



# Refugee Resettlement in Canada

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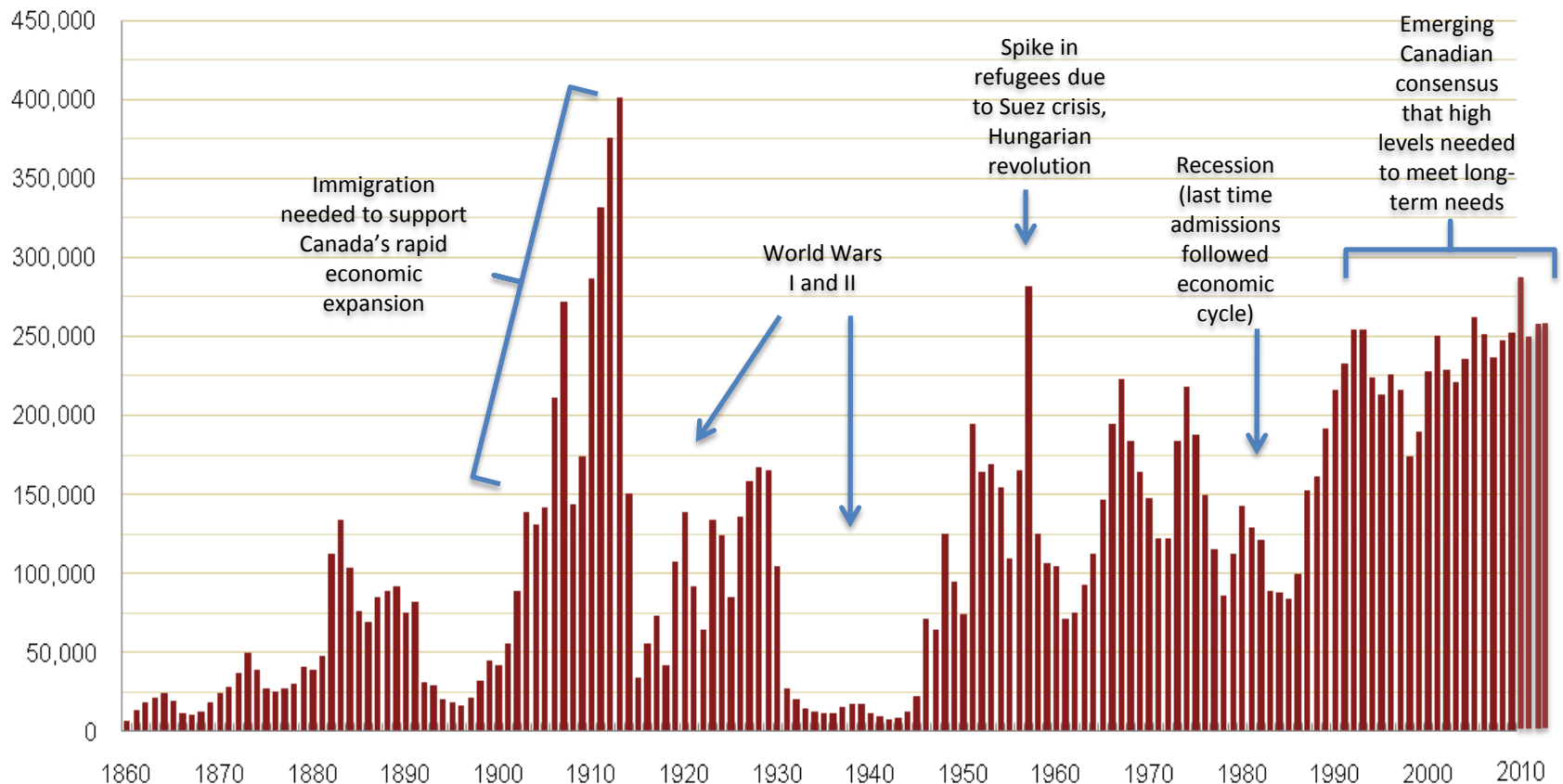
Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés  
et Citoyenneté Canada

