

# Le Frigo Vert: Electronic Newsletter, November 2007

This once-monthly digest consists of a compendium of Frigo collective news, social justice events, calls to action, healthy recipes, and articles related to Le Frigo Vert's social justice and anti-oppression mandate.

The purpose is to better inform and interact with Frigo Vert members. It is an attempt to better explain changes we make to the organization and to directly to link Frigo members with local grassroots struggles.

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## Messages in this Digest:

1. Le Frigo Vert Updates/Events: New Date!  
Thursday, November 29th Le Frigo Vert's AGM
  2. Food Politics: Commando-Bouffe! Action organized  
by Comite des Sans Emploi Montreal-Centre
  3. Featured Anti-Oppression Issue: Sign on to No  
One is Illegal's Statement against the racist  
"accommodation debate"
  4. Recipes: Five delicious Vegan Gluten-free  
Recipes
  5. Social Justice Calendar
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## 1. Le Frigo Vert Updates/Events

Retro-spective

Hello everyone! It's wintertime again, but at the Frigo a passion for food politics keeps us warm! That, and endless cups of tea...

The past few months have been a whirlwind of activity around the start of a new school year and the celebration of the 15th anniversary of Le Frigo Vert, which began as the Eat Your Peel buying group oh so long ago. For a real blast from the past, check out the timeline of Frigo's history posted on the wall in the cafe.

In September, the Open House and Volunteer Orientation introduced newcomers to Frigo and

attracted a crop of fantastic new volunteers, who have contributed so much to make this semester a success.

In October, the 15th Anniversary Anti-Colonial Thanksgiving Movie Series gathered an interested crowd every Thursday night for films and speakers, culminating with a delicious feast on November 1. October also featured a Canning 101 Workshop in collaboration with the People's Potato, whose graduates are undoubtedly perched atop a stockpile of self-preserved snacks at this very moment.

So far in November, we've wined and dined our volunteers at a Volunteer Appreciation Party, complete with a candlelight dinner and party favors. Next on the agenda is our Annual General Meeting -- see below for details on where, when, who, what, and which changes are being proposed for our constitution!

More in Store

You may have noticed that things look a little different in the store this semester. Fear not! We've been adding locally-produced gluten-free products such as Cuisine Soleil granola and flour and Gogo pastas. We've also added new homeopathic remedies, a locally roasted coffee from Kanasetake, and fresh bread, locally made-- every day it's got different spices or seeds. (Scrumptious... get it fast before the worker on shift eats it all). Also, we recommend trying out the new ready-to-eat sandwiches, vegan muffins, and Blue Monday carrot cake... if there's any left when you get there.

**ATTENTION: LE FRIGO VERT CO-OP MEMBERS!**  
Le Frigo Vert invites you to our...  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

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<<<<< NEW DATE! >>>>>

Thursday, November 29 @ 6pm  
Held in front of the People's Potato, 7th Floor Hall  
Building, Concordia  
**FREE FOOD! FREE CHILDCARE!**  
There will be a vote on proposed **CONSTITUTIONAL  
CHANGES** (see below)

For more info: 2130 Mackay St. or  
lefrigovert@resist.ca

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## Proposed Changes to Section 2 of Le Frigo Vert Constitution:

With the proposed changes, section 2 would read as the following (note that the additions are in bold font):

### 2. Membership

#### 2.1 Active LFV Members are:

Current Concordia Undergraduate and Graduate students who have paid student fees towards LFV and have not requested a refund, hereafter referred to as Cooperative Members;

Service users who request a Membership and are approved by the Collective through the regular decision-making process, hereafter referred to as Cooperative Members;

The Board of Representatives hereafter referred to as Board Members;

Volunteers as outlined in the LFV Volunteer Policy;

Paid staff of the LFV workers' collective, hereafter referred to as Collective Members;

Honorary Members for a period of time not exceeding one year.

Members have the right to vote and participate in decision-making at the LFV general assembly.

#### 2.2 Fees

Concordia Undergraduate and Graduate student members shall pay their fees with their school registration.

This fee cannot be changed except by way of a referendum held in accordance with this constitution and regulations set by the Board.

All other Cooperative Members shall pay an annual fee established by the Collective and ratified by the Board

LFV shall administer the refunding of fees in

accordance with this constitution and policies set by the Board.

Concordia Undergraduate and Graduate student members seeking a fee refund shall come in person to Le Frigo Vert with student ID and student account record, within the refund period established by LFV, to receive their refund.

The refund period shall run for at least five (5) class days.

Notice of the refund period shall be given by LFV at least one week before the refund period begins, by a notice in a publication of LFV, where such publication exists and a notice conspicuously posted in Le Frigo Vert.

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## 2. Food Politics

Montreal: Ten years after the first “commando-bouffe”, we’re still hungry!

Ten years ago, a commando-bouffe (“food grab”) hit up the chic restaurant Le Montrealais in the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal to re-appropriate a whole buffet and share it with more than 100 people who came to support the action. In December 1997, more than 800,000 people were living on welfare in Quebec, and the food banks were overloaded. The Comite des sans emploi organized this action to denounce this situation and to demystify the good consciousness operation of the “guignolées” (Christmas-time charity collectors) around the holiday season.

Ten years after the first “commando-bouffe”, we’re still hungry!

Tuesday, December 4, 2007  
11:30am  
1710 Beaudry

Today, 10 years later, the problem of hunger in Quebec has not gotten any better:

- 275,000 families per month accessed food banks, amongst which 1/3 were single-parent

families (in Montreal, 84% of these families are lead by women!);

- 3 million food baskets were distributed and 16 million meals were served per year by 971 community groups;

- 52% of people who accessed food banks were welfare recipients, 13% were low-income workers, and 4.5% were on employment insurance.

These figures come from the Association Quebécoise des Banques Alimentaires et des Moissons (AQBAM), and from Statistics Canada.

Hunger is one of the worst symptoms of poverty generated by the capitalist system, a system which produces social and economic inequalities which are necessary for its survival. The political and economic elites sing the mantra that we have to create wealth before it can be distributed, while at the same time telling us that we don't work enough. But nothing could be further from the truth! We work like maniacs and we're still hungry! Those who work today are poorer than in 1997.. But in 10 years, the wealth of the 5% of the richest people in the province has risen considerably. Their part of the total wealth has risen from 21% in 1992 to 25% in 2004.

While they're organizing charity drives, the rich are eating luxury dinners in the biggest restaurants. The Comite des sans emploi, while recognizing the important work which is accomplished by certain community organizations which distribute food aid, refuses to accept charity as a viable solution to hunger. This charity, which has been literally built into a system, does nothing except put out fires, as well as assuaging the consciousnesses of the rich.

We refuse to accept that there are hundreds of thousands of people who are starving to death while others are stuffing their faces full.

Let's go get food where it's plentiful!

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### 3. Featured Anti-Oppression Issue

[The No One Is Illegal-Montreal collective is publishing and distributing the following statement in opposition to the racist “reasonable accommodation” debate in Quebec, and the related Bouchard-Taylor Commission. We encourage groups and individuals who agree with this statement to endorse it by contacting [noii-montreal@resist.ca](mailto:noii-montreal@resist.ca). We also encourage allies who would like to help organize against the hearings, or support the organizing of No One Is Illegal, to get in touch as well.]

#### The “Reasonable Accommodation” Commission and Debate: Statement by No One Is Illegal-Montreal

en français:

<http://nooneisillegal-montreal.blogspot.com/2007/11/accommodements-raisonnables.html>

November 12, 2007

The “reasonable accommodation” debate in Quebec, and the related “Consultation Commission on Accommodation Practices Related to Cultural Differences” (the so-called “Bouchard-Taylor Commission”), are fundamentally rooted in xenophobia, racism and sexism.

From the outset, the “debate” fails to recognize that Quebec and Canada are built on stolen Indigenous land, and constituted through the dispossession and genocide of Indigenous peoples who have been forced into “accommodating” colonization. Moreover, it completely ignores the fact that racism and white supremacy were intrinsically tied to the creation of both Canada and Quebec, and throughout their histories, have been instrumental in defining who “belongs” and who does not.

The Bouchard-Taylor Commission was created in the context of xenophobia during an election campaign and has provided an uncontested platform for racism, Islamophobia and anti-Semitism.

Opportunistic politicians and corporate media have appealed to public fears and prejudices, and manipulated false controversies over religious practices and cultural differences to create a

generalized hysteria, with little to no basis in fact. In its very framework it creates a binary of 'us' vs. 'them'; the 'us' being made up of white people of European descent, and the 'them' being whichever non-white immigrant group is currently under the spotlight.

The supposed "debate" has made open bigotry publicly acceptable, using simplistic caricatures that render our communities homogenous, uncontested and monolithic. While we reject this offensive portrayal of our communities, we assert the diversity of our cultures and traditions as well as our multiple identities.

Insidiously, so-called progressives and feminists have used the Commission platform to promote their own sophisticated brand of racism, one that refuses to acknowledge the oppressions within Western society, and unquestioningly considers Quebec to be "pluralistic, democratic and egalitarian".

