Canada is a country built by waves of immigrants.

Canada – Permanent Residents, 1860 to 2013

Emerging Canadian consensus that high levels needed to meet long-term needs.

Spike in refugees due to Suez crisis, Hungarian revolution.

Recession (last time admissions followed economic cycle).

World Wars I and II.

Immigration needed to support Canada’s rapid economic expansion.

Canadian consensus that high levels needed to meet long-term needs.
Some stats to set the context ...

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>15 million</strong></td>
<td>Immigrants since Confederation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.7 million</strong></td>
<td>New permanent residents in last 15 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>260,067</strong></td>
<td>New permanent residents in 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>213,496</strong></td>
<td>New Temporary Resident work permits issued in 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>126,679</strong></td>
<td>New Temporary Resident study permits issued in 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>86%</strong></td>
<td>Percentage of permanent residents who go on to become citizens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>262,574</strong></td>
<td>New citizens in 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 in 5</strong></td>
<td>Canadians born outside the country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>One</strong></td>
<td>... of the highest per capita rates of immigration in the world</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ethno-cultural diversity has become a defining feature of the Canadian landscape

**FOREIGN-BORN**
One in five Canadians were born outside Canada – 20.6% of the total population.

**ETHNIC GROUPS**
About 200 ethnic origins. Rise in mixed ethnic ancestries – 42.1% of total population compared to 38.2% in 2001.

**LANGUAGES**
More than 200 languages spoken as a mother tongue, in addition to English and French.

**VISIBLE MINORITIES**
Visible minorities accounted for 19.1% of Canada’s population, up from 13.4% in 2001. Largest minority groups were South Asians, Chinese, Blacks and Filipinos.

**RELIGION**
Majority (67.3%) of Canadians were affiliated with Christian religions, but those reporting non-Christian religions (i.e. Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, Buddhist) rose from 6.3% in 2001 to 7.2% of the population. Projected to double by 2031.

The steady influx of immigrants has made Canada an ethno-cultural, linguistic and religious mosaic. According to the latest census in 2011, diversity has deepened in Canada.
Immigration drives Canada’s economic prosperity and nation building

**ECONOMIC**

Immigrants

Canada admits immigrants who have the potential to contribute to Canada’s economy, along with their spouses and dependants.

**FAMILY CLASS**

Immigrants

Family re-unification has been an important pillar of Canada’s immigration policy.

**REFUGEES**

Canada has a strong commitment to its humanitarian goals by resettling refugees.

Temporary residents also contribute to Canada’s economy. An increasing number of temporary foreign workers and foreign students become permanent residents.
Canada’s Refugee Programs

Canada accepts Convention refugees and those in refugee-like situations for humanitarian reasons, according to the following principles:

- Fulfilling Canada’s international obligations and commitments to protect refugees and those in need;
- Supporting successful settlement and integration in Canada; and,
- Reuniting refugee families.

Two refugee program streams are the expression of this commitment:

1. In-Canada Asylum System
2. Resettlement from overseas

Both programs offer a path to permanent residence and citizenship

- Settlement and integration programs are key

Canada’s refugee resettlement intake represents at least 10% of global total
Canada’s Refugee Programs: 3 Program Streams

GAR
Government Assisted Refugees

→ Referred by UNHCR or other org.

PSR
Privately Sponsored Refugees

→ Referred by private sponsors

BVOR
Blended Visa Office Referral

→ A Blended Approach
Government Assisted Refugees - GARS

- Refugees referred by UNHCR or other referral agency
- Once in Canada, refugees receive 12 months income and other support from government
Privately Sponsored Refugees - PSRs

1970s
PSR program began

250,000
PSRs welcomed to Canada since program creation

- Refugee cases are identified by sponsoring groups
- Must meet the definition of refugee, assessed by Canadian visa officer
- Private sponsors = groups of Canadian citizens and permanent residents
- Can include family members of refugee who are already in Canada
PSR: Three Sponsoring Groups

Three PSR sponsoring groups:

- **SAH**
  - Sponsorship Agreement Holders

- Groups of 5

- Community Sponsors
PSR Sponsors: Criteria

SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT HOLDERS (SAH)

- Incorporated organization with experience in refugee sponsorship/settlement

- Signed formal agreement with IRCC

- IRCC assesses financial resources, settlement knowledge

WUSC EUMC  
Humanity First Canada  
Archdiocese of Toronto  
Afghan Association of Ontario
PSR Sponsors: Criteria

GROUP OF 5

- Groups of 5 or more Canadians or Permanent Residents
- 18 years +
- No criminal background
- Will provide full financial & settlement support