Canada

# Canada is a country built by waves of immigrants

Canada – Permanent Residents, 1860 to 2013



# Some stats to set the context ...

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<b>15 million</b>	Immigrants since Confederation
<b>3.7 million</b>	New permanent residents in last 15 years
<b>260,067</b>	New permanent residents in 2014
<b>213,496</b>	New Temporary Resident work permits issued in 2014
<b>126,679</b>	New Temporary Resident study permits issued in 2014
<b>86%</b>	Percentage of permanent residents who go on to become citizens
<b>262,574</b>	New citizens in 2014
<b>1 in 5</b>	Canadians born outside the country
<b>One</b>	... of the highest per capita rates of immigration in the world

## 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

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## 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.*



# PROGRAM STREAMS

for Refugees

# Canada's Refugee Programs

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**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

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**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

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- 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

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**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

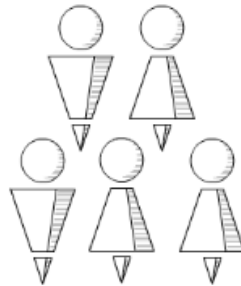
# PSR: Three Sponsoring Groups

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Three PSR sponsoring groups:



Sponsorship Agreement  
Holders



Groups of 5



Community Sponsors

# PSR Sponsors: Criteria

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## SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT HOLDERS (SAH)

- Incorporated organization with experience in refugee sponsorship/settlement
- Signed formal agreement with IRCC
- IRCC assesses financial resources, settlement knowledge



# PSR Sponsors: Criteria

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## 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

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## 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

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Family Size	Sponsorship Cost Table (\$)		
	12 Months of Income Support	Start-up Costs	Estimated Total Annual Settlement Cost (\$)
1	9,800	2,800	12,600
2	16,800	4,400	21,200
3	17,700	5,300	23,000
4	20,000	7,000	27,000
5	22,500	7,200	29,700
6	24,500	8,000	32,500
Additional member	1,550	1,000	2,500

# PSR: Challenges

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- 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

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## 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?

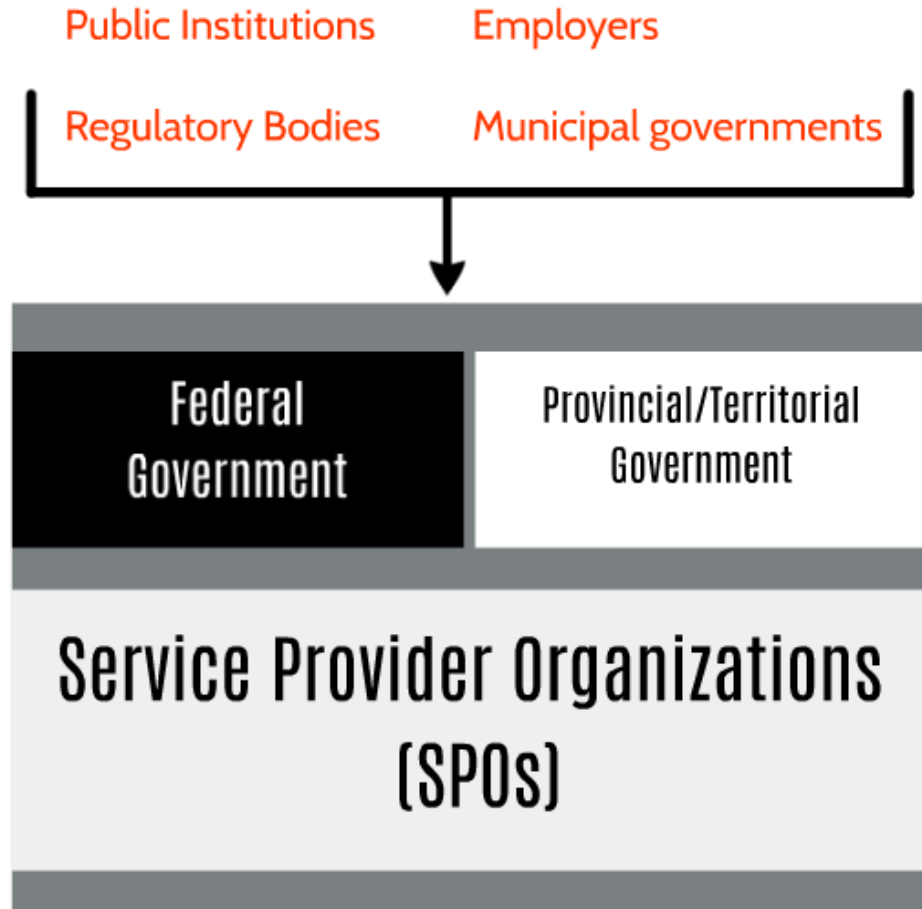
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**\$900m**