While using rhetoric rooted in Islamophobia and sexism to justify war abroad, as is the case in the on-going military occupation of Afghanistan, Quebec has embraced the framework around the "rights of women" and the systematic dehumanization of Muslim cultures to justify intolerance chez nous. We reject the notion that women of faith need to be saved from their inherently oppressive and backward cultures, and instead we support the women who are on the frontlines of their own struggles for liberation, and subjects, not objects or victims, of their own transformation.

As the Bouchard-Taylor Commission begins its public hearings in Montreal, we are organizing to openly and publicly reject the commission process and framework. To engage the Commission process is to validate its fundamentally racist premise, which is to stand judgment of immigrant communities. This Commission, sanctioned by the state, is a process of submission, whereby minority populations are forced to justify their very existence in Quebec. The way this debate is framed ignores all the current intolerance and injustice faced by many migrant communities in Quebec, while forcing them to defend themselves as

“good Quebecois”.

We declare: Ni patrie, ni état; ni Québec, ni Canada! We refuse to submit to any form of nationalism.

Instead, we organize by uncompromisingly putting forward a vision of social justice, rooted in day-to-day grassroots struggles. We acknowledge and support the self-determination and sovereignty of Indigenous peoples all over the Americas -- struggles that have once again been rendered invisible in the skewed “reasonable accommodation” debate.

We organize actively against poverty, precarity, racial profiling, police brutality, war, capitalism and gender oppression. We organize against borders, for free movement and status for all. We actively fight against state oppression and violence targeted at the most marginalized, while struggling against all forms of oppression, whatever their source.

In contrast to the faulty framework of “reasonable accommodation”, we assert “solidarity across borders”, in the spirit of mutual aid and support.

We call for a collective rejection of the entire Commission. The process of genuine dialogue and debate, and real pluralism, comes from our shared struggles against all forms of oppression. The “reasonable accommodation” debate has clouded and confused the unity and solidarity we share -- as workers, poor, women, queer and trans people, migrants, and others -- fighting together to achieve real justice.

We re-assert those struggles, by refusing the fundamentally racist and sexist premises of the Bouchard-Taylor Commission, and by refusing to be submissive or fearful as we continue to practice self-determination and strive for collective liberation.

-- No One Is Illegal-Montreal (November 2007)  
noii-montreal@resist.ca -- 514-848-7583  
<http://nooneisillegal-montreal.blogspot.com>

“Reasonable Accommodation”: A Feminist Response  
Signed: The Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Concordia

As anti-racist, anti-colonial, feminists in Québec, we have serious misgivings about the Commission de Consultation sur les pratiques d’accommodement reliées aux différences culturelles. The Conseil du statut de la femme du Québec (CSF) has proposed that the Québec Charter be changed so as to accord the right of gender equality relative priority over the right to religious expression and to ban the wearing of “ostentatious” religious symbols in public institutions by public employees. Our concern is that the Commission and the CSF’s subsequent intervention pave the way for legislation that will restrict rather than enhance the rights of women. We invite you to join us in questioning the exclusionary structure of the Commission, the assumptions it supports, and the negative impact it is likely to have on women’s lives.

So, why call into question the legitimacy and the effects of the Commission?

1. because although we see the urgent need for dialogue about racism and sexism in Québec society, we object to how this consultation process has been undertaken. Listening to people “air out” their racism is not conducive to promoting critical reflection and dialogue, but instead creates a climate of fear-mongering and moral panic. Furthermore, in asking whether or not “difference” and “minorities” should be accommodated the commission assumes and perpetuates “commonsense” racist understandings of some “cultures” as homogeneous, backward and inferior. In addition, the Commission’s reliance on the notion of “reason” must also be critically examined. Historically, white men have been positioned as the exclusive bearers of reason, and the Commission runs the risk of reproducing this in a context of ongoing social inequality.

2. because the design of the Commission and the language of “accommodation” assumes and perpetuates a system of power whereby western “hosts” act as gatekeepers for non-western “guests.” A better consultative process would start with the

recognition that Canada is a white-settler state, and that its history is one of colonial and patriarchal violence against Indigenous people.

3. because the public debates that the Commission has sparked construct certain ethno-cultural communities as perpetual outsiders and as threats to Québec identity rather than as integral to it. Concerns about ethno-cultural others as socially regressive obscure the everyday homophobia, sexism and racism that pervade Québec society.

4. because the ways that the Commission has been represented in mainstream English media promotes the idea that racism is a feature exclusive to Québec society and is not a problem -- or is less of a problem -- in the rest of Canada.

5. because the preoccupation with veiled women serves to deflect from the sexism and racism that has historically pervaded Québec and Canadian society. As feminists, we must challenge our complicity with the state's violence against women both in its colonial relations with Indigenous people and in its use of the figure of the veiled woman as an alibi for imperialist war and occupation in Afghanistan.

6. because appeals to secularism as a guarantor of gender equality effectively function to promote Christian culture as the norm and to scapegoat Muslims as inherently sexist, erasing secular forms of sexism.

7. because although it is still underway, the Commission has already prompted the proposal of laws that could restrict, regulate, and otherwise impede the lives of immigrant and racialized people in Québec.

8. because regulating women's public religious expression is gender discrimination insofar as it takes away women's freedom and inhibits their civic participation.

9. because the CSF is failing to meet its mandate of "defending the interests of women." The CSF would better serve the interests of women in Québec by focusing on the conditions of poverty, violence, criminalization and racism that many of us face, and

not on what women wear.

Signed: The Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Concordia University, November 2007

An expanded version of this statement (and a list of resources) can be found on the Simone de Beauvoir Institute website:

<http://artsandscience1.concordia.ca/wsdb/>

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## A hundred years of immigration to Canada 1900 - 1999

A chronology focusing on refugees and discrimination

1900 41,681 immigrants were admitted to Canada.

1896-1905 Clifford Sifton held the position of Minister of Interior (with responsibilities for immigration). He energetically pursued his vision of peopling the prairies with agricultural immigrants. The immigrants he sought for the Canadian West were farmers (preferably from the U.S. or Britain, otherwise (northern) European). Immigrants to cities were to be discouraged (in fact, many of the immigrants quickly joined the industrial labour force). "I think that a stalwart peasant in a sheepskin coat, born to the soil, whose forefathers have been farmers for ten generations, with a stout wife and a half dozen children, is good quality". Immigration of black Americans was actively discouraged, often on the grounds that they were unsuitable for the climate.

1900-1921 138,000 Jews immigrated to Canada, many of them refugees fleeing pogroms in Czarist Russia and Eastern Europe. There were also arrivals of Doukhobors from Russia, where they suffered persecution.

1900 The Head tax on Chinese immigrants was increased from \$50 (set in 1885 in the first Chinese Exclusion Act) to \$100.

1901 Census.(1) Of the 5,371,315 population in Canada, 684,671 (12.7%) were immigrants (i.e. born outside Canada). 57% of the immigrants were male. About a quarter of the immigrant population had arrived in the previous 5 years. 57% of immigrants were born in the British Isles, 19% in the U.S., 5% in Russia, 4% in Germany and 2.5% (17,043 people) in

China. There were 4,674 people born in Japan, 1,222 people born in Syria, 357 people from Turkey, and 699 born in the West Indies. The only African country listed was South Africa (128 people). Of the 278,788 immigrants who were “foreign-born” (meaning born outside the British Empire), 55% were naturalized citizens. However, only 4% (668) of the Chinese-born were citizens. In terms of “origins”, the census counted 17,437 “Negroes” in Canada. 42% of the population was of British origin, while 31% was of French origin. There were 16,131 Jews and 22,050 Chinese/Japanese (given as one category). 96% of the population was of European origin.

1903 Chinese head tax increased to \$500. From 1901 to 1918, \$18 million was collected from Chinese immigrants (compared to \$10 million spent on promoting immigration from Europe).

1906 Immigration Act. According to Frank Oliver, Minister of the Interior, the purpose of the Act was “to enable the Department of Immigration to deal with undesirable immigrants” by providing a means of control. The Act enshrined and reinforced measures of restriction and enforcement. The categories of “prohibited” immigrants were expanded. The Act also gave the government legal authority to deport immigrants within two years of landing (later extended to three and then five years). Grounds for deportation included becoming a public charge, insanity, infirmity, disease, handicap, becoming an inmate of a jail or hospital and committing crimes of “moral turpitude”. Such deportations had occurred prior to 1905 without the benefit of law, but after 1906, numbers increased dramatically.

1906-1907 c. 4,700 Indians, mainly Sikhs from the Punjab, arrived in Vancouver. Arrivals of Japanese and Chinese increased (more than 2,300 Japanese arrived in B.C. in 1907). Reaction by white British Columbians was described by the Minister of the Interior as “almost hysterical”. An “Anti-Asiatic Parade” organized by the Asiatic Exclusion League ended in a riot, with extensive damage done to property in Chinatown and the Japanese quarter.

1907 A government delegation to Japan resulted in an agreement whereby the Japanese government would voluntarily limit emigration of Japanese to Canada to 400 a year.

