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The Looking West 2004 policy priorities data demonstrate that Manitobans do not see immigration as key to the future of their province: less than two in ten (17.3%) Manitobans feel that attracting more immigrants is a high priority for long-term provincial prosperity and quality of life, while over four in ten (43.9%) feel it is a medium priority. Almost four in ten feel immigration is either a low priority (22.9%) or not a priority (8.1%).

Yet despite this, Manitobans do view their communities as being welcoming environments. Looking West 2004 respondents were asked, "How welcoming would you say your local community is to new immigrants? Very welcoming; somewhat welcoming; not very welcoming; not at all welcoming." Almost nine in ten (89.1%) Manitobans state that their community is either very welcoming (44.2%) or somewhat welcoming (44.9%). Less than one in ten (6.3%) states that their community is not very welcoming (5.3%) or not at all welcoming (1.0%). Variations by urban size are modest.



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