students of today who are the future leaders of tomorrow.

\*In this instance this unit is specific to Nova Scotia however it may be adapted to fit any province.

## **Suggested Grade Level-Grade 9 Academic - Public**

### **Essential Graduation Learnings**

#### Citizenship

- Research and evaluate stereotyping and racism issues affecting Atlantic Canadians
- Identify qualities and attributes that individuals need to be effective global citizens

#### Communication

- construct a map of Atlantic Canada and locate on it his/her home community, the capital city for the province, a service centre in their area, and major transportation links
- in a short essay, evaluate the extent to which the two cultures (traditional and popular) affect each other

#### Personal Development

- assess the career opportunities that might be available in Atlantic Canada because of the regions cultural diversity

#### Problem solving

- suggest ways that students can increase awareness of global citizenship in the community at large

### **Specific Expectations**

#### Theme one-Physical setting:

- 1.5 Identify and trace population and settlement patterns affecting Atlantic Canadians from Aboriginal to early new-world migration to present day.
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#### Theme two-Culture

- 2.2 examine and describe contemporary culture in Atlantic Canadian context and its connections to other global cultures.
- 2.5 demonstrate an understanding of the issues and events surrounding cross-cultural understandings at the local, regional and global levels.
- 2.7 demonstrate an understanding of the local and global forces that cause cultures to constantly change.

#### Theme three-Economics

- 3.5 analyze local, regional, and global economical patterns and related issues that are challenging Atlantic Canadians.

#### Theme five-Interdependence

- 5.4 demonstrate understanding that the future well-being of Atlantic Canada involves co-operation with national and global communities.

## **Suggested Time Frame**

- 2 weeks or 10-45 minute classes

## **Materials**

- Internet Access
- A class copy of the Nova Scotian Immigration Document
- Blank Maps of Nova Scotia

## **Resources**

- Nova Scotia's Immigration strategy document

## **Websites:**

- <http://estat.statcan.ca>
- <http://www.statcan.ca/start.html>
- Population and Demography- <http://www.statcan.ca/cgi-bin/downpub/freepub.cgi?subject=3867#3867>
- Population density, births and deaths for selected countries- <http://www.statcan.ca/english/Pgdb/demo01a.htm>
- Population and growth components (1851-2001 Censuses)- <http://www.statcan.ca/english/Pgdb/demo03.htm>
- Population by mother tongue, by provinces and territories (1996 Census)- <http://www.statcan.ca/english/Pgdb/demo13a.htm>

## **Classroom Instruction**

Each class will begin with a mini lesson on where the last class left off and where this class is going. Since the whole unit will be laid out and available to the students to review at anytime the students will be able to refer to that document for many questions. The role as the teacher in this unit is more of a facilitator showing the students where and how they can find the information that they need to answer the questions.

## **Evaluation – Assessment See**

Rubric-Total unit value 70 points.

Portfolio-Students will compile all of their information into a portfolio with clearly labeled sections and index and a title page.

## Stats Can Immigration Rubric

<b>Assignment 1</b>	1. Research fully complete and all questions answered.	10 pts
	2. Some research complete and most questions answered.	5 pts
	3. Very little or no research complete and only a few questions answered.	1 pt
Notes:		
<b>Assignment 2</b>	1. Research fully complete and all questions answered.	15 pts
	2. Some research complete and most questions answered.	5 pts
	3. Very little or no research complete and only a few questions answered.	1 pt
Notes:		
<b>Assignment 3</b>	1. Research fully complete, all questions answered and map prepared neatly including legend.	10 pts
	2. Some research complete, most questions answered and map partially prepared.	5 pts
	3. Very little or no research complete, only a few questions answered and map not complete.	1 pt
Notes:		
<b>Assignment 4</b>	1. Letter is written in proper format and contains relevant data and makes relevant points.	15 pts
	2. Letter is not written in proper format and is contains some information but not all that it could.	7.5 pts
	3. Letter is poorly written and no effort has been put into this activity.	1 pt
Notes:		
<b>Portfolio</b>	1. Portfolio is organized into clear labeled sections and all assignments are included and revisions have been made. Also a title page and index are included.	10 pts
	2. Portfolio is somewhat organized but needs work.	5 pts
	3. Portfolio is poorly organized and is missing many or all of the required components.	1 pt
Notes:		
<b>Internet Usage</b>	1. Student used acceptable internet usage-see school internet policy.	5 pts
	2. Student had to be warned more than once about acceptable internet usage.	3 pts
	3. Student had to be warned more than three time about acceptable internet usage.	1 pt
Notes:		
<b>Class time</b>	1. Student used class time effectively and was on task most of the time.	5 pts
	2. Student was on task less than 50% of the time	3 pts
	3. Student was rarely on task and wasted class time	1 pt
Notes:		
<b>Final Mark</b>		<b>70</b>