1908 Order in council issued imposing a “continuous journey” rule, prohibiting immigrants who did not come by continuous journey from their

country of origin. At the time steamships from India and Japan made a stop in Hawaii. The “landing money” required of Indians was also increased from \$50 to \$200.

1908 Amendments were made to Chinese Immigration Act expanding the list of prohibited persons and narrowing the classes of persons exempt from the head tax.

1908 A border inspection service was created on the U.S.-Canada border.

1910 Immigration Act. This Act gave the government enormous discretionary power to regulate immigration through Orders in Council. Section 38 allowed the government to prohibit landing of immigrants under the “continuous journey” rule, and of immigrants “belonging to any race deemed unsuited to the climate or requirements of Canada, or of immigrants of any specified class, occupation or character”. The Act also extended the grounds on which immigrants could be deported to include immorality and political offenses (Section 41). The Act introduced the concept of “domicile” which was acquired after three years of residence in Canada (later five years).

1910 Black Oklahoman farmers developed an interest in moving to Canada to flee increased racism at home. A number of boards of trade and the Edmonton Municipal Council called on Ottawa to prevent black immigration. In 1911 an order in council was drafted prohibiting the landing of “any immigrant belonging to the Negro race, which race is deemed unsuitable to the climate and requirements of Canada”. The order was never proclaimed, but the movement was nevertheless effectively stopped by agents hired by the Canadian government, who held public meetings in Oklahoma to discourage people, and by “strict interpretation” of medical and character examinations. Of more than 1 million Americans estimated to have immigrated to Canada between 1896 and 1911, fewer than 1,000 were African Americans.

1910-1911 First Caribbean Domestic Scheme: 100 Guadeloupean women came to Québec.

1911 Census. The population of Canada was 7,206,643, of which 22% was composed of immigrants (i.e. born outside Canada). Only 39% of those born outside Canada were female (2% of those born in China, representing 646 women). 49% of immigrants were born in the British Isles, 19% in the U.S., and 6% in Russia. 223 were identified as being born in

Africa (outside South Africa), 211 in the West Indies. Of the 752,732 immigrants who were “foreign-born” (meaning born outside the British Empire), 47% were naturalized citizens. 9.5% (2,578) of the Chinese-born and 22.5% (1,898) of the Japanese-born were citizens. In terms of “origins”, the census counted only 16,877 “Negroes”, 560 fewer than in 1901. 54% of the population was of British origin (up from 47% in 1901), while 29% was of French origin. There were now 75,681 Jews, 27,774 of Chinese origin, 9,021 of Japanese origin and 2,342 were classified as “Hindu”. 5% of the population had German origins and 1.8% Austro-Hungarian. 97% of the population was of European origin.

1912-1914 Dominion Iron and Steel Company sent two Barbadian steelworkers to Barbados to recruit steelworkers.

1913 Immigration reached a record level of 400,810 new arrivals (the highest level in the century). Taken as a proportion of the population at the time, it was equivalent to present-day Canada receiving about one and half million immigrants in a year.

June 1914 An MP in the House of Commons: “How can we go on encouraging trade between Canada and Asia and then hope to prevent Asiatics from coming into our country?”

1914 The Komagatu Maru arrived in Vancouver, having sailed from China with 376 Indians aboard, who were refused admittance to Canada. After two months in the harbour, and following an unsuccessful appeal to the BC Supreme Court, the boat sailed back to BC. Between 1914 and 1920 only one Indian was admitted to Canada as an immigrant.

1914 The War Measures Act was passed, giving the government wide powers to arrest, detain and deport. “Enemy aliens” were forced to register themselves and subjected to many restrictions. In the course of the war, 8,000-9,000 “enemy aliens” were interned. Many were subsequently released in response to labour shortages.

1915-19 Very limited immigration during the war.

1917 The Wartime Elections Act disenfranchised all persons from “enemy alien” countries who had been naturalized since 1902.

1917 The Office of Immigration and Colonization was created by order in council.

1917 About 4,000 Hutterites immigrated to Alberta from South Dakota, where they were suffering

prejudice because they were German-speaking and unwilling to sustain the military efforts. Their entry to Canada was permitted under an 1899 order in council originally intended for Doukhobors.

1918 The Industrial Workers of the World (IWW, known as the “Wobblies”) and 13 other socialist or anarchist groups were declared illegal. Another order in council banned publications using Finnish, Russian, Ukrainian, Hungarian and German. The Wobblies had been for several years a primary target of government anti-agitator activities, as a result of fears of enemy alien subversion and the “Bolshevik menace”, and pressure from industrialists interested in suppressing labour activism. Immigration officials used whatever measures they could find to deport IWW members. For example, one man was deported because he had “created an agitation and a disturbance by openly advocating the views of the IWW” while on a train. The legal basis for deporting him was that he had created or attempted to create a riot or public disorder in Canada (Section 41 of the Act).

1918-19 At the end of war, immigrants were dismissed from some jobs in order to offer work to returning soldiers.

1919 A Women’s Division was created within the Immigration Department. Systems for the “care” of single women immigrants (mostly British in the 1920s) were developed, including meeting by women officers, escorts to final destination and long-term follow up. The government was concerned to save the women from being “ruined”. Immigrant women who engaged in sexual relationships outside marriage were liable to be deported (sometimes on the grounds of prostitution, or if they had an illegitimate child, on the grounds that they had become a public charge, since they would generally be forced out of their job).

1919 Amendments to the Immigration Act were made, adding new grounds for denying entry and deportation (e.g. constitutional psychopathic inferiority, chronic alcoholism and illiteracy). Section 38 allowed Cabinet to prohibit any race, nationality or class of immigrants by reason of “economic, industrial, or other condition temporarily existing in Canada” (unemployment was then high), because of their unsuitability, or because of their “peculiar habits, modes of life and methods of holding property”. In a last minute extra amendment, in response to the Winnipeg General

Strike, among whose leaders were British-born activists, the British-born were made subject to deportation on political grounds. This particular amendment was repealed in 1928, after five previous efforts at repeal failed, many blocked in the Senate.

June 1919 Under the authority of Section 38 of the Immigration Act, an Order in Council was issued prohibiting the entry of Doukhobors, Mennonites and Hutterites, because of their “peculiar habits, modes of life and methods of holding property”.

1919 Amendment to the Naturalization Act. Citizenship could be revoked if anyone were found to be “disaffected” or “disloyal” or if the person “was not of good character at the date of the grant of the certificate”.

1920 Immigration official: “At the present moment, we are casting about for some more effective method than we have in operation to prevent the arrival here of many of the nondescript of Europe, whose coming here is regarded more in the light of a catastrophe than anything else”.

1921 Census. The population of Canada was 8,787,949, of which 22% was composed of immigrants (i.e. born outside Canada). 44% of the immigrant population was female (but only 3% of the Chinese and 32% of the Italians). 82% of immigrants had been in Canada for 10 years or more. 52% of immigrants were born in the British Isles, 19% in the U.S. and 5% in Russia. 1,760 immigrants were born in South Africa; Africa is not otherwise listed as a place of birth. Of the 890,282 immigrants who were “foreign-born” (born outside the British Empire), 58% were naturalized citizens. The number of naturalized Chinese-born had decreased from 2,578 in 1911 to 1,766 (representing 4% of the Chinese-born). The number of German-born naturalized citizens had also decreased (from 23,283 in 1911 - before the war - to 21,630). 33% (3,902) of the Japanese-born were citizens. 44% of the immigrant population was rural (but only 40% of female immigrants). In terms of the “origins” of the total population, the census counted 18,291 “Negroes” in Canada, 126,196 “Hebrews”, 39,587 people of Chinese origin and 23,342 of Japanese origin. 55% of the population had origins in the British Isles, while 33% was of French origin. 97.5% of the population was of European origin.

1922 Empire Settlement Act passed in the British Parliament. It provided assisted passage and

training opportunities for married couples, single agricultural labourers, domestics and juveniles aged 14 - 17. 130,000 immigrants to Canada were assisted under the Act. An "Aftercare Agreement" provided for selection, supervision and assistance of female domestic workers. Between Jan. 1926 and 31 March 1931, 689 women who arrived under this agreement (4.6% of arrivals) were deported, on grounds such as "illegitimacy", "immorality", "medical", "marriage", "bad conduct" and "criminal conviction" (these were the department's reasons though not necessarily the legal bases for the deportations).

June 1922 Revocation of Order in Council "modes of living and methods of holding property" as it applied to Mennonites and Hutterites, opening the door to Russian Mennonites facing persecution in communist Russia. 20,000 settled in Canada between 1923 and 1929. Doukhobors remained prohibited.

June 1922 An amendment to the Opium and Narcotic Drug Act provided for the deportation of "domiciled aliens" (i.e. immigrants who had been in Canada 5 years or more) with drug-related convictions. This measure was particularly directed against the Chinese. In 1923-4, 35% of deportations by the Pacific Division were under these provisions.

Jan. 1923 Order in Council issued excluding "any immigrant of any Asiatic race" except agriculturalists, farm labourers, female domestic servants, and wife and children of a person legally in Canada. ("Asia" was conceived broadly, going as far west as Turkey and Syria).

