Towards an Access Without Fear Policy for the City of Winnipeg



Social Planning Council
of Winnipeg



Immigration
Partnership
Winnipeg

IRCOM INC.
Immigrant and Refugee
Community Organization of Manitoba

MIGRANTE
MANITOBA

Migrant Worker Solidarity Network

Access Without Fear Policy

Ensures that all residents have access to all city services regardless of their immigration status

Undocumented Migrants in Canada

Approximately 500,000 people without status in Canada
(RCMP, 2007)

How do undocumented migrants first arrive in Canada?

Temporary Foreign Workers

Refugees & Refugee Claimants

Visitors and students

Permanent residents

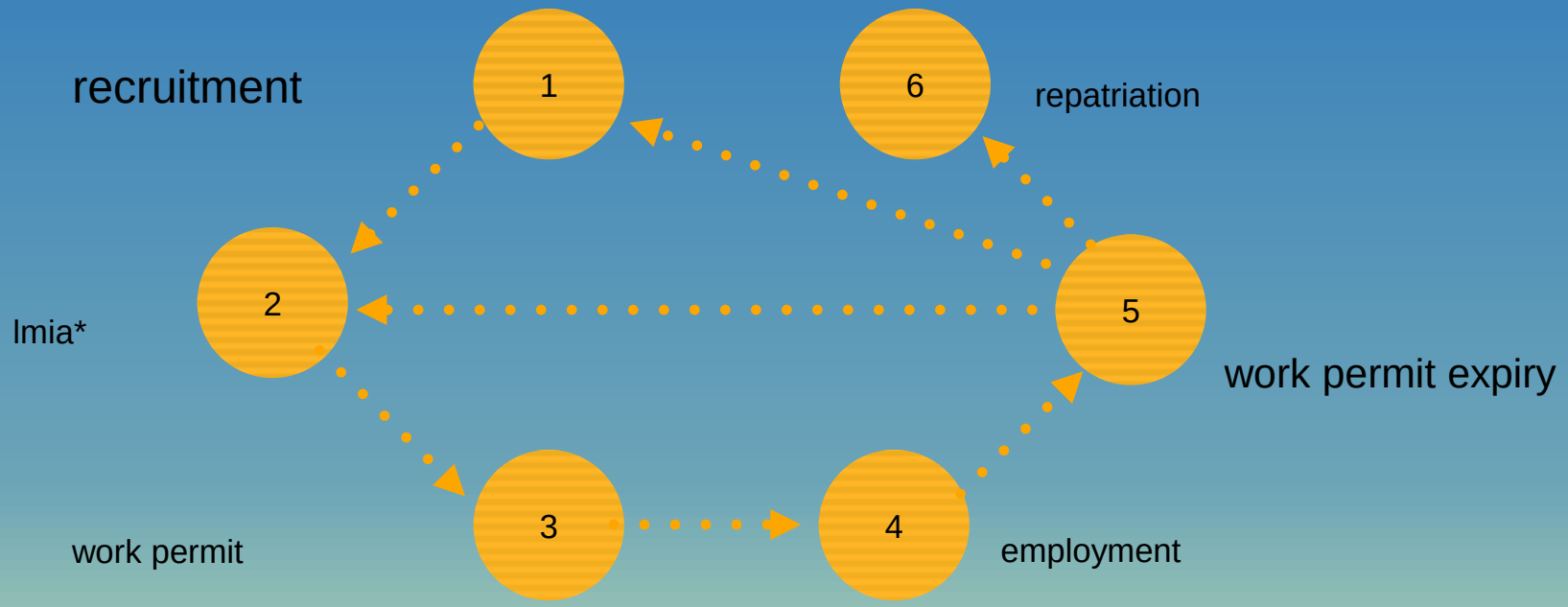
How do undocumented migrants lose their status?

Permanent Residents

Refugees/Refugee Claimants

TEMPORARY FOREIGN WORKER PROGRAM

EMPLOYMENT PROCESS



*labour market impact assessment (formerly labour market opinion)

