

The Science of Settlement and Integration

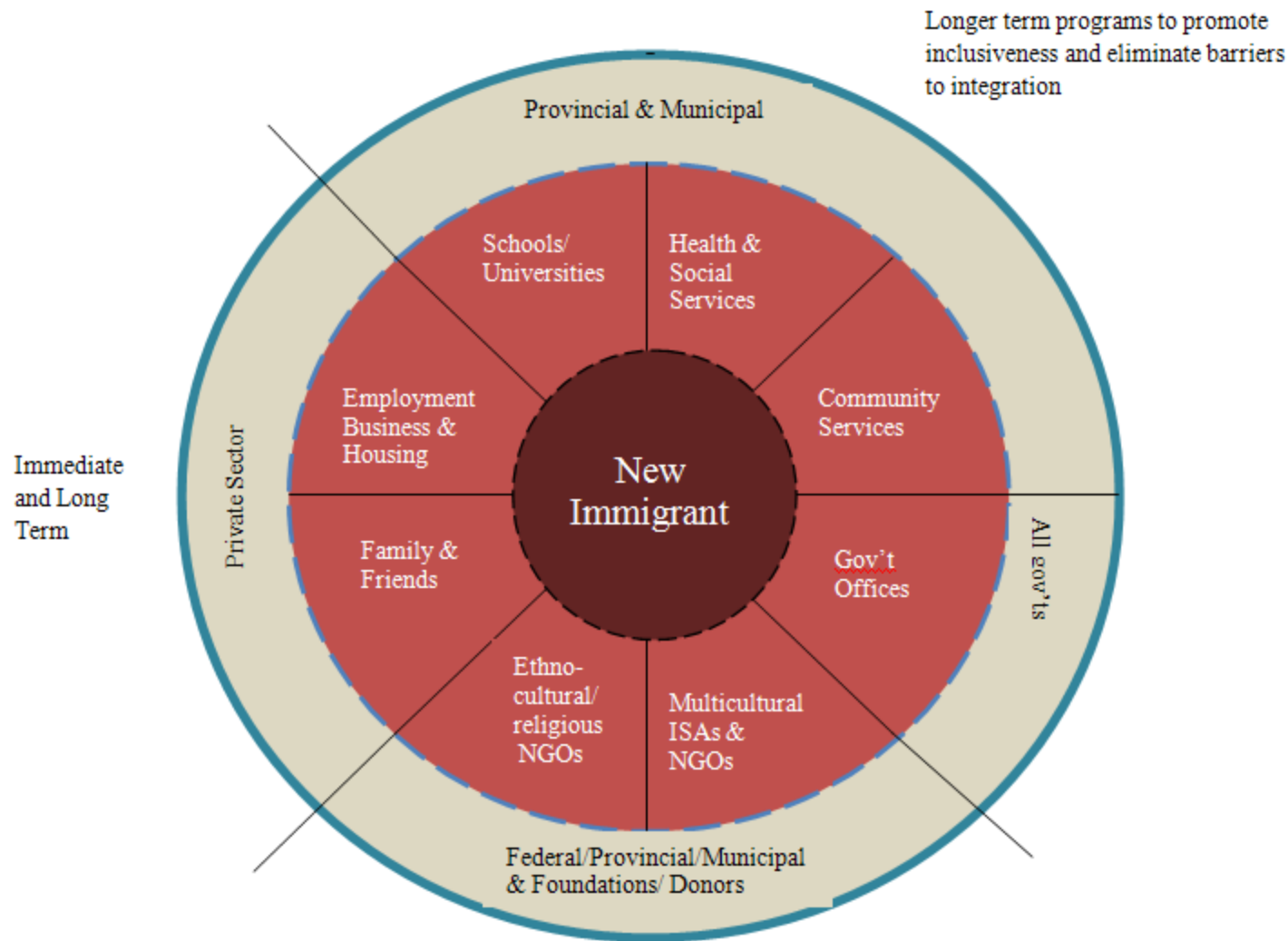
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Albert Integration Summit

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ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF IMMIGRANT SERVING AGENCIES

