

MINISTRY OF JOBS, TOURISM AND SKILLS TRAINING  
AND MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR LABOUR  
**DECISION NOTE**

Cliff #:113743

Date: July 28, 2016

**PREPARED FOR:** Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and Minister Responsible for Labour

**ISSUE:** Allocation of Additional Funding to the Fraser Valley Refugee Response Team

**BACKGROUND:**

- The Province has dedicated \$500K from the \$1M Refugee Readiness Fund to fund five Refugee Response Teams (RRTs) across B.C.
- Funding was allocated to the RRT lead agencies in two instalments to ensure that total funding allocated aligned to the extent possible with the destining of refugees across the province.
- The first instalment of funding was allocated in early March; the second and final instalment of funding was allocated in late June based on April 14<sup>th</sup> landing data.
- Three of the five RRTs (Metro Vancouver, Fraser Valley, Thompson-Okanagan) received small funding increases over and above the original allocation established for the region in the Call for Responses (CFR) and the remaining two regions (Vancouver Island and Cariboo) remained at the original allocation.

**DISCUSSION:**

s.13,s.17

s.13,s.17      New data released in July by the Immigrant Services Society (ISS) Refugee Hub on the final destination of refugees showed a larger number in the Fraser Valley than in Metro Vancouver.

- Upon review, the federal landings data used in April matched the final destination information provided by ISS for the Vancouver Island, Thompson Okanagan, and Cariboo regions, however not for the Fraser Valley and Metro Vancouver regions.
- This discrepancy between the landings data and the ISS data can be attributed to the high degree of secondary migration between these two adjacent regions. The federal landings data captures where refugees initially land; the new data provided by ISS in July captures where refugees have settled permanently.
- Given the original intent of the phased allocation process was to ensure that funding reflected refugee settlement; the FV RRT allocation may be insufficient to support the needs of a larger than anticipated number of refugees destined to Fraser Valley communities.

s.13,s.17

- The Ministry has identified sufficient uncommitted funding<sup>s.13,s.17</sup>  
s.13,s.17  
s.13
- Other RRTs are not expected to raise concerns as their allocations are not impacted and the evidence basis for an increase to the Fraser Valley RRT allocation is indisputable.

**OPTIONS:**

**Option 1:** s.13,s.16,s.17  
s.13,s.16,s.17

**Option 2:** s.13,s.16,s.17  
s.13,s.16,s.17

**Option 3:** s.13,s.16,s.17  
s.13,s.16,s.17

**RECOMMENDED OPTION:**s.13,s.16,s.17

<b>Approved / Not Approved</b>	Date:
Minister's Signature:	

ADM Contact: Rob Mingay, <sup>s.17</sup>  
Prepared by: Lucy Swib, Director, Workforce Development and Immigration Division

Reviewed by			
Dir: LS	ED:	ADM: RM	DM: SB

MINISTRY OF JOBS, TOURISM AND SKILLS TRAINING  
AND MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR LABOUR  
**INFORMATION NOTE**

Cliff #: 113944

Date: August 29, 2016

**PREPARED FOR:** Shirley Bond, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and  
Minister Responsible for Labour

**ISSUE:** Federal Immigration Levels Scenarios for 2017-2019.

**BACKGROUND:**

- The *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA)*, requires the federal Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) to table an immigration levels plan annually by November 1.
- Under the new Federal, Provincial and Territorial (FPT) Immigration Levels Consultation Framework, IRCC has consulted bi-laterally with each PT regarding immigration levels needs.

s.13,s.16,s.17

- On August 17, 2016, IRCC provided PTs with three scenarios for 2017-19 immigration levels (see Appendix A).
- The three scenarios reflect s.13,s.16,s.17  
s.13,s.16,s.17
- IRCC may provide revised scenarios to PTs in mid-September per the FPT Levels Consultation Framework and the nature of PT feedback received. Regardless, PT Ministers will have the opportunity to discuss levels with Minister McCallum at the in-person meeting on October 12.