Federal government spending  
on settlement services

**500**

community organizations providing  
settlement and integration services



# Resettlement Assistance Programs: GARs

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**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

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**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:

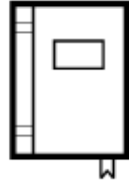
- Welcome at airport
- Temporary accommodation
- Orientation to community
- Registering for essential services
- Assistance finding permanent housing & employment

## Canada offers refugees a path to citizenship and access to resettlement/settlement supports

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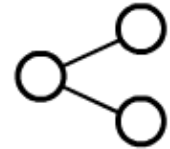
Information &  
orientation



Literacy & language  
training



Labour market  
access supports



Community  
connections



Support services



Mainstream public services  
(education, healthcare)

### **SETTLEMENT PROGRAM**

*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

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Canada's integration model has generally fostered positive social outcomes for refugees and other immigrants...

Strong sense of belonging  
(amongst recent immigrants)

90%

A horizontal bar chart with a dark grey bar representing 90% and a light grey bar representing the remaining 10%.

High satisfaction with  
resettlement supports

GARs: 85%

A horizontal bar chart with a dark grey bar representing 85% and a light grey bar representing the remaining 15%.

Strong commitment to  
citizenship

GARs: 87%

PSRs 91%

A horizontal bar chart with a dark grey bar representing 87%, a small brown segment representing 2% (PSRs), and a light grey bar representing the remaining 11%.

High levels of life  
satisfaction

GARs: 80%

PSRs 84%

A horizontal bar chart with a dark grey bar representing 80%, a small brown segment representing 4% (PSRs), and a light grey bar representing the remaining 16%.



Canada's

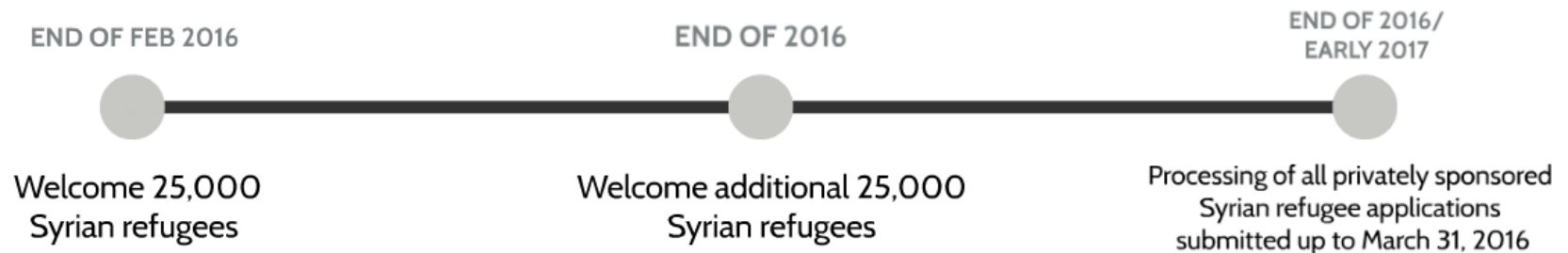
# SYRIAN COMMITMENT



# Canada's Syrian Approach

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## The Commitments



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



Fred Lum/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 Carolyn Ray, CBC News | Posted: May 07, 2016 12:14 PM AT | Last Updated: May 07, 2016 12:14 PM AT



Steve Berry/CBC

*Peace* by  
CHOCOLATE  
*a Syrian family tradition*

# SUCCESS STORIES: Surai Tea

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## 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 Waubgeshig Rice, CBC News | Posted: Apr 20, 2016 5:30 AM ET | Last Updated: Apr 21, 2016 6:35 AM ET





**QUESTIONS?**