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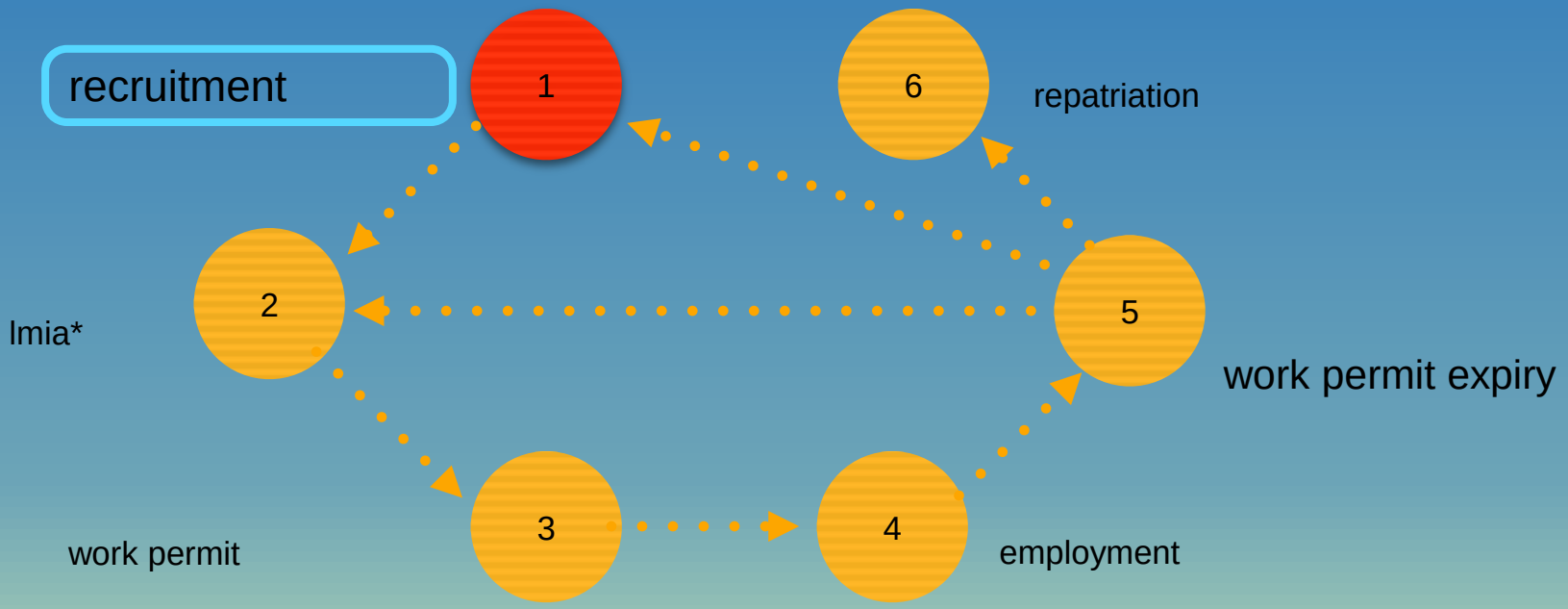

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SYSTEMIC BARRIERS TO THE **RIGHTS** & **WELFARE** OF **TEMPORARY FOREIGN WORKERS** | **WHAT DOES "TEMPORARY" MEAN FOR MIGRANTS IN MANITOBA?**

