

# **‘Transitional’ foreign workers in the community: Facilitating settlement needs in Brandon, Manitoba**



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# Session Outline

- Municipal government's role
- Temporary foreign workers (TFWs) & the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP)
- Settlement needs of TFWs in Brandon
- Settlement challenges
- Impacts for Brandon & area
- Looking forward

# Municipal Government's Role

- **Communication**
- **Statistics / projections**
- **Trends – identify & educate**
- **Facilitating body**
  - **Bridge between business & service providers**
- **Neutral & broad picture perspective**
  - **Labour market opinions**
  - **Identify linkage opportunities**

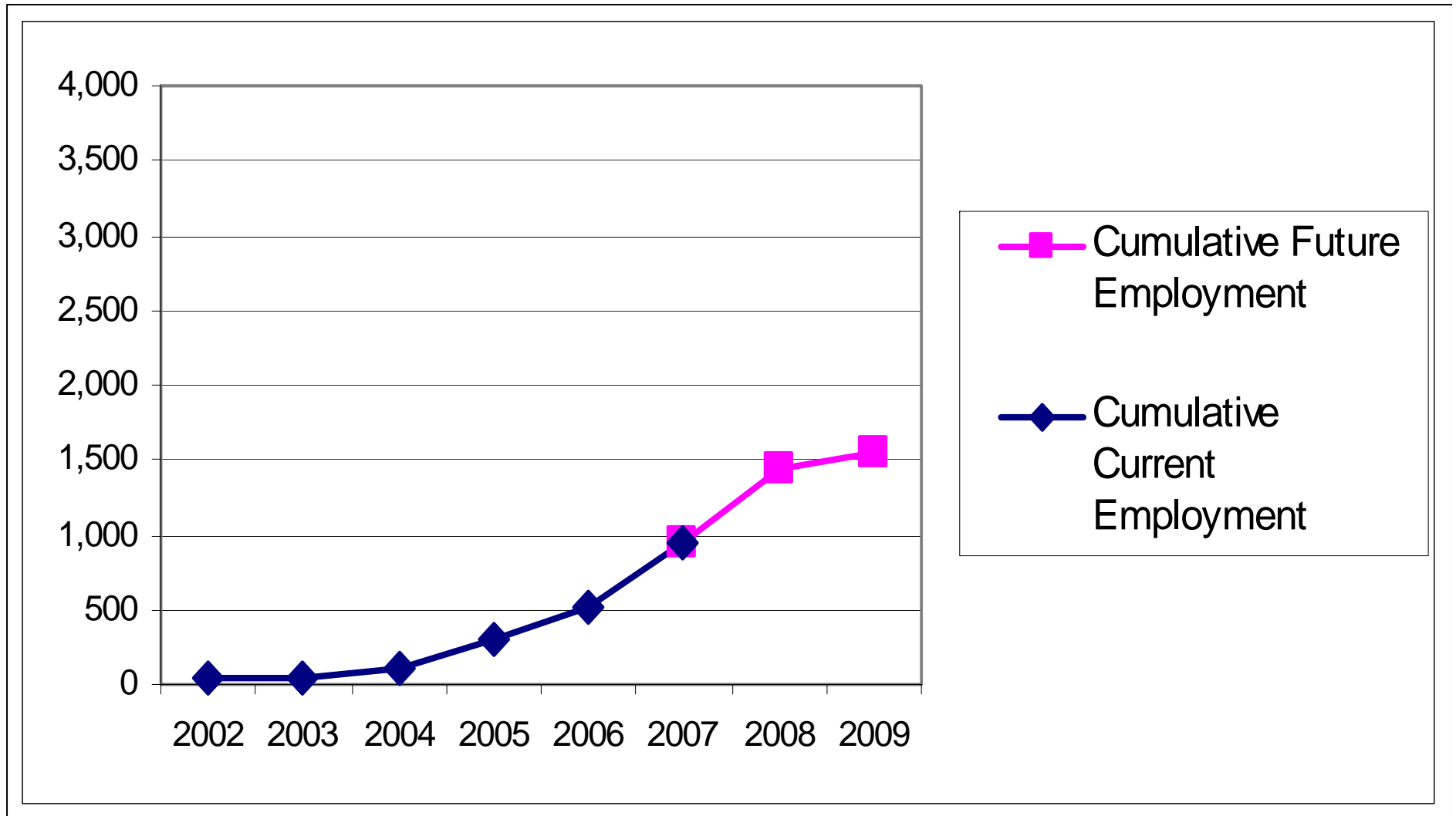


# **Municipal Government's Role** cont'd

## ■ **Fill the gaps when possible**

- **Socio-economic impact studies**
- **Housing supply & demand studies**
- **Stakeholder newsletter quarterly**
- **Chair of the Immigrant Services Network Coordinating committee**
- **Early stages – translated settlement package & prepared cultural awareness info**
- **Website section dedicated to Maple Leaf Foods (MLF)**

