Census illustrates tale of two cities

Immigrant population growth lags

BY SHARON BOASE

If Hamilton was doing a job of wooing new immigrants, it would dramatically improve its flagging population growth lags.

"We are a competitor, not only with Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver, but Ottawa, Edmonton, Mississauga," said Matt Macdonald, director of the Centre for Civic Infusion.

"We really need more people with different competencies and perspectives on our waterfront, our environment, our sustainable and connected neighbour-

hoods. That's how we're going to have to encourage growth, " noted W ard 1 Councillor Brian McHattie.

The city has a few initiatives in the works to address the problem, including an immigration strategy, which is still being drafted, aimed at trying to find ways to bring immigrants into the region.

Next week, the Hamilton Inmigrant Network will hold a town hall with all community ele-

ments to help them understand the role and outcome of including immigration, hiring, promotion and retention pro-

grams.

A11-Kathryn #

Great school, but jobs are elsewhere, says engineer

When Fred Vallance-Jones came to Hamilton five years ago, he was excited about studying engineering at McMaster University.

Now, less than a year after he landed his internship, he's planning to leave the city.

"I'm looking at alternatives," the 26-year-old公用事业．

While that's a common reason people leave the city, there are less obvious reasons. Many young people leave because their jobs are elsewhere, says Welland's Mark Cocca.

"It's not far to the stores, close to the bank and very close to church."