



A network of networks
building connections for
immigrant employment

About the Professional Immigrants Network initiative (PINs)

- Together, TRIEC, immigrant networks and partners are building a strong network of networks that creates opportunities for immigrants to connect to employment.
- PINs is both an online community and a program of strategic initiatives that:
 - Builds the capacity of immigrant networks
 - Makes connections between networks and key partners – employers, professional associations, service providers, government and others
 - Develops and empowers network leaders
- Professional immigrant networks are organized, volunteer-run, member-based associations or networks created by and for immigrant professionals that seek to:
 - create a forum to contribute to and enrich their respective communities;
 - provide opportunities for their members to find meaningful employment and achieve their professional goals
- Connecting to Professional Immigrant Networks has benefits for many different groups:
 - *For immigrants* – the lack of a professional network is a major barrier to finding meaningful employment and connecting with these networks is a key strategy to overcoming this barrier.
 - *For employers* – PINs can connect employers directly to new talent pools and open direct channels of communication with target markets.
 - *For stakeholders* – PINs can serve as a channel to promote programs and services for new, established and prospective immigrants.
- The PINs website (www.NetworkForImmigrants.ca) is a new tool to raise awareness about these networks and the benefits of engaging them. It makes it easier for immigrants, employers and other stakeholders to connect with the networks.
- The PINs website has a number of features on both a public and community side. The public side features a network directory searchable by profession or ethno-cultural group, success stories, an event calendar and background on the network of networks.
- The community side is a log-in section where immigrant network leaders and partners can learn about the networks, connect and share resources and information. Features include messaging functions, discussion boards, a resource library and a skills and resource exchange board.
- PINs is sponsored by Scotiabank, funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada and an initiative of the Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council.

About the Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council (TRIEC)

- TRIEC creates and champions solutions to better integrate skilled immigrants in the Greater Toronto Region labour market.
- TRIEC brings together all stakeholders through a leadership council – employers, regulatory bodies, professional associations, educators, labour, community groups, government and immigrants – to develop local and practical solutions so that the Greater Toronto Region prospers by fully engaging the contributions of skilled immigrants.

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