# TFW Estimates, 2007-2009



Source: Economic Development Brandon (2007), Maple Leaf Foods (2008)

# Temporary is not always temporary

## TFWs to Provincial Nominees (PN)

- Can apply to PNP after 6 months of working in Brandon
- In 2007, 536 of TFWs working at MLF applied to PNP & 533 have been approved – ‘temporary’ is not always ‘temporary’.
- Allows family reunification



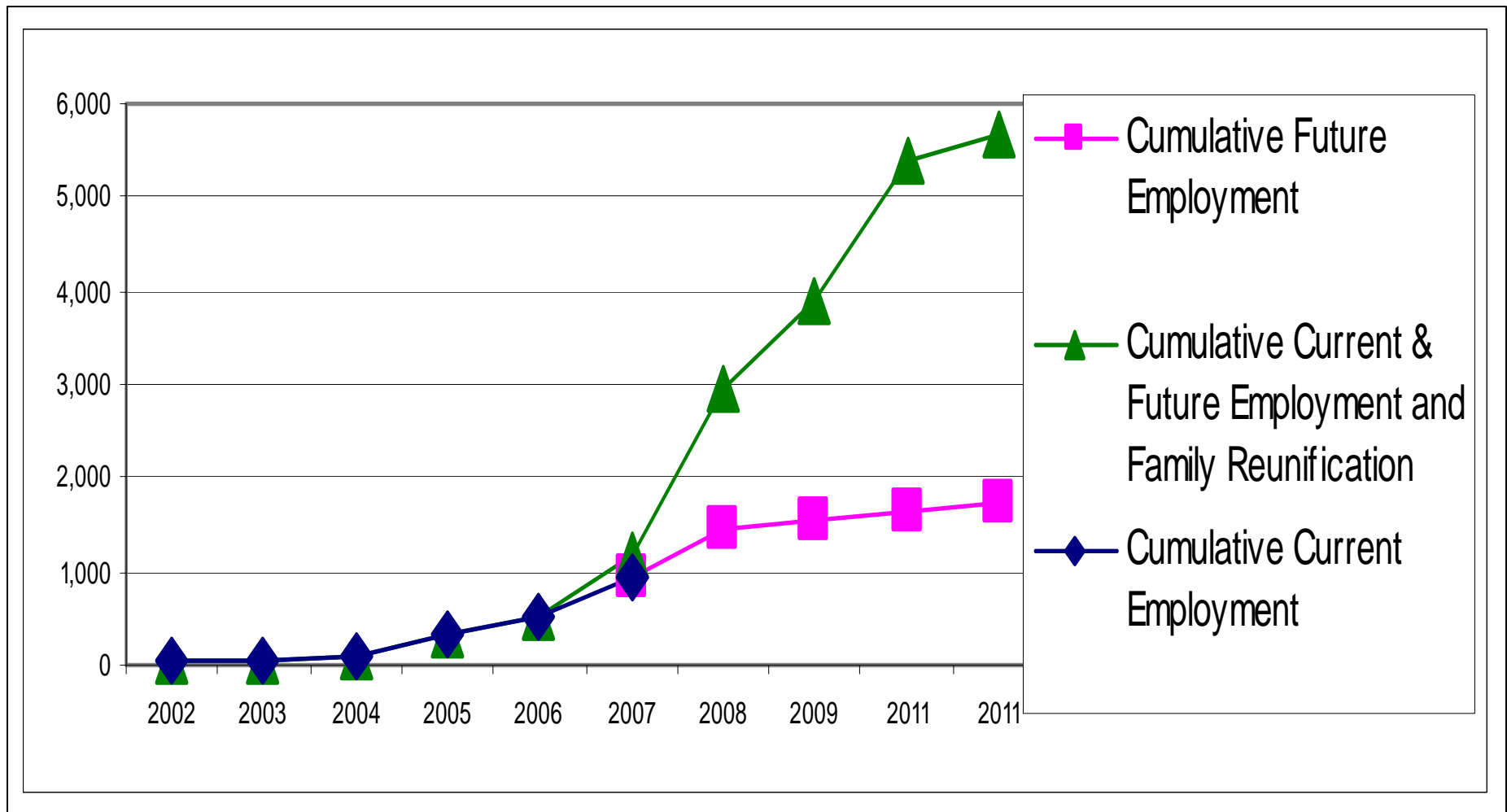
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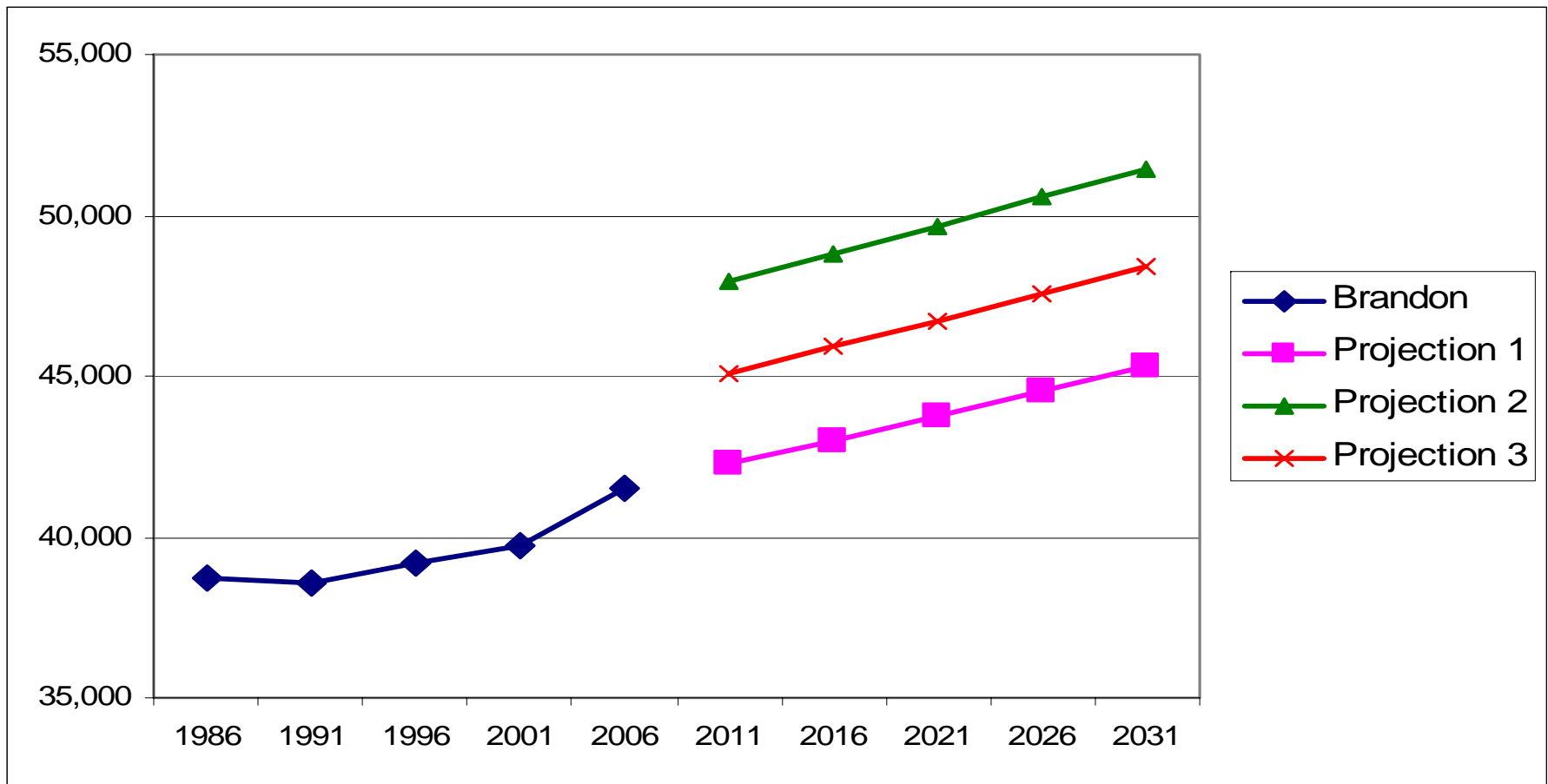
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# TFW Estimates, 2007-2011 with Est. Family Arrivals



