



*International migration in contexts of population aging,
population loss and economic disparity:
Comparing second-tier cities in Atlantic Canada and the U.S. Rust Belt*

Yolande Pottie-Sherman | Memorial University

Welcoming immigrants represents a promising way forward for second-tier cities in Atlantic Canada and the U.S. Rust Belt, two regions experiencing longstanding demographic and economic crises. In both regions, immigrant populations tend to be relatively small, but local actors increasingly promote welcoming as a population growth and economic diversification strategy. This presentation takes stock of existing research on the role of immigration in contexts of population aging, population loss and economic disparity. It compares policies and initiatives surrounding immigration and welcoming in Atlantic Canada and the U.S. Rust Belt, highlighting commonalities and divergences in the two regions' approaches to and framing of international migrants. The presentation addresses whether the policy "promises" made about immigration and related demographic and labour market changes are warranted in light of the scholarship.