

gram. Programs such as interpretation, translation, information, referral, counseling, reception and employment-related services will no longer be governed by a 36-month Canadian residence criterion and all immigrants, regardless of their length of residence, will now be eligible for these services.

RECOMMENDATION:

The proposed Ministry of Multiculturalism should amend funding criteria for an organization or project for a second and third year with a minimum of resubmission preparation.

INCREASED FUNDING FOR ETHNIC/RACIAL GROUPS AND BROADLY BASED GROUPS

Dilemma: The Committee was faced with the dilemma of recognizing the need for organizations such as the Greek Canadian Cultural and Educational Society of Thunder Bay, which service one group, because of the well-documented psychological support such organizations provide, while also recognizing the need to have members of all racial and ethnic groups avail themselves of the services and activities of the more universal organizations such as Neighbourhood Houses.

Human: Broadly based community organizations are necessary to deal with everyday problems affecting all minorities, to improve the quality of life, to provide human resource development and to promote volunteerism and participation in community activities.

Interests: The Committee agrees with the view that racial harmony is best served by helping minority communities to strengthen themselves and deepen their sense of ethnicity and to become more vocal and self-confident in pursuing their interests and expressing the richness of their culture in Canadian society.

Underfunded: There is a need to make adequate sustaining grants to strengthen the organization of new visible minority associations. There is a gap between the need and availability of funds for such organizations as the National Black Coalition of Canada, the National Association of Canadians with Origins in India and the Chinese Canadian National Council. Each of these organizations now receives inadequate funds. Such underfunding makes extremely difficult the hiring of an executive director and the acquisition of the necessary expertise to make presentations to decision-making bodies. The Committee feels the minimum requirement for such purposes should be provided.

Long-Term: There is also the question of grants for specific projects. Hypothetically, a program for developing organizational and leadership skills in the Black community in Nova Scotia, for example, should have funding over a number of years. Social development strategy should be like industrial development. Both must be conceived and administered from a long-term perspective. There are a number of positive examples of such organizations.

RECOMMENDATION

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