MIGRANTE MANITOBA

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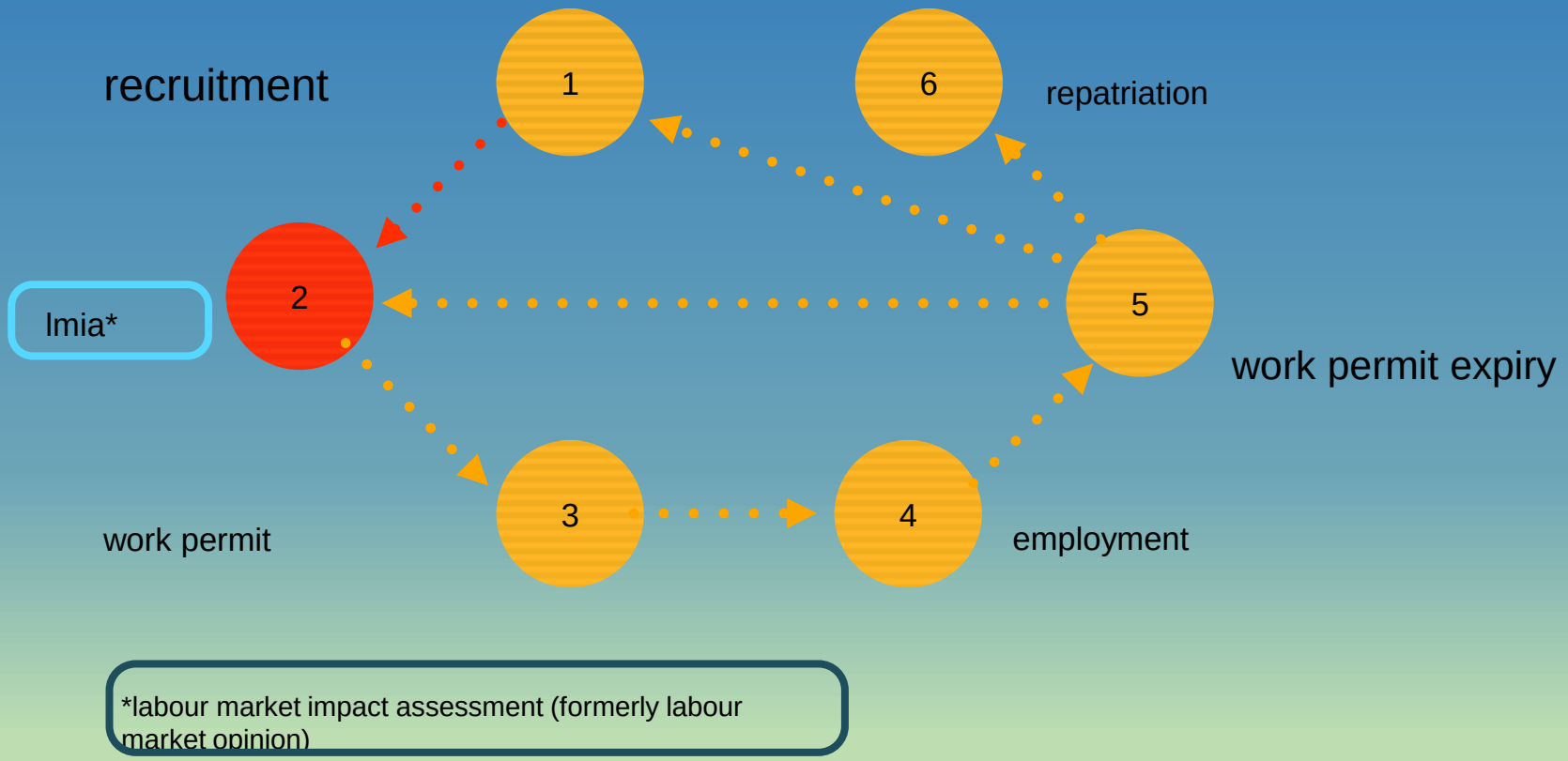

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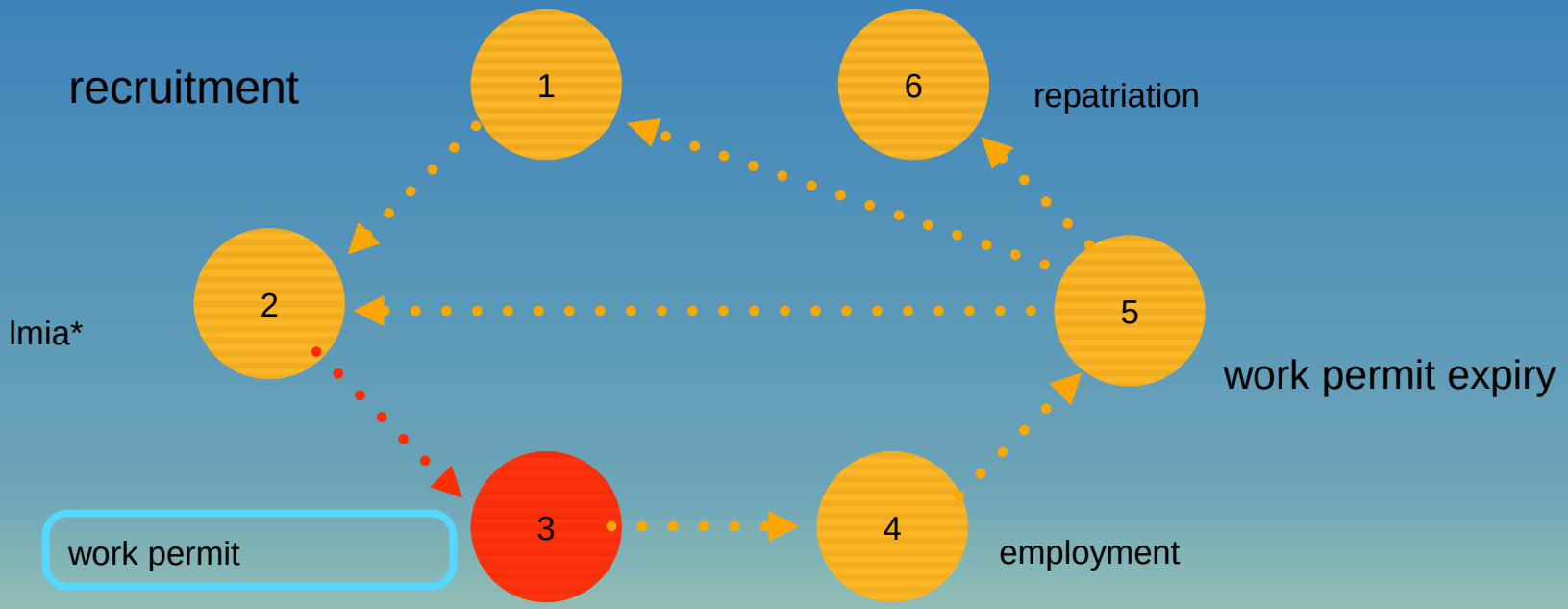

