Many paths, many destinations: Devolution of settlement and selection policy in Canada
Overview

- The constitution, federalism, and immigration.
- Federal primacy.
- Devolution in Quebec.
- Devolution in other provinces.
- Modern developments and implications
The Canadian Constitution & Federalism

Implications for Immigration
Canadian Constitution & Federalism

- Federal/Provincial division of powers.
- Fairly decentralized system.
- Executive federalism.
- s. 95.
Immigration in Canada
A Very Short History
Immigration in Canada

- Historical immigration flows.
- Changes under point system.
- Original immigration from Europe.
- Increase in late 80s.

[Graph showing Canada's permanent residents from 1860 to 2010]
Federal Primacy: 1867-1970s

- Little provincial role.
- Federal government controls levels, criteria, and selection.
- Few settlement services.
- Lack of competence and interest for provinces.
Devolution in Quebec 1970s-1991

- New views on immigration.
- Negotiations with federal government
  - Four agreements.
  - Starts with foreign counseling.
  - Consultation on levels and selection.
  - Full devolution of selection and settlement.
Devolution in English Canada: 1990s-present

- Federal government offers to devolve settlement authority.
- British Columbia and Manitoba accept.
- All provinces sign individual agreements.
  - Fully devolved.
  - Heavily devolved.
  - Formal consultation.
Provincial Nominee Program

- Provincial immigrant selection.
- 11 independent agreements.
- Modest beginnings.
- Dubbed a qualified success.
Provincial Nominee Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province/Territory</th>
<th>Date of First Signed PNP Agreement</th>
<th>Start of PN Program in P/T</th>
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<tr>
<td>Newfoundland and Labrador</td>
<td>September 1, 1999</td>
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<td>New Brunswick</td>
<td>February 22, 1999</td>
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<td>Manitoba</td>
<td>October 22, 1996</td>
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<td>Yukon</td>
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<td>August 27, 2002</td>
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<td>November 21, 2005</td>
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<td>Northwest Territories</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Family Class
- Provincial Nominees

%22%
%13%
Provincial Nominee Program

Recent developments and observations

new frontiers or REversing the trend?
Recent Developments

- More provinces want devolution
- PNP cap.
- Federal focus on backlog.
- More economic class, less family class.
Observations

- Flexibility of interprovincial agreements.
- Asymmetry.
- Impacts of devolved settlement.
- Impacts of devolved selection.
Thank you!