1923 Immigration official: "There are continual attempts by undesirables of alien and impoverished nationalities to enter Canada, but these attempts will be checked as much as possible at their source".

1923 After a period of post-war economic gloom and low immigration, there was a cautious encouragement of immigration. The door opened to British subjects, Americans and citizens of "preferred countries" (Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium and France). Only agriculturalists, farm labourers, domestics and sponsored family members could be admitted from "non-preferred" countries: Austria, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. Southern Europe was not even mentioned.

June 1923 Chinese Immigration Act. This Act prohibited all Chinese immigrants except diplomats, students, children of Canadians and an investor class. Aside from protests from the Chinese community in Canada, there were virtually no voices of opposition. The day on which this Act came into force - July 1 - became known to Chinese Canadians as "Humiliation Day".

1923-24 The suicides of three home children led to a study by a British parliamentary delegation into this program which sent children from Britain into indentured labour in Canada. Some were orphans, but most left parents behind. About 100,000 children immigrated to Canada through the program, which lasted from 1868 until the 1930s. In 1925, following the delegation's report, the Canadian government put a stop to immigration of children under 14 years of age unaccompanied by parents.

1925 The Railway Agreement was signed by the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National Railways and the government, providing for the railways to recruit immigrants, including from the "non-preferred" countries of Northern and Central Europe. More than 185,000 Central Europeans entered Canada under the agreement (1925-1929).

1929 The Canadian Mennonite Board of Colonization desperately sought admission for 1,000 Mennonite families facing deportation to Siberia. The Saskatchewan government refused them outright, as in turn did other prairie provinces. Eventually 1,300 Mennonites were able to enter, mostly settling in Ontario.

1930 As the depression took hold, the number of deportations on the grounds of "becoming a public charge" rose. From 1930 to 1934, 16,765 immigrants were deported on this ground (more than 6 times as many as in the previous 5 year period). The numbers of deportations on the grounds of medical causes and criminality also increased.

Sept. 1930 Order in Council (P.C. 2115) issued prohibiting the landing of "any immigrant of any Asiatic race", except wives and minor children of Canadian citizens (and few Asians could get citizenship).

1931 Order in Council requiring Chinese and Japanese to renounce their former citizenship before being naturalized. This effectively barred Japanese from becoming citizens since Japanese law did not provide for revocation of citizenship. In any case since 1923 very few Asians applying for

naturalization were approved in what was a highly discretionary process.

1931 Census. The population of Canada was 10,376,786, of whom 22% were immigrants (i.e. born outside Canada). 44% of immigrants were female (but only 14% of Asian immigrants), 67% had been in Canada more than 10 years and 40% lived in rural localities. 49% of immigrants were born in the British Isles, 15% in the U.S., 14% in Central Europe and less than 3% in Asia. Africa only appears as a place of birth in South Africa. 1,296 people were listed as born in South America. 55% of the foreign-born population were naturalized citizens. In terms of "racial origins", 52% of the total population had origins in the British Isles, 28% in France. There were 156,726 Jews, 84,548 people of "Asiatic" origin and 19,456 "Negroes". 97.7% of the population was of European origin.

1931 Deportations of immigrants who had organized or participated in strikes or other organized labour activities. Winnipeg Mayor Ralph Webb campaigned to deport and prevent the admission of communists and agitators. He urged the "deportation of all undesirables".

March 1931 In the context of the depression, an Order in Council was adopted (P.C. 695) restricting admission to American citizens, British subjects and agriculturalists with economic means.

August 1931 The Communist Party was made illegal under the Criminal Code. Even naturalized immigrants who were members of the Party could have their citizenship revoked and be deported.

Fall 1931 Political deportation became federal policy. The Minister of Justice hosted a special meeting attended by the Minister of National Defence, the Commissioner of Immigration, the military chief of staff and the RCMP Commissioner. The exact number of people deported on political grounds is unknown, because they may technically have been deported on other grounds, e.g. criminal conviction, vagrancy or being on the public charge.

Early 1930s Widespread deportation of the unemployed (28,097 people were deported 1930-1935). Following an outcry, the department changed its policy at least so far as to suspend deportations against those who had found work by the time the deportation orders were ready.

May 1932 In a "red raid" left-wing leaders from across Canada were arrested and sent to Halifax for hearings and deportations. One of them was a

Canadian citizen by birth. He sued the government for false arrest, but despite criticisms from the Manitoba Court of Appeal of the Department's failure to follow due process, he lost in a 3-2 decision. The others, known as the "Halifax Ten", lost their appeal before the Nova Scotia Supreme Court (although the Court agreed that the department had not acted in complete conformity with the law). Despite extensive protests, they were deported.

1934 94% of applications for naturalization were refused. Confidential RCMP assessments led to refusals on the basis of political or labour activism or perceived "bad character".

1936 Immigration became part of the Department of Mines and Resources.

1937 Annual report, Immigration: "There is at present a great pressure at our doors for the admission of many thousands of distressed peoples of Europe".

1938 A number of individuals and groups, including the Anglican Church, the United Church, the YMCA, local service clubs and the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF), as well as Jewish community groups, called on the government to admit Jewish refugees. They were opposed by such groups as the Native Sons of Canada, Leadership League and Canadian Corps. Voices of anti-Semitism were particularly strong in Quebec.

March 1938 F.C. Blair, Director of Immigration Branch (an anti-Semite, who personally ensured that virtually no Jews were admitted to Canada during this period): "Ever since the war, efforts have been made by groups and individuals to get refugees into Canada but we have fought all along to protect ourselves against the admission of such stateless persons without passports, for the reason that coming out of the maelstrom of war, some of them are liable to go on the rocks and when they become public charges, we have to keep them for the balance of their lives".

July 1938 Canada participated (reluctantly) at the Evian Conference on refugees. Canadian representatives were under instructions from Prime Minister Mackenzie King not to support the creation of a permanent structure to handle refugee matters or any initiatives to commit countries to quotas of refugees.

Oct. 1938 At a meeting of the League of Nations Society of Canada the Canadian National Committee on Refugees and Victims of Persecution was

formed. Since the government blamed its unwillingness to admit refugees on lack of public support, the committee focused on public education, setting up branches, organizing public meetings and producing a pamphlet "Should Canada admit refugees?" Unsuccessful in effecting any policy change, the committee intervened in individual cases, sometimes with positive results. Among the refugees admitted were the Czech industrialist Thomas Bata and 82 of his workers.

1938 Memo to Mackenzie King by Departments of External Affairs and Mines and Resources: "We do not want to take too many Jews, but in the circumstances, we do not want to say so. We do not want to legitimise the Aryan mythology by introducing any formal distinction for immigration purposes between Jews and non-Jews. The practical distinction, however, has to be made and should be drawn with discretion and sympathy by the competent department, without the need to lay down a formal minute of policy".

Nov. 1938 Britain asked Canada to take some Sudeten German refugees who had fled the Nazis to Prague. The railroad companies were sent to investigate potential immigration of farmers and glassworkers. Canada agreed to take 1,200 but insisted on Britain paying \$1,500 per family for transportation and resettlement costs (Britain had offered \$1,000). While negotiations were going on, Germany occupied the rest of Czechoslovakia, preventing the resettlement of most of the refugees. 303 families and 72 single men who had previously managed to get to Britain were resettled in B.C. and Saskatchewan. They had little or no farming experience, but were not allowed to settle in the cities.

Dec. 1938 Responding to the refugee crisis, the government simply restated its general policy: refugees who met the categories for admissible immigrants according to the regulation in force (P.C. 695) could come to Canada.

1939 The St Louis sailed from Germany with 930 Jewish refugees on board. No country in the Americas would allow them to land. 44 prominent Torontonians sent a telegram to the Prime Minister of Canada urging that sanctuary be given to the refugees, to no avail. The ship was forced to return to Europe where three-quarters of the refugees died at the hands of the Nazis.

1940 In a comparative study of deportation in

Britain, Northern Ireland, Canada, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand, C.F. Fraser found Canadian practices the most arbitrary and the Canadian judiciary apathetic: “the most notable feature of deportation cases in Canada is the apparent desire to get agitators of any sort out of the country at all costs... [T]he executive branch of the government, in its haste to carry out this policy ... displayed a marked disregard for the niceties of procedure”.

1940 2,500 male “potentially dangerous enemy aliens” interned by Britain were brought to Canada. They were housed in high security camps. In fact many of them were Jews. In 1945 they were reclassified as “interned refugees (Friendly Aliens)”. 972 accepted an offer to become Canadian citizens. Many went on to prominent careers in academia or the arts.