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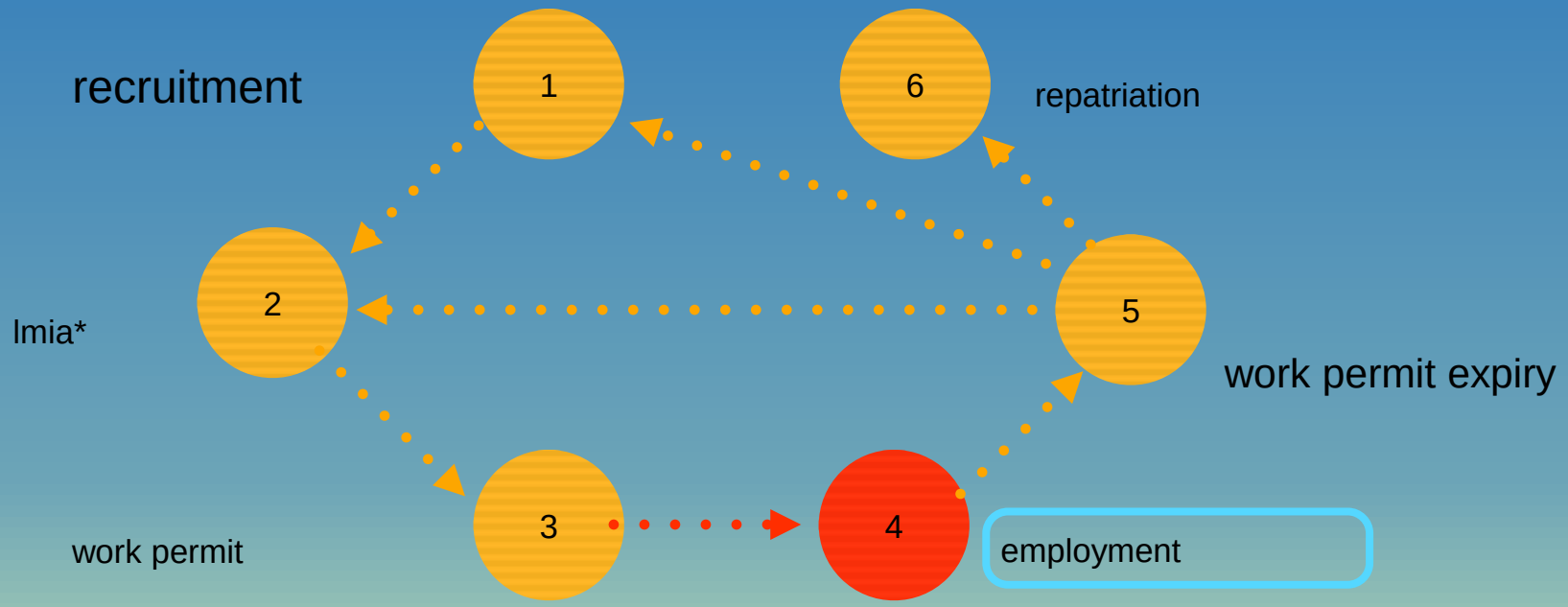