**Activity 1-10 pts**

**Name:**

**Date:**

**Class:**

Immigration Research Nova Scotia and the rest of Canada

Go to Statistics Canada's website and look up immigration statistics-

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/Pgdb/demo34a.htm>

Make sure that you get the statistics for Nova Scotia. Look at some of the numbers, and answer the following questions.

1. Where are most of the immigrants coming from? List the top three.

1.	2.	3.
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2. List 5 things that these countries/areas have in common?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

3. List the lowest Three?

1.	2.	3.
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4. List 5 things that these countries/areas have in common?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

5. Out of all of the countries and areas listed pick one and do an in-depth examination by answering the following questions. Use this website

<http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>

Country Name:

Population:

Growth Rate:

Birth Rate:

Death Rate:

Unemployment:

Type of government:

Population below poverty line:

What are some of the issues facing this country:

6. Give 5 reasons why would people from this country want to come to Canada? This may be done in paragraph or point form.

## Activity 2-15 pts

Name:

Date:

Class:

### Nova Scotia Community Profiles

You are going to do some research on the population profiles of 5 Nova Scotian communities, chose three from the list and find two on your own. Use the information that you collect to fill out the chart for each community.

By using this website <http://www12.statcan.ca/english/profil01/PlaceSearchForm1.cfm>.

You should see this on your screen.

#### Welcome to the 2001 Community Profiles

These profiles contain free information for all Canadian communities (cities, towns, villages, Indian reserves and Indian settlements, etc.), for counties or their equivalents and for metropolitan areas, as well as data for 2003 health regions.

Type the "place name" to search for in the box below.

Place name begins with  Place name contains

Place name:

Province or Territory:

In the **place name** field, type in a name from the list below.

Amherst	Wolfville	Truro
Chester	Halifax	Kentville
Yarmouth	Port Hawksbery	Berwick
Shelburne	Digby	Annapolis Royal
Sydney	Pictou	Musquodaboit Harbour
Antigonish	Guysborough	1.
Westville	Liverpool	2.

Use the information that you collect to fill out the chart for each community.

Community Name	
Total Population	
Total Canadian-born population	
Total Foreign-born population	
-Immigrated before 1991	
-Immigrated between 1991 and 2001	
Total Visible minority population	
List the three highest visible minorities	1. 2. 3.

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1. What are some of the similarities that you noticed about the communities you looked at? What are the differences?
  
2. What are some of the possible reasons for the similarities and differences?
  
3. What do you predict will happen to some of these communities if there is little to no immigration to these areas?

4. Compare a community in Nova Scotia to a community in another part of Canada. What do you notice about differences between the Nova Scotian community and the other Canadian community?

### **Activity3-10 pts**

**Name:**

**Date:**

**Class:**

#### Map Activity

1. Identify all of the counties in Nova Scotia and label map accordingly.
2. For each county students will use e-stat to gather information on:
  - major industry
  - unemployment rate
  - major resources
  - demographics
3. After gathering all of this information plot your findings on the provided map.
  - Map Details: Students will be expected to create a legend for any information that is contained on the map. Also each county will be named and the provincial capital correctly identified and named as well.
4. Develop an outlook for the province for the next few years. Summarize your findings in a few paragraphs indicating what areas, if any, will or are in need of immigration immediately and which areas are stable.

## **Activity 4-15 pts**

**Name:**

**Date:**

**Class:**

### Final Thoughts

Using all of the information you have collected and analyzed you are now going to write a formal letter to your member of parliament and member of legislative assembly. In your letter you should summarize your information and indicate some of the possible solutions that you think would make Nova Scotia a more attractive destination for new immigrants to Canada. Let you MP and MLA know that you are concerned about Nova Scotia and that you have though about the immigration issues and that you have some important points to raise.