1941 Census. The population of Canada was 11,506,655, of which 17.5% was composed of immigrants (i.e. born outside Canada). 45% of the immigrant population was female. Only in the case of immigrants from the U.S. were there more women than men. 90% of immigrants had been in Canada for 10 years or more (33% for more than 30 years). 44% of immigrants were born in the British Isles, 14% in the U.S., 7% in Poland and 5% in Russia. There were 29,095 immigrants from China (of whom only 1,426 were women), 9,462 from Japan and 5,886 other “Asians” (includes “Arabian, Armenian, Hindu, Syrian, Turkish...”). No African countries are listed. While 47% of the total population was rural, only 39.5% of immigrants were. However, more than half of some immigrant groups were rural: Austrians, Belgians, Czechs, Danes, Finns, Germans, Icelanders, Dutch, Norwegians and Swedes. Women immigrants were less likely to be rural than men: 37% versus 42%. Only 32% of British immigrants were rural. In terms of “racial origin”, 49.7% of the population had origins in the British Isles, 30% in France, 4% were German and 2.7% were Ukrainian. There were 170,241 Jews, 34,627 Chinese and 22,174 “Negroes”. 71.5% of the foreign-born were naturalized citizens (8% of the Chinese-born, 35% of the Japanese-born). 97.7% of the population was of European origin.

1942 Immigration reached its lowest level of the century: 7,576.

Feb. 1942 22,000 Japanese Canadians were expelled from within 100 miles of the Pacific. Many went to detention camps in the interior of B.C.,

others further east. Detention continued to the end of the war, when the Canadian government encouraged many to “repatriate” to Japan. 4,000 left, more than half Canadian-born and two-thirds Canadian citizens.

1945-1947 In the immediate post-war period, immigration controls remained tight, while pressure mounted for a more open immigration policy and a humanitarian response to the displaced persons in Europe.

May 1946 Order in Council issued allowing Canadian citizens to sponsor brothers and sisters, parents and orphaned nephews and nieces.

May 1946 Canadian officials were directed to accept identity documents and travel documents in lieu of passports from displaced persons.

July 1946 The government decided to admit 3,000 Polish veterans. They were obliged to work on a farm for one year after their arrival in Canada.

1946 Canadian Citizenship Act adopted, creating a separate Canadian citizenship, distinct from British (Canada was the first Commonwealth country to do so).

Nov. 1946 The Prime Minister announced emergency measures to aid the resettlement of European refugees. It was some months before anything was done concretely, and the door did not open for refugees without relatives in Canada until mid-1947. Selection of refugees was guided by economic considerations (the Department of Labour was involved), ethnic prejudices (Jews were routinely rejected) and political bias (those with left-wing or Communist sympathies were labelled “undesirables”). Refugees also had to be in good health. An External Affairs officer claimed that Canada selected refugees “like good beef cattle”.

Jan. 1947 Italians were removed from the category of “enemy aliens” leading to a period of significant Italian immigration.

April 1947 Beginning of the Displaced Person (DP) movement. 186,154 displaced persons came to Canada between 1947 and 1952.

1 May 1947 Prime Minister Mackenzie King made a statement in the House outlining Canada’s immigration policy. “The policy of the government is to foster the growth of the population of Canada by the encouragement of immigration. The government will seek by legislation, regulation, and vigorous administration, to ensure the careful selection and permanent settlement of such numbers of immigrants

as can advantageously be absorbed in our national economy.” Regarding discrimination, he made it clear that Canada is “perfectly within her rights in selecting the persons whom we regard as desirable future citizens”. Still, he allowed that it might be as well to remove “objectionable discrimination”. On the other hand, “the people of Canada do not wish, as a result of mass immigration, to make a fundamental alteration in the character of our population. Large-scale immigration from the orient would change the fundamental composition of the Canadian population”.

1 May 1947 Order in Council issued allowing legal residents (and not just citizens) to sponsor fiancé(e)s, spouses and unmarried children.

May 1947 Chinese Immigration Act repealed, following pressure, e.g. by the Committee for the Repeal of the Chinese Immigration Act, formed by church and labour groups. Chinese immigration was henceforth regulated by the 1930 rules for “Asiatics” which allowed only the sponsorship of wife and children by Canadian citizens.

August 1948 The first of a total of 9 boats carrying 987 Estonian refugees arrived on the east coast of Canada. They sailed from Sweden, where they were living under threat of forced repatriation to the Soviet Union. They had been trying to resettle to Canada but had been frustrated by the long delays and barriers in Canadian immigration processing. They were detained on arrival and processed through an ad hoc arrangement. All but 12 were accepted (the 12 were deported).

1950 The Department of Citizenship and Immigration was formed.

June 1950 Order in council issued replacing previous measures on immigration selection. The preference was maintained for British, Irish, French and U.S. immigrants. The categories of admissible European immigrants were expanded to include healthy applicants of good character with skills and who could readily integrate. The order gave wide discretion for refusals and Blacks continued to be for the most part excluded.

1950 Germans were removed from the categories of “enemy aliens”.

1951 Census. Of the population of 14,009,429, 14.7% were immigrants (i.e. born outside Canada). 47% of immigrants were female, 80% had been in Canada for more than 10 years and 29% lived in rural localities. 44% of immigrants were born in the

United Kingdom, 13.7% in the U.S., 9% in the USSR and 8% in Ireland. There were 37,145 immigrants from “Asiatic countries”, of whom 24,166 were from China. In terms of origins, of the total population, 48% had origins in the British Isles, 31% in France and 4% in Germany. There were 18,020 “Negroes” reported (fewer than in the 1921, 1931 and 1941 censuses). 97% of the population was of European origin.

Feb. 1951 An interest-free Assisted Passage Loan Scheme was created, restricted to immigrants from Europe.

1951 Agreements were signed with the governments of India, Pakistan and Ceylon by which Canada agreed to allow in certain numbers of their citizens (over and above those eligible under the rules for “Asiatics”).

1951 The Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees was adopted. Canada did not become a signatory because the RCMP feared that it would restrict Canada’s ability to deport refugees on security grounds.

1952 A new Immigration Act was passed, less than a month after it was introduced in the House (it came into effect 1 June 1953). This Act, which did not make substantial changes to immigration policy, gave the Minister and officials substantial powers over selection, admission and deportation. It provided for the refusal of admission on the grounds of nationality, ethnic group, geographical area of origin, peculiar customs, habits and modes of life, unsuitability with regard to the climate, probable inability to become readily assimilated, etc. Homosexuals, drug addicts and drug traffickers were added to the prohibited classes. The Act provided for immigration appeal boards, made up of department officials, to hear appeals from deportation.

1953 The Approved Church Program was set up, giving four groups power to select and process immigrants. Tensions ensued, partly because the groups favoured the most desperate refugees, while the Department was looking for labourers. The groups’ privileged status was revoked in 1958 through a departmental directive.

1954 Report of a Canadian Bar Association sub-committee criticized the arbitrary exercise of power by immigration officials and called for a quasi-judicial Immigration Appeals Board.

1956 The Supreme Court ruled in Brent that the discretion given immigration officials under the regulations exceeded the provisions of the

Immigration Act. As a result, an Order in Council was issued dividing countries into categories of preferred status.

Nov. 1956 The crushing of the Hungarian uprising led to over 200,000 Hungarians fleeing to Austria. In response to public pressure, the Canadian government implemented a special program with free passage. Thousands of Hungarians arrived in the early months of 1957 on over 200 chartered flights. More than 37,000 Hungarians were admitted in less than a year.

1957 In the federal election campaign, John Diefenbaker promised his government would develop a vigorous immigration policy and overhaul the Immigration Act.

1957 The backlog of sponsored cases in the Rome office had reached 52,000.

1958 It was decided that prospective immigrants must apply from their own country.

March 1959 The government restricted admission of family members, in a measure particularly aimed at curbing immigration of Italian family members. The measure met with loud protests and was rescinded a month later.

Fall 1959 In the Speech from the Throne, the government promised a new immigration act. However, plans were changed due to fears that getting the act through Parliament would be difficult.

1959-60 World Refugee Year. Canada admitted 325 tubercular refugees and their families (the first time that Canada had waived its health requirements for refugees).

1960 Prime Minister John Diefenbaker introduced the Bill of Rights.

1 July 1960 The Chinese Adjustment Statement Program was announced. The program included measures to curtail illegal entry of Chinese and to land Chinese in Canada without legal status. The initiative followed on the crackdown of a large-scale illegal immigration scheme, involving "paper families". The amnesty program continued throughout the 1960s - by July 1970, 11,569 Chinese had normalized their status.

1961 Census. Of the Canadian population of 18,238,247, 15.6% (2,844,263) were immigrants (i.e. born outside Canada). 48% of the immigrant population was female (but 52% of immigrants from the UK, 54% of those from the U.S. and only 38% of those from "Asiatic countries"). 58% of immigrants had been in Canada for 10 years or more. 34% of

immigrants were from the UK, 51% from other European countries (Italy by itself represented 9%), 10% from the U.S., 2% from “Asiatic countries”, 0.6% from “other countries” (which includes all of Africa apart from South Africa). 63% of immigrants were Canadian citizens. In terms of “ethnic origins”, 43.8% were from the British Isles, 30.4% French, 5.8% German, 2.6% Ukrainian and 2.5% Italian. There were 121,753 “Asiatics” (0.7%). 96.8% of the population was European.

1961 71,689 immigrants arrived - the lowest level since 1947, and a reflection of the economic recession.

Feb. 1962 Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Ellen Fairclough implemented new Immigration Regulations that removed most racial discrimination, although Europeans retained the right to sponsor a wider range of relatives than others.