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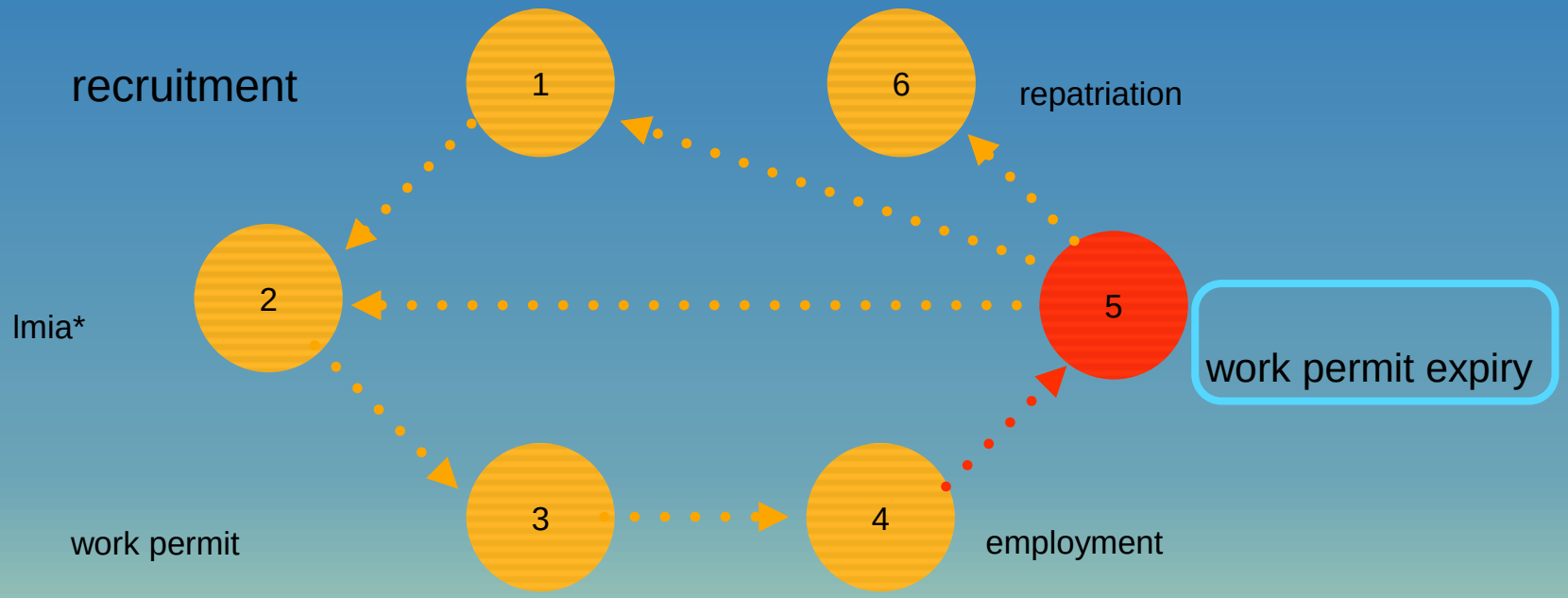

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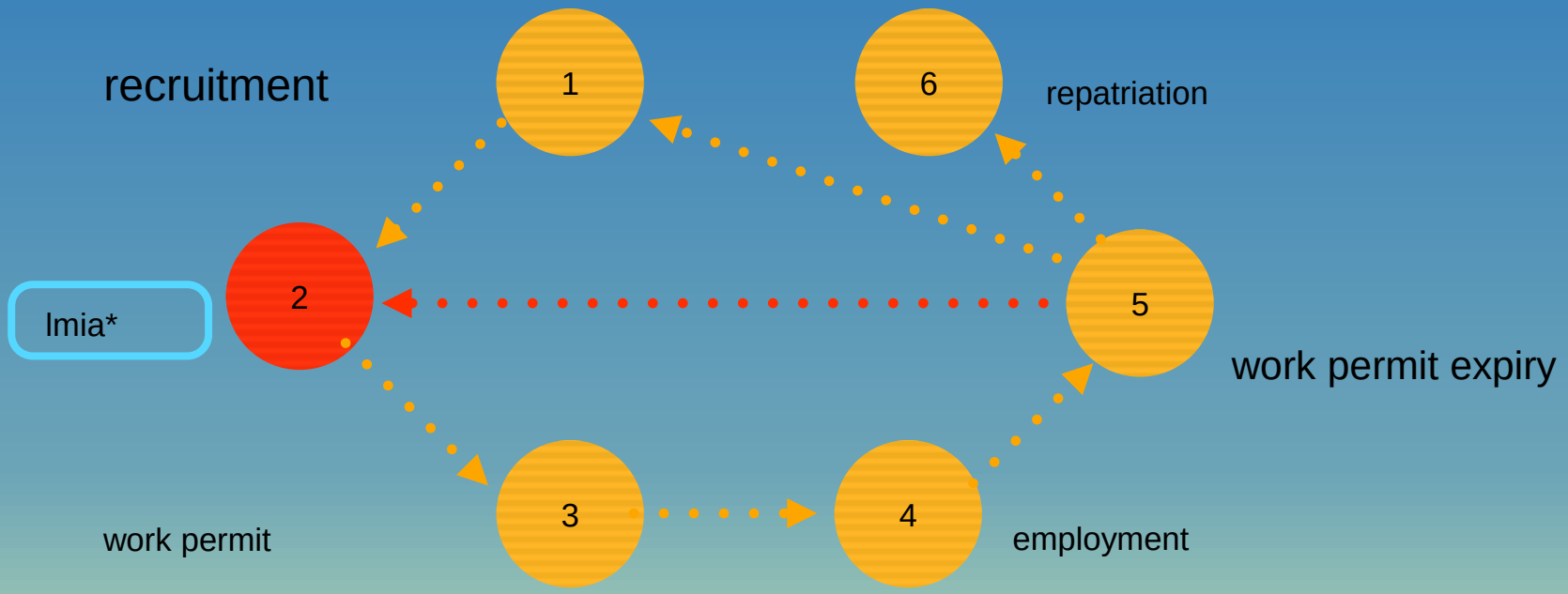

