APPENDIX B

PROJECT COORDINATOR TEST AREA REVIEW

Project Coordinator Test Area Review

The Statistics Canada information was a starting point in identifying populations. More specific information related to the test area was obtained through a variety of interviews and sources.

The Project Coordinator received assistance in identifying the population's make-up and communication requirements from a number of local people. The City of Brandon City Clerk's Office and the Economic Development staff reported that information that would identify where in the City people of diverse culture and language reside is not available. They did provide contact information for a number of organizations that work with newcomers to Brandon.

The Westman Multicultural Council identified Spanish as a language that a number of newcomers to Brandon used. They provided a resource contact for translation. The Adult Learning Centre reported that newcomers to Brandon were speaking Spanish, Romanian and Ethiopian (Amharic) languages. Westman English as a Second Language reported Korean, Ethiopian, Chinese, and possibly French as being required. They provided translations of basic information for Korean and Chinese.

Assistance in understanding the population was also received from City Councillors. Don Jessiman, Councillor for Green Acres Ward, reported that he had not run into anyone in his ward that had been unable to communicate in English. Errol Black, Councillor for Riverview Ward reported that he was aware of some people who may not have a good working knowledge of English. They were identified as Korean and Ethiopian but he was unable to provide their location within the ward. He was uncertain if First Nation's people would require translation of information.

Staff at the Brandon Friendship Centre reported that the First Nation's population within Brandon functioned in English although many spoke other languages as well.

Through word of mouth the Project Coordinator made contact with Deon Viorobe, a Nigerian immigrant who indicated that there was a Nigerian population of approximately 100 people living in Brandon. All of these people were reported to have a good working knowledge of English.