**DISCUSSION:**

- All three scenarios represent a move toward multi-year immigration levels plans s.13,s.16,s.17
- Each of the three scenarios has the same levels for 2017 s.13,s.16,s.17

s.13,s.16,s.17

s.13,s.16,s.17

s.13,s.16,s.17

s.13,s.16,s.17

- It is challenging to accurately estimate PT nomination allocations based on the levels targets in the scenarios. Levels admissions targets are inclusive of spouses and dependents and may include processing of nominations received in a previous calendar year. In addition, s.13,s.16,s.17  
s.13,s.16,s.17
- It is anticipated that BC will start to get s.13,s.16,s.17  
s.13,s.16,s.17  
s.13,s.16,s.17
- In Scenario 1, s.13,s.16,s.17  
s.13,s.16,s.17

**NEXT STEPS:** JTST staff will inform IRCC that the Province is most supportive of s.13,s.16,s.17 it most closely aligns with BC's levels ask and labour market evidence. Staff will press IRCC to begin bilateral discussions regarding PNP allocations as soon as possible.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Appendix A: s.13,s.16,s.17

Contact: Rob Mingay, Assistant Deputy Minister, WDID  
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Reviewed by				
Dir: CH	ED: CH (for CN)	ADM: RM	DM: SB	MIN:

Page 5 to/à Page 7

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16;s.13;s.17

MINISTRY OF JOBS, TOURISM AND SKILLS TRAINING  
AND MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR LABOUR  
**BRIEFING NOTE**

Cliff #: 113947

Date: August 30, 2016

**PREPARED FOR:** Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and Minister Responsible for Labour.

**ISSUE:** Update - Whistler Renaissance project

**BACKGROUND:**

- In April 2016 Whistler Blackcomb (WB) announced plans for the Renaissance development, a multi-year, \$345 million investment that will diversify Whistler's tourism economy, provide new four-season, weather-independent activities, and improve the current skiing, mountain-biking and sightseeing experiences.
- Elements include:
  - Indoor adventure centre ("The Watershed");
  - Indoor sports complex;
  - Hotel and town home development<sup>s.13</sup>
  - Revitalization of Blackcomb's base areas; and,
  - Enhanced existing infrastructure.
- It is estimated the construction period for phases one and two will be approximately four to five years with The Watershed being open two years following receipt of all approvals.
- WB acknowledged this investment is subject to satisfying a number of conditions, including municipal and provincial government approvals, as well as the successful renegotiation and extension of WB's Master Development Agreements (MDA) and Master Plans, the completion of consultations with the Squamish and Lil'wat First Nations and finalization of a proposed business partnership with those First Nations.
- These plans align with the Resort Municipality of Whistler's (RMOW) efforts to build their shoulder season and reduce dependency on the ski season.
- On August 8, 2016 Vail Resorts Inc. (Vail) announced its plans to purchase WB for \$1.4 billion, maintaining it is "committed to protecting the unique Canadian character and identity of Whistler Blackcomb".
- The sale will be subject to Investment Canada review, now underway and expected to be complete by October 2016.
- Vail has stated it will continue to support the Renaissance investment.

**DISCUSSION:**

- The BC Government provides considerable financial support to the RMOW through the Resort Municipality Initiative (RMI), which provides incentive-based funding to assist resort-oriented municipalities to enhance the communities' tourism experience and infrastructure.

- Vail has confirmed their commitment to relationships with key tourism stakeholders, including Destination BC, Tourism Whistler and RMOW, as well as continuing existing financial commitments to key Whistler-based tourist organizations. These are important partners and co-funders for a number of the RMI-funded projects.
- In addition, Robert Katz, CEO, Vail has met with the Squamish and Lil'wat Nations and confirmed their support for the joint partnership proposed between the First Nations and WB.
- While discussions on RMOW's official community plan continue, finalizing the MDA is viewed as more probable in the short-term. The MDA includes a proposed increase in the incremental royalties paid to First Nations.

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

1. Investment Canada to approve sale of WB to Vail.  
s.12,s.13,s.17

3. Finalize renewal of WB's MDA.

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