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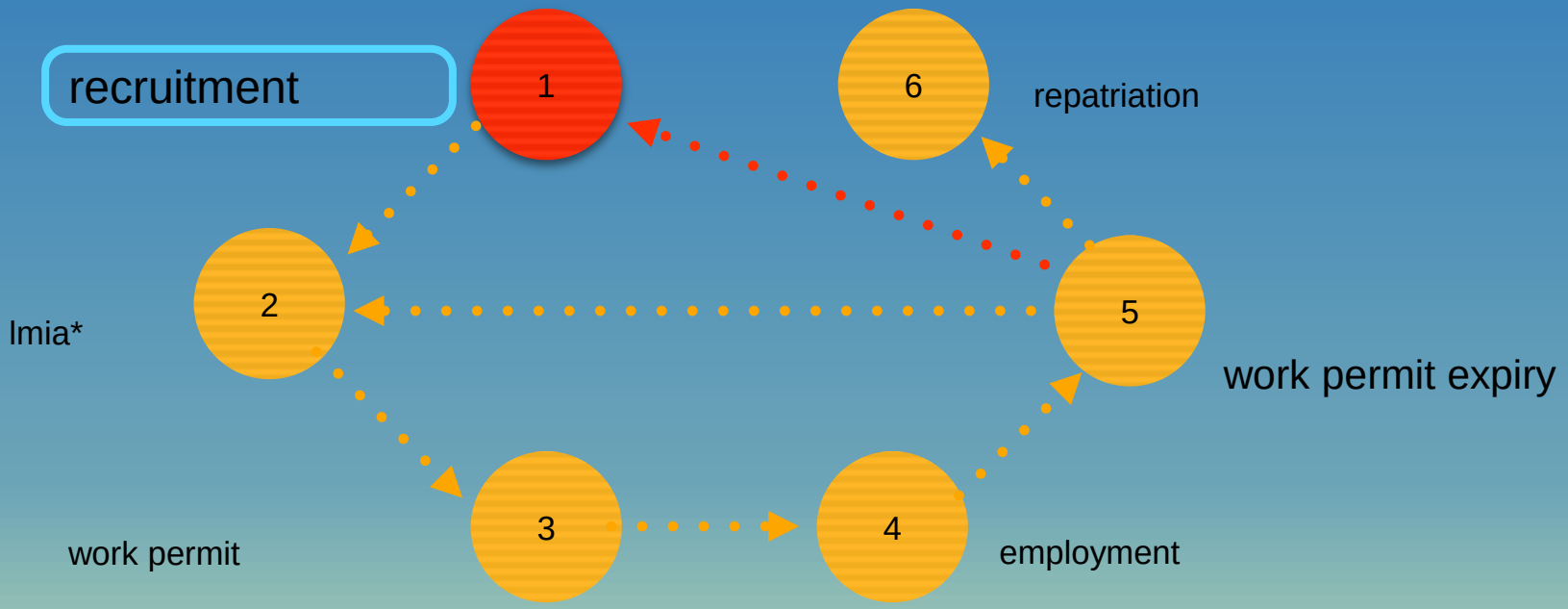