NEWS
Terrace, B.C. refugee sponsor group moves ahead
PSR Sponsors: Criteria

COMMUNITY SPONSORS

• Organizations, associations or corporations located in the community of settlement

• Will provide full financial & settlement support

Quebec town ‘excited’ as entire community sponsors Syrian refugee family

The Apkarians will be the first Syrian refugees in Sutton, Que., a small town of just 4,000 residents.
PSR Sponsors: $$ Commitment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Size</th>
<th>12 Months of Income Support</th>
<th>Start-up Costs</th>
<th>Estimated Total Annual Settlement Cost ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9,800</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>12,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>16,800</td>
<td>4,400</td>
<td>21,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>17,700</td>
<td>5,300</td>
<td>23,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>22,500</td>
<td>7,200</td>
<td>29,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>24,500</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>32,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional member</td>
<td>1,550</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PSR: Challenges

- Finances
- Sponsorship relationship breakdown
- Fraud/Program Integrity
- Processing times

'Where are our Syrian refugee families?'

As community groups patiently await the arrival of their sponsored refugees, Ottawa quietly stops processing Syrians as a priority.
BVORs – Blended Sponsorship: A Hybrid Approach

Blended Visa Office-Referred Program

- Allows for private sponsorship of referred refugees
- Government and the sponsor provide 6 months of income support
- Sponsor provides 1 year of emotional & social support
- Refugees generally without family connections in Canada

Joint Assistance Sponsorship Program

- Government partners with organizations to resettle refugees with special needs who may need more support than other refugees
- Special needs may arise due to:
  - trauma from violence or torture,
  - medical disabilities,
  - the effects of systemic discrimination, or
  - a large number of family members.
- Income support provided from 2-3 years depending on the case
INTEGRATION & SUPPORT
Integration & Support: How & Who?

$900m
Federal government spending on settlement services

500
Community organizations providing settlement and integration services
Resettlement Assistance Programs: GARs

1 year
Government provides monthly income support

Through the RAP, refugees receive:

- **Immediate & essential services**
  - receptions services
  - temporary accommodation
  - assistance locating permanent accommodation
  - life skills orientation
  - needs assessment & referrals

- **Start-up funding**
  - i.e. household necessities
Resettlement Assistance Programs: PSRs

1 year

Sponsor provides monthly income support for 1 year or until the refugee becomes sufficient

Sponsors provide:

Emotional & social support for 1 year, including:

- Welcome at airport
- Temporary accommodation
- Orientation to community
- Registering for essential services
- Assistance finding permanent housing & employment
Canada offers refugees a path to citizenship and access to resettlement/settlement supports.

Settlement and integration services are available free-of-charge to those who have been accepted as permanent residents, including refugees and protected persons.
Canada’s integration model has generally fostered positive social outcomes for refugees and other immigrants...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strong sense of belonging (amongst recent immigrants)</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High satisfaction with resettlement supports</td>
<td>GARs: 85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong commitment to citizenship</td>
<td>GARs: 87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High levels of life satisfaction</td>
<td>GARs: 80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Canada's Syrian Commitment
Canada’s Syrian Approach

The Commitments

END OF FEB 2016
Welcome 25,000 Syrian refugees

END OF 2016
Welcome additional 25,000 Syrian refugees

END OF 2016/EARLY 2017
Processing of all privately sponsored Syrian refugee applications submitted up to March 31, 2016

29,817
Syrian refugees have arrived in Canada since NOV 2015

54% GARs
36% PSRs
10% BVORs
SUCCESS STORIES: Warm Welcome, Positive Press

Justin Trudeau to Syrian refugees: ‘Welcome home’
SUCCESS STORIES: Newcomer Kitchen/Depanneur

Newcomer Kitchen project gives Syrian refugees a taste of home in Toronto

MAHNOOR YAWAR
The Globe and Mail

DEPANNEUR
SUCCESS STORIES: Peace by Chocolate

Syrian chocolate makers in Antigonish donate profits to Fort McMurray cause

Refugee family working to resurrect chocolate-making business lost in Syrian war

By Camiln Ray, CBC News  Posted: May 07, 2016 12:14 PM AT  |  Last Updated: May 07, 2016 12:14 PM AT
SUCCESS STORIES: Surai Tea

Ottawa tea startup gives Syrian refugees a place to work, aims to aid settlement

SuraiTea Inc. plans to donate $5K from sales of first batch of jasmine tea to settlement efforts

By Weijie Zhang, CBC News  Posted: Apr 20, 2016 6:30 AM ET  |  Last Updated: Apr 21, 2016 6:35 AM ET
QUESTIONS?