Nov. 1962 Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Richard Bell suggested that immigration should be at the rate of 1% of the population. Despite high levels of unemployment, immigration was increased.

1966 The Assisted Passage Loan Scheme, originally for immigrants from Europe only, was extended to Caribbeans.

Oct. 1966 A white paper was tabled, recommending an immigration policy that was “expansionist, non-discriminatory, and balanced in reconciling the claims of family relationship with the economic interest of Canada”. The paper began: “There is a general awareness among Canadians that the present Immigration Act no longer serves national needs adequately, but there is no consensus on the remedy”. Evidently no consensus was found, since the white paper did not lead to a new Act.

1967 Interest began to be charged on loans under the Assisted Passage Loan Scheme.

Oct. 1967 The points system was incorporated into the Immigration Regulations. The last element of racial discrimination was eliminated. The sponsored family class was reduced. Visitors were given the right to apply for immigrant status while in Canada.

Nov. 1967 The Immigration Appeal Board Act was passed, giving anyone ordered deported the right to appeal to the Immigration Appeal Board, on grounds of law or compassion.

1967 8 provincial governments agreed to

participate in bringing 50 handicapped refugees into Canada, largely tubercular cases.

August 1968 Warsaw Pact troops enter Czechoslovakia. 10,975 Czechs entered Canada between August 20, 1968 and March 1, 1969. According to the departmental annual report, “[m]any Canadian organizations, universities and provincial and municipal agencies assisted in the settlement of the refugees. Without this surge of public and private cooperation, the task would have been immeasurably more difficult”.

1968 Biafrans in Canada were allowed to extend their stay.

4 June 1969 Canada acceded to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol.

1969 A hostel for draft dodgers and deserters from the U.S. was raided 10 times - possibly the result of RCMP-FBI cooperation in the return of deserters to the U.S.

1 April 1970 The Assisted Passage Loan Scheme, previously restricted to Europeans and then Caribbeans, became available worldwide. The interest rate was 6% annually.

1970 The number of people applying for immigration status after entering Canada had “exceeded expectations” and led to a backlog. There were about 8,000 applications in 1967, 28,000 in 1969 and 31,000 in 1970. Delays in processing caused problems for the individuals as they did not have the right to work while awaiting processing. Those refused could apply to the Immigration Appeals Board, leading to the development of a three-year backlog.

1970 Immigration from Asia and the Caribbean represented over 23% of the total, compared with 10% four years previously.

1970 Following Canada’s signing of the Refugee Convention, refugee selection became an issue. According to the immigration department’s annual report: “under our resettlement program, refugees considered capable of successful establishment may be selected regardless of their inability to meet immigration assessment norms”. Visa officers took into account resources available from the department and from Canadian organizations and citizens.

1970 First 92 of a group of Tibetan refugees settled in Alberta, Ontario and Québec.

1971 Census. Of the population of 21,568,310, 15.3% (3,295,530) were immigrants (i.e. born outside

Canada). 68% of immigrants had been in Canada for 10 years or more. 49.7% of immigrants were female. 12% of immigrants lived in rural areas (compared to 26% of people born in Canada). 79% of immigrants were born in Europe (28% in the UK, 12% in Italy, 6% in Germany, 5% each in Poland and the USSR). "Asiatic countries" were the birthplace for under 4% of immigrants. All African countries are grouped under "other countries" (2% of immigrants). In terms of "ethnic group", 44.6% were from the British Isles, 28.7% French, 6% German, 3.4% Italian, and 2.7% Ukrainian. There were 118,815 Chinese, 67,925 "East Indian", 37,260 Japanese, 34,445 "Negro", 28,025 West Indian and 26,665 "Syrian-Lebanese". 97% of the population was of European origin.

1971-72 The U.S. was the largest source country of immigration, in part because of the large numbers (possibly 30,000-40,000) of draft dodgers and deserters unwilling to fight in Vietnam who found refuge in Canada.

1971 The federal government announced its policy of multiculturalism.

1972 The 10 millionth immigrant since Confederation was celebrated. It was reportedly British psychiatrist Dr Richard Swinson "and his family".

June 1972 An administrative program was announced to reduce the Immigration Appeal Board backlog. By March 1973, 18,500 cases had been reviewed, and nearly 12,000 received a positive response.

August 1972 The Ugandan president announced his intention of expelling Ugandan Asians by November 8, 1972. Canada responded swiftly to an appeal from the UK to take some of these Ugandans (by September 5, a Canadian team of officers had set up office in Kampala), but initially insisted that the applicants meet the usual immigration criteria. However, as the deadline approached, they did allow some relaxation of requirements. By the end of 1973, more than 7,000 Ugandan Asians had arrived, of whom 4,420 came in specially chartered flights.

Nov. 1972 The right to apply for immigrant status while in Canada was revoked.

1973 A Settlement Branch was created within the Department of Manpower and Immigration.

July 1973 Assent was given to amendments to the Immigration Appeal Board Act. The universal right of appeal from a deportation order was abolished and provisions were made to clear up the

backlog. Appeals from deportation orders were limited to landed immigrants, people arriving at the border who had been issued a visa overseas and “bona fide refugees”. Persons in Canada since 30 November 1972 were given 60 days to apply for adjustment of status. More than 39,000 people from over 150 countries obtained immigrant status.

Sept. 1973 Overthrow of Allende government in Chile. Groups in Canada, particularly the churches, urged the government to offer protection to those being persecuted. In contrast to the rapid processing of Czechs and Ugandan Asians, the Canadian government response to the Chileans was slow and reluctant (long delays in security screenings were a particular problem). Critics charged that the lukewarm Canadian response was ideologically driven. By February 1975, 1188 refugees from Chile had arrived in Canada.

Sept. 1973 The government formed a special task force to study all policy options in immigration.

Oct. 1973 Following a visit by Prime Minister Trudeau to China, an agreement was reached allowing Canada to process applications for family reunification within China.

1974 The federal government launched the Immigrant Settlement and Adaptation Program (ISAP) through which funding for settlement services is provided.

1975 A Green Paper was released and a Special Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons created to study it. It conducted consultations over 35 weeks and held nearly 50 public hearings in 21 cities.

1976 To respond to the civil war in Lebanon, special measures were announced for Lebanese. By 1979, 11,010 immigrant visas had been issued. Additional measures were introduced in 1982 following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Nov. 1976 New Immigration Bill tabled.

Feb. 1977 First meeting of the Standing Conference of Canadian Organizations Concerned for Refugees which became in 1988 the Canadian Council for Refugees.

Feb. 1978 Immigration agreements were signed between the federal government and Québec and Nova Scotia. The former, the Cullen-Couture agreement, gave Québec the power to select its own independent immigrants (subject to medical, criminality and security screening by the federal government).

April 1978 The new Immigration Act came into effect. It identified objectives for the immigration program and forced the government to plan for the future, in consultation with the provinces. Immigrants were divided into four categories: independents, family, assisted relatives and humanitarian. The Refugee Status Advisory Committee was created. The “prohibited” categories were replaced with “inadmissible” categories, among which were no longer to be found epileptics, imbeciles, persons guilty of crimes of moral turpitude, homosexuals and people with tuberculosis. Deputy Minister Allan Gotlieb described the legislation as “a beautiful piece of work - logical, well-constructed, liberal, and workable”. The accompanying Immigration Regulations revised the points system and created the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program.

Jan. 1979 Three designated classes were created by regulation: the Indochinese, the Latin American Political Prisoners and Oppressed Persons and the East European Self-Exiled Persons. The classes facilitated the resettlement to Canada of people who met the criteria.

1979-80 60,000 refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia were resettled in Canada. Responding to media reports of the “boatpeople”, thousands of Canadians came forward, giving a dramatic launch to the new refugee private sponsorship program. Popular pressure forced the government to adjust upwards its initial commitment to resettling the refugees. For the years 1978-81, refugees made up 25% of all immigrants to Canada.

1981 Census. Of the total population of 24,083,500, 16% were immigrants (i.e. born outside Canada). 51% of immigrants were female. 67% of immigrants were born in Europe, 14% in Asia, 8.5% in North or Central America, 4.5% in the Caribbean, and 2.7% in Africa. Females made up 47% of those born in Italy, 48% of those born in Africa, 51% of those born in China, 53% of those born in North or Central America, 55% of those born in the Caribbean, and 58% of those born in the Philippines. 66% of immigrants had been in Canada for at least 11 years. 11% of immigrants lived in rural areas (compared to 27% of the total Canadian population). 69% of immigrants were Canadian citizens. In terms of ethnic origins, 92% of the population declared a single ethnic origin. 86% of population had a single European ethnic origin (40% British, 27% French). “Asia and

Africa” (listed as a single entry) accounted for 3%, “Far East Asia” 1.7%, “North and South America” 2%.

1981 The Foreign Domestic Workers Program was introduced. Those admitted came on a temporary contract, but could apply for permanent residence after 2 years in Canada.

March 1981 Special measures were created for Salvadorans (expanded in 1982 to include Salvadorans in the U.S.)