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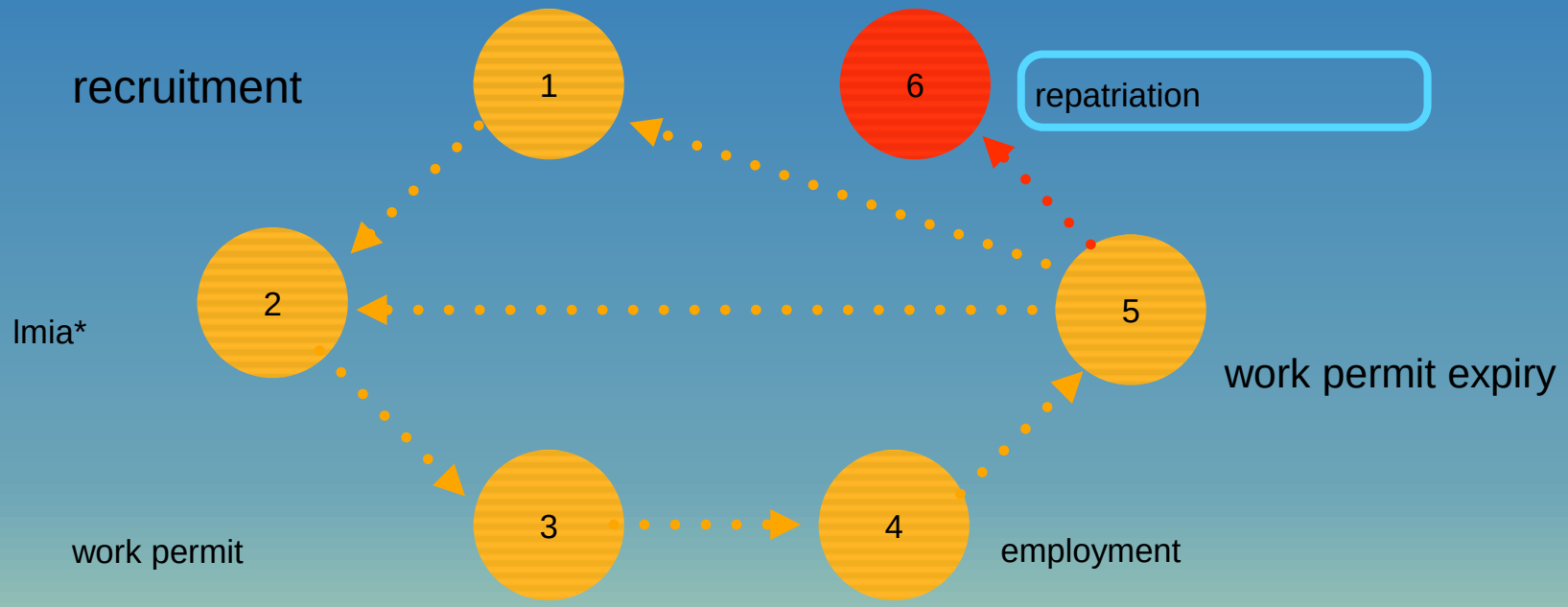

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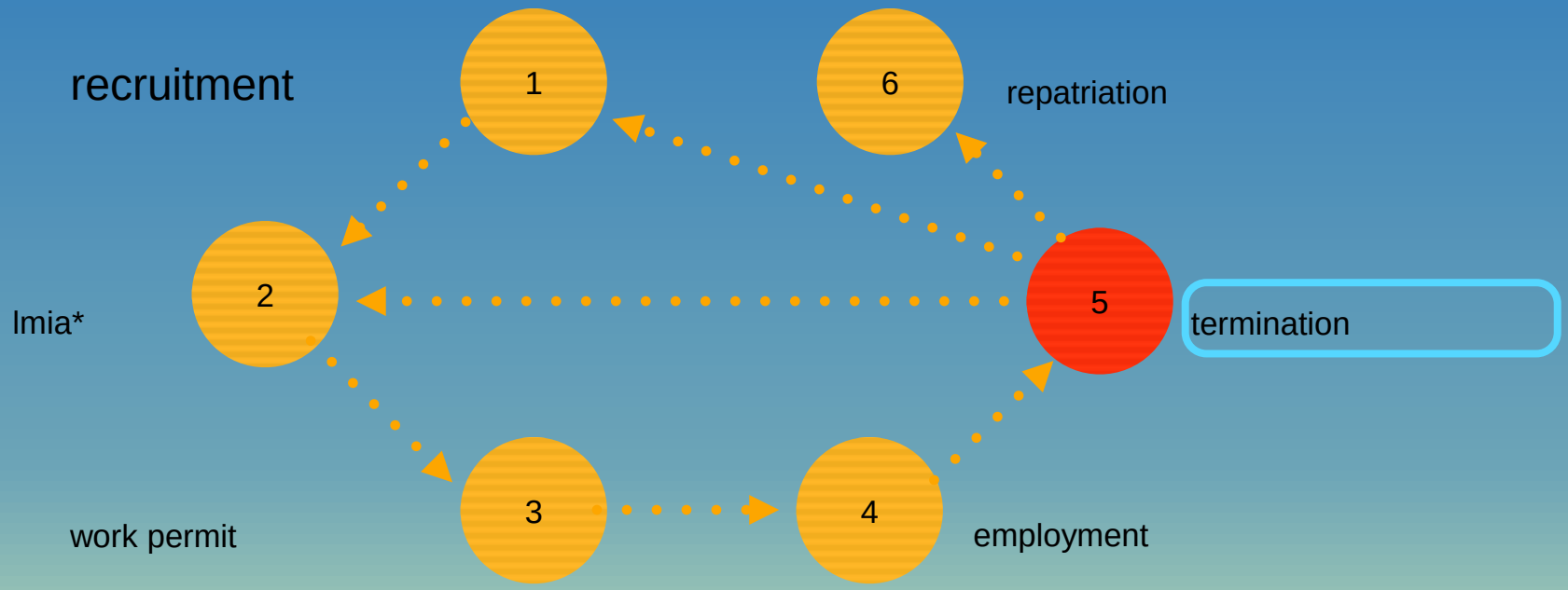