Source: Economic Development Brandon (2008)

# Population Projection Scenarios for Brandon, 2011-2031





# Settlement Needs

## Initially

- EAL classes
- Housing
- Health care
- Transportation

## After receiving PN status

- Family reunification
- Employment
- Education



# Settlement Challenges

- Rapid demographic change impacts & challenges rural municipal governments & service providers.
- Temporary to permanent
- Language barriers
- TFWs have not been eligible for settlement services
- Access to information & data
- Families & housing

# Impacts for Brandon & area

## Service Provision Examples

### ■ Education

- Suggested class size is 25 students
- Approximately 1300 new students are anticipated through family reunification

### ■ Family Physicians

- Suggested patient load is 1,500 patients per physician
- At least 2 more physicians will be required to serve TFWs & family members



# Looking forward

## Ensuring successful settlement in the community

- Create & deliver a community orientation & settlement strategy
- Communication & information sharing amongst stakeholders regarding numbers of arrivals (TFWs & families).
- Plan proactively & community 'readiness'
- Ensure a welcoming community

# **‘Temporary’ to ‘Transitional’**

- **Importance of seeing recruits as ‘transitional’**
- **‘Temporary’ implies temporary needs for service provision**
- **Must develop local settlement strategies that acknowledge the transitional nature of temporary foreign workers.**



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