Nov. 1981 The report of the Task Force on Immigration Practices and Procedures, Refugee Status Determination Process, (the “Robinson Report”) was submitted to the Minister of Employment and Immigration. This was the first in a series of such reports on the refugee determination system: the “Ratushny Report” followed in 1984 and the “Plaut Report” in 1985.

Nov. 1982 Poland was added to the countries for the Political Prisoners and Oppressed Persons class, in response to the suppression of the Solidarity movement.

1983 Following the Colombo riots, Canada imposed a visa requirement on Sri Lankans and relaxed landing requirements for some in Canada.

1984 The Canadian Security Intelligence Service Act transferred responsibility for security aspects of immigration from RCMP to the newly created CSIS.

4 April 1985 The Supreme Court of Canada rendered the Singh decision, in which it recognized that refugee claimants are entitled to fundamental justice. The court ruled that this would normally require an oral hearing in the refugee status determination process.

1985 Extra positions on the Immigration Appeal Board were created to adjudicate refugee claims, now that refugee claimants had to be given an oral hearing.

1986 The people of Canada were awarded the Nansen medal by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, in “recognition of their major and sustained contribution to the cause of refugees”.

1986 An administrative review program was instituted for all refugee claimants in Canada before 21 May 1986, to address the backlog in the refugee determination system. 85% of the 28,000 applicants were accepted.

Feb. 1987 Measures were instituted turning back refugee claimants arriving from the U.S. They were made to wait for processing in the U.S.

May 1987 Bill C-55 was tabled. The bill completely revised the refugee determination system, creating the Immigration and Refugee Board. It proposed a two-stage process, with a “credible basis” screening. It also provided for refugee claimants to be excluded from the process if they had passed through a “safe third country”. The credible basis test and the safe third country rule were among the aspects of the bill that were vigorously opposed by refugee advocates.

July 1987 A group of Sikhs landed in Nova Scotia and claimed refugee status. Prime Minister Brian Mulroney issued an emergency recall of Parliament for the tabling of Bill C-84, the Refugee Deterrents and Detention Bill. Despite the so-called emergency, the draconian bill was not passed for a full year.

1988 Regulations were changed to allow the sponsorship of unmarried children of any age (previously only children under 21 years were eligible).

Dec. 1988 Minister of Employment and Immigration Barbara McDougall announced that no countries would be designated “safe third countries”. A special program was announced for the over 100,000 refugee claimants in the backlog as of December 31, 1988. The program was supposed to last two years, but took much longer, keeping refugees in limbo and separated from their families for years.

1 Jan. 1989 Bills C-55 and C-84 came into effect, introducing many changes to immigration law, a new refugee determination system and the Immigration and Refugee Board.

June 1989 Following the Tiananmen Square massacre, the government relaxed requirements for Chinese in Canada. About 8,000 acquired permanent residence, but others languished for years in limbo.

1990 The East European Self-Exiled Class was eliminated following the fall of the Iron Curtain. The Indochinese designated class was amended to require screening of newer arrivals, in consequence of the Comprehensive Plan of Action.

1990 The government unveiled its Five Year Plan for immigration, proposing an increase in total immigration from 200,000 in 1990 to 250,000 in 1992. The long-term commitment to planned immigration was new in Canadian history, as was the proposal to increase immigration at a time of economic recession.

1991 Census. Of the total population of 26,994,045, 16% (4,342,890) were immigrants (i.e. born outside Canada). 51% of immigrants were female. (57% of immigrants from U.S., 56% of Caribbean immigrants, but only 46% of African immigrants.) 72% of immigrants had been in Canada more than 10 years. 54% of immigrants were born in Europe, 25% in Asia, 6% in U.S., 5% in the Caribbean and 4% in Africa. While 32% of the total population lived in Montreal, Toronto or Vancouver, 57% of the immigrant population did. 81% of immigrants eligible to become Canadian citizens had done so. 71% of the total population declared a single ethnic origin (66% gave a single European origin, while Asian, Arab and African single origins together made up 6%).

1991 A new Québec-Canada Accord came into effect, giving Québec sole responsibility for the selection of independent immigrants and the administration of all settlement services in the province.

1992 Sponsorship of children was restricted to children under 19 or dependent children.

June 1992 Bill C-86 was tabled. The bill proposed revisions to the refugee determination system, mostly restrictive. The first level screening process with the credible basis test was abandoned and “eligibility” determinations transferred in part to immigration officers. Other measures proposed were fingerprinting, harsher detention provisions and making refugee hearings open to the public (these were amended as the bill passed through Parliament). New grounds of inadmissibility were added. The bill also included a provision requiring Convention Refugees applying for landing in Canada to have a passport, valid travel document or “other satisfactory identity document”.

Jan. 1993 Amendments to the Immigration Regulations cancelled the sponsorship required for “assisted relatives” and reduced the points awarded them, making it more difficult for family members (other than nuclear family) to immigrate to Canada.

1993 The Post-Determination Refugee Claimant in Canada Class (PDRCC) was created by regulation. It codified a previously existing and rather informal risk review, first instituted in 1989 for refused refugee claimants. The class has been described as a “highly sophisticated, special class designed to apply to almost no one” (Davis/Waldman).

Feb. 1993 Bill C-86 came into effect.

March 1993 The Chairperson of the Immigration and Refugee Board issued Guidelines on Women Refugee Claimants fearing Gender-related Persecution. Canada was the first country in the world to issue such guidelines. Non-governmental organizations including the Canadian Council for Refugees were active in drawing attention to the need for gender sensitivity.

June 1993 Prime Minister Kim Campbell transferred immigration to the newly created Department of Public Security, a move that was widely and bitterly denounced by the Canadian Council for Refugees and many other organizations.

1993 The newly elected Liberal government transferred the immigration department to Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

July 1994 The Deferred Removal Orders Class (DROC) was announced, allowing applications for landing from refused refugee claimants who had not been removed after 3 years, subject to certain conditions. The Class was particularly aimed at resolving the situation of over 4,500 Chinese claimants waiting in limbo. At the same time the government announced that it would restart removals to China.

Fall 1994 Announcement of lowering of immigration levels and shift away from family reunification.

Feb. 1995 As part of the federal budget, the government imposed the Right of Landing Fee, widely known as the Head Tax. The fee of \$975 applied to all adults, including refugees, becoming permanent residents. The Canadian Council for Refugees was among the organizations most active in opposing the “head tax” as discriminatory, and as a particular burden on refugees. In February 2000, the government rescinded the Right of Landing Fee for refugees, but maintained it for immigrants.

March 1995 The Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Sergio Marchi, announced the creation of an advisory committee to review candidates for appointment to the Immigration and Refugee Board, in response to persistent criticisms about the quality of board members.

July 1995 Bill C-44 (the “Just Desserts” bill) was enacted. It restricted access to appeal for permanent residents facing deportation, among other measures aimed against criminality.

Jan. 1997 The government introduced the Undocumented Convention Refugees in Canada Class

(UCRCC), offering a means for some refugees with “unsatisfactory” ID to become permanent residents, but imposing a five year wait from refugee determination. The Class was limited to Somalis and Afghanis.

May 1997 The government introduced the Humanitarian Designated Classes, expanding the categories of people eligible for resettlement. The Country of Asylum Class provided a refugee-like definition broader than the Convention Refugee definition (but those resettled must have a private sponsor). The Source Country Class provided for the resettlement of persecuted people who are still in the home country, but only if the country is on a published list (the initial list consisted of El Salvador, Guatemala, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Sudan).

Jan. 1998 The report of the Legislative Review Advisory Group (“Not Just Numbers”) was released. The three-person advisory group, chaired by Robert Trempe, had been commissioned by the Minister to come up with proposals for a new Immigration Act. The Minister, Lucienne Robillard, conducted a short but intensive consultation on the report, whose wide-ranging recommendations were generally unpopular. Mme Robillard maintained that she wanted to table legislation by the end of the year.

Feb. 1998 The Canadian government announced that negotiations with the U.S. of a Memorandum of Agreement on refugee claim determination were abandoned. The Agreement would have led to the U.S. being declared a “safe third country”, and was vigorously opposed by the Canadian Council for Refugees and other refugee advocates on both sides of the border.

1998 The governments of British Columbia and Manitoba signed agreements with the federal government giving these provinces responsibility for the administration of settlement services.

Jan. 1999 A White Paper, Building on a Strong Foundation for the 21st Century, was released. The Minister again said she planned to table legislation by the end of the year. The White Paper proposals were more modest than the “Trempe report” recommendations, but would nonetheless significantly change Canada’s immigration legislation.

April 1999 Canada accepted an appeal from the UNHCR for countries to evacuate Kosovar refugees from Macedonia, offering to take 5,000 (for two years, and with an option for them to apply for

permanent residence). On arrival in Canada, the refugees were initially housed in military bases before being resettled throughout the country. The response - from the public, governments, private sponsors, settlement organizations and the community in general - was phenomenal. In addition to the 5,000, the Canadian government moved quickly to resettle refugees with family links in Canada or with special needs.