**Immigrant Integration and Inclusion:
Investigating the Canadian
Partnership Model from a
Complex-System Perspective**

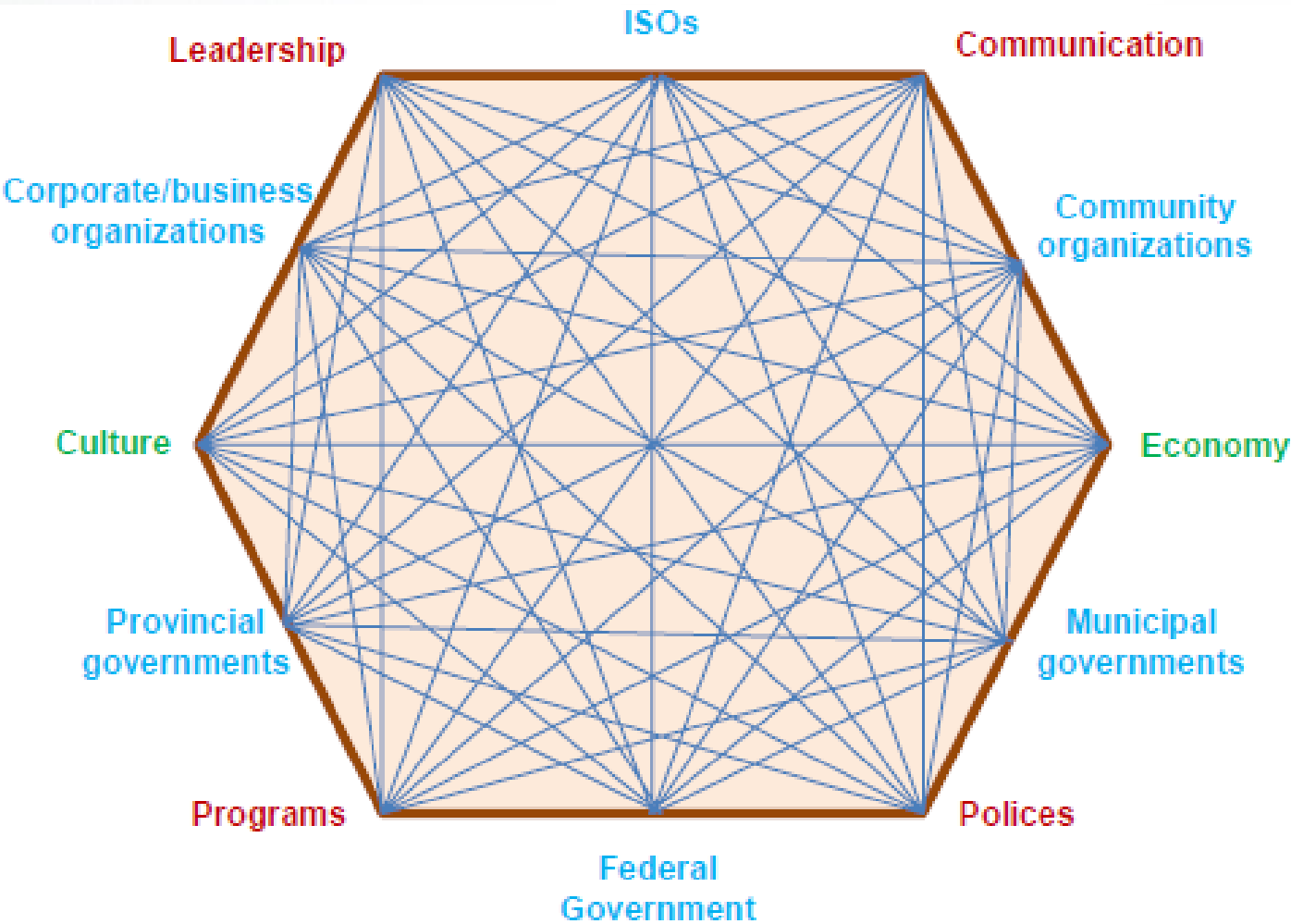
- The integration of newcomers to Canada and the creation of an inclusive Canadian society is a complex undertaking that involves many players working together in various formal or informal partnership arrangements.
- The main task at hand is to examine how the elements of this partnership work together to serve both the new immigrant and Canadian society as a whole.

Model of services for integration and inclusion



Mostly short term programs to help immigrants get settled and find employment during their first three years. Some longer term multicultural and antiracist programs

Relationship among System Components



Many studies have separately examined individual aspects of the model; however, examining complex social systems requires studying not only its components, but also how they are related (Ostrom, 2009).