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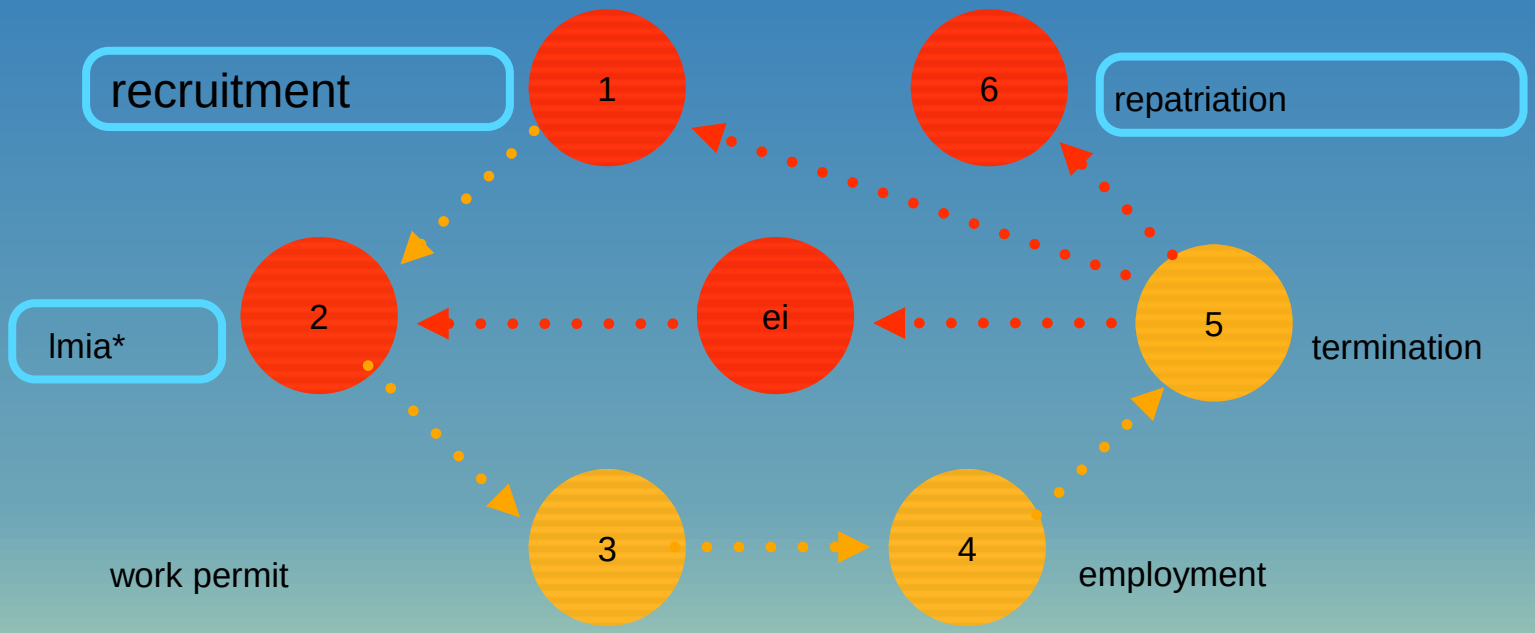

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In their own words

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AHQcaflyh48

What are the impacts of a lack of status?

- Mental health concerns
- Barriers to accessing health care
- Poor working conditions







What are the impacts of a lack of status?

- Mental health concerns
- Barriers to accessing health care
- Poor working conditions
- Lack of access to education
- Lack of access to police services

Proposed Access Without Fear Policy

- Ensures that city staff do not ask for immigration status in the provision of city services
- Ensures that city staff will not provide information about immigration status to other levels of government

Other Cities with Access Without Fear policies

Toronto, 2013

Hamilton, 2014

Vancouver, 2016

Montreal, 2017

Important Elements of a Policy

- Training provided to all city staff & resources allocated for this
- Public communication strategy to promote policy in multiple languages

Benefits of an Access Without Fear Policy for the City of Winnipeg

- Demonstrate leadership & commitment to a diverse, safe, inclusive & welcoming city
- Assist city employees understand their roles & responsibilities related to newcomers
- Improve access to city services for all newcomers despite different types of immigration status

Request to the Citizen Equity Committee

Thank you!