Key Findings



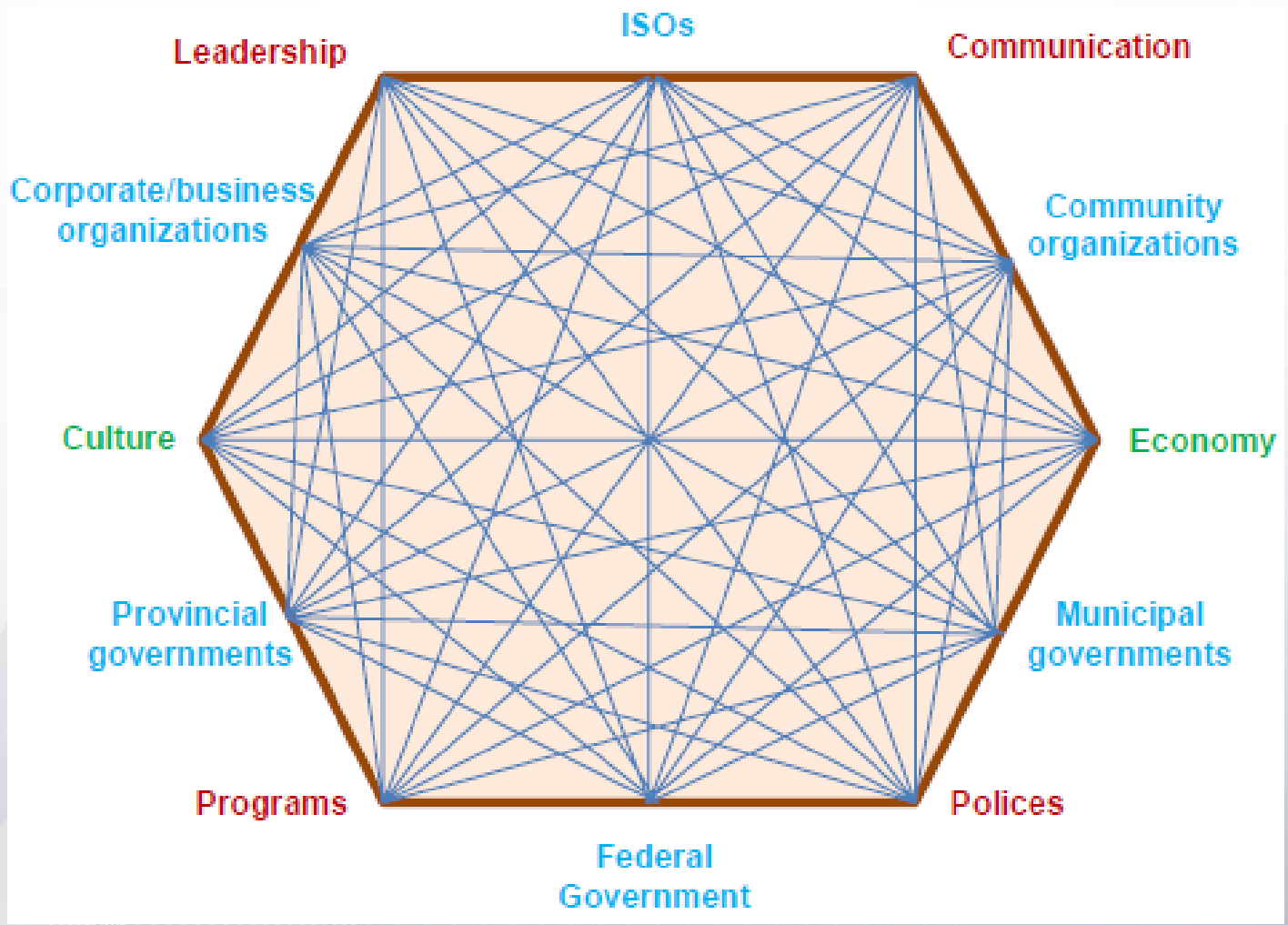
A new level of self-organizing collaborative partnerships has evolved in the form of wider intersectoral partnerships mostly at the local/municipal level.

Image from:
<http://www.openspaceworld.org/cgi/netwiki.cgi?SelfOrganizingWorld>

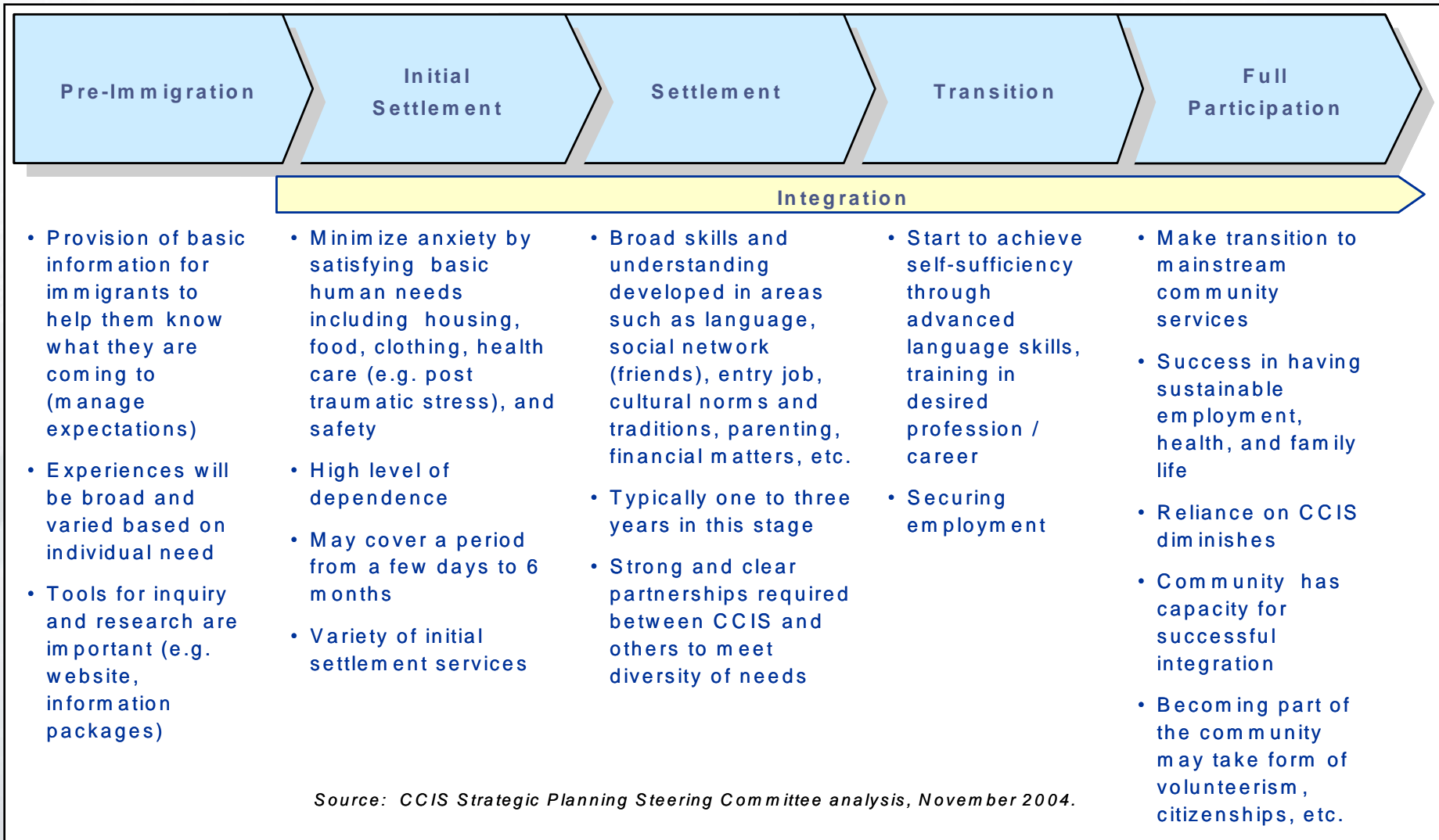
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Key Findings

- There is good evidence of co-evolution. One example is how the concept of integration has evolved from an expectation of unilateral movement by the immigrant towards the host culture, to recognizing bilateral responsibility for integration.
- The very concept of what it means to be Canadian has co-evolved with the influx of immigrants.
- There are key differences between the government sector on the one hand and the ISO sector on the other as to what constitutes effective integration, effective service delivery and effective partnerships.



Services Continuum



Things to think about

- Recognize and develop expertise in formulating immigrant-friendly policies and practices
- Pay attention to research findings and make resources available for local research on settlement and integration
- Remember settlement and integration is a process that requires careful planning to make it work for all; newcomers and community