July 1999 A boat with 123 Chinese passengers arrived off the West Coast - the first of 4 such boats to arrive over the summer. The public response was virulently hostile. Most of the Chinese were kept in long-term detention and some were irregularly prevented from making refugee claims - problems highlighted by the Canadian Council for Refugees.

(1) The figures from the census need to be viewed with caution, since there are numerous distorting factors. Groups discriminated against tend in particular to be underrepresented. The ways in which the census-takers categorized the population are in themselves revealing.

Researched and written by:

Janet Dench, Executive Director, Canadian Council for Refugees

Sources:

Canada's Refugee Policy: Indifference or Opportunism?, Gerald Dirks, 1977

Critical Years in Immigration: Canada and Australia Compared, Freda Hawkins, 1989

The Making of the Mosaic: A History of Canadian Immigration Policy, Ninette Kelly and Michael Trebilcock, 1998

Strangers at our Gates, Valerie Knowles, 1992

Whence they came: Deportation from Canada, 1900-1935, Barbara Roberts, 1988

Immigration to Canada: Historical Perspectives, ed. Gerald Tulchinsky, 1994

## 4. Recipes: Focus on Gluten-Free

### Cauliflower With Spinach, Mixed Sprouts and Garam Masala

Sprouted beans, including aduki, lentil, mung and chickpeas are an excellent source of protein and more importantly, when raw they are also rich in phytochemicals; compounds found in plants that are not required for normal functioning of the body but that have a beneficial effect on health.

This recipe uses Garam Masala spice powder although you could use general purpose curry powder mixes. To make the most of the nutrients the raw sprouts were thrown in at the last minute before serving.

#### Ingredients:

1 Half Head of Cauliflower (cut into 1" florets)  
8 Blocks of Frozen Spinach (defrosted and squeezed to remove excess water (or a couple of good handfuls of fresh leaves))  
1 Medium Red Onion (chopped)  
2 Handfuls Mixed Sprouts  
3 tsps Garam Masala  
1 tsp Sugar  
1" Piece Fresh Root Ginger (finely chopped)  
1 Clove Garlic (minced)  
Oil

#### Method:

- 1) Blanch the cauliflower florets in boiling water for approximately 5 minutes and drain
- 2) Fry the onion, ginger and garlic in a little oil until golden.
- 3) Add the cauliflower florets and fry until they start to develop browned spots, before adding the

spinach.

4) Stir in the Garam Masala, Sugar and a little water if necessary. Stir until well mixed and the spinach is warmed through.

5) Turn off the heat and stir in the mixed sprouts. Serve immediately.

Akki Rotti with Coriander Chutney

#### Ingredients:

3 cups Rice Flour

1 large Onion, finely chopped

1 Carrot, finely grated

2-3 Green Chillies, finely chopped

¼ bunch Dill, finely chopped

¼ bunch Coriander Leaves, finely chopped

½ cup Grated Coconut (optional)

1 tbsp Channa Dal (can be found at South Asian Grocery Stores)

½ tbsp Urad Dal (can be found at South Asian Grocery Stores)

½ tbsp Mustard

½ tbsp Jeera/Cumin Seeds

1 tbsp Curry Leaves, chopped (can be found at South Asian Grocery Stores)

2-3 tbsp Oil

Salt to taste

#### Method:

1) Put oil in pan and add channa dal, urad dal, mustard and jeera.

2) Add chopped curry leaves, onion and green chillies when mustard starts spluttering.

3) Sauté them till onions turn translucent.

4) To this add grated carrot and sauté it for a minute.

5) Pour 2 cups of hot water and add salt to it.

6) Now add rice flour, grated coconut, chopped dill, coriander leaves and mix well.

7) Keep mixing the mixture till dough comes together. Make sure that the dough is moist enough.

8) Turn off the heat and let the dough to cool for about 5-10 minutes.

9) Using little water make large lemon sized balls.

10) Take wax paper or plastic sheet and apply little oil on the surface.

11) Keep the dough ball in the centre and press it

flat using finger tips to ½ cm thickness. You can I cover the sheet with another plastic sheet or wax paper and press them using wide plate.

12) Heat the pan and carefully transfer the rotti.

13) Cook both the sides till they turn golden yellow by applying little oil or ghee if desired.

### Coriander-Coconut Chutney

Ingredients:

¾ cup Coconut, grated

1-2 Green Chillies

½ cup Coriander Leaves

½ marble sized Tamarind

¼ inch Ginger

Salt to taste

Method:

Grind all the ingredients to smooth paste using warm water.

### Braised Red Cabbage with Apple and Cranberries

This recipe freezes well so you can make up batches and keep them for later.

1 Medium - Large Red Cabbage (sliced finely)

2 Eating Apples (Such as Cox's, peeled and grated)

1 Red Onion (sliced finely)

2 Cloves Garlic (minced)

50g Dried Cranberries

2 tbsp Light Brown Sugar

1 Bay Leaf

1 tsp Thyme

1 tsp Mixed Spice

150ml Cider Vinegar

100ml Water

1 tbsp Oil

1) Blanch the cabbage for 2 minutes in lightly salted, boiling water; drain and set aside.

2) Heat the oil in a large pan and gently fry the onion, garlic, bay, thyme and mixed spice until the onions are softened.

3) Add the cabbage to the pan along with the cider vinegar, water, sugar and grated apple. Stir well before covering the pan and allowing to simmer for approximately 15 minutes.

4) Stir in the cranberries, stir again, cover and simmer for approximately 10 more minutes until the cabbage is tender and the liquid is nearly gone.

### Coconut Rice Pudding

Goes really nicely with slices of fresh mango.

#### Ingredients:

1 cup Jasmine Rice  
400ml Can of Coconut Milk  
500ml Soy or Rice Milk  
50g Sugar  
1 Sachet Coconut Cream  
2 tbsp Dessicated Coconut  
1 tsp Vanilla Essence  
Ground Nutmeg  
Whole Star Anise (optional)

#### Method:

Preheat oven to 150 Celcius

1) Heat coconut milk, milk, sugar, coconut cream, vanilla essence and dessicated coconut in a saucepan.

2) Add rice and simmer until the rice just starts to soften.

3) Pour into a greased dish and place in the oven. Stir after 30 minutes.

4) Cook for another 30 and stir again. Sprinkle well with nutmeg, decorate with star anise and bake until the rice is cooked and the top is golden.

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## 5. Social Justice Calendar of Events:

Tuesday November 27 - 6pm & Thursday November 29 - 6pm

PICKETS AND SPEAK-OUTS -- NO TO RACISM, XENOPHOBIA AND SEXISM!

Denounce the racist Bouchard-Taylor Commission (see articles in anti-oppression section)

Solidarity across borders, not “reasonable

accommodation”

@ in front of the Bouchard-Taylor Commission at the Palais de Congrès, corner of Viger and de Bleury - by metro: exit at metro Place d'armes; stay inside and enter the Palais des Congrès directly)

-> If you plan on attending the pickets and speak-out, get in touch

INFO: 514-848-7583 - noii-montreal@resist.ca,

<http://nooneisillegal-montreal.blogspot.com>

**Wednesday November 28th - 7:00 pm**

From Turtle Island to Aridoamerica: Warriors and Zapatistas unite their struggles...

@ the basement of the Native Friendship Center Of Montreal, 2001 Blvd St-Laurent, Metro St-Laurent

A night of multimedia presentations by members of the Onkwehonweh delegation, from Akwesasne, Six Nations, Kahnawake, and Dene and Anishnawbe territories in the north, who recently returned from the Indigenous Gathering of the Americas, which took place from October 11th to the 14th, on Yaqui traditional territory, in Sonora, Mexico.

Some of the delegates will share their experiences of partaking in the encounter, where over 500 delegates from 54 indigenous nations shared their experiences in their struggles of resistance. The warriors' presence at this encounter - hosted by the Yaqui Traditional Authorities, the National Indigenous Congress and the Sixth Commission of the Zapatista Army of National Liberation - was particularly strong: 22 indigenous nations from so-called Canada and the U.S. were present.

Additionally, those from the community of Akwesasne will also speak on their experiences at the Indigenous Peoples' Border Summit, which took place on the land of the Tohono O'odham nation, in Arizona. The original territory of the Tohono O'odham nation is currently being crossed by the wall of shame, built by the U.S. and Mexican governments. Likewise, the Kaniienka:haka territory of Akwesasne is split in half by the U.S.- Canada border.

Finally, the delegates will speak about their struggles against the colonial governments of Canada and the United States, and also about the struggle

against large companies that are illegally appropriating land, destroying Mother Earth. Videos and photos taken during the Indigenous Encounter of the Americas will also be presented.

For more info:

<http://turtleislandtomexico.blogspot.com>

[www.encuentroindigena.org](http://www.encuentroindigena.org)

[www.no2010.org](http://www.no2010.org)

**Friday November 30th - 5:30pm gathering in the park  
CRITICAL MASS ride!**

@ Carré Phillips' Square, Ste. Catherine & Union,  
(Metro McGill)

6pm, we RIDE! It is a party, a parade, a celebration; it is a busy city street, FULL of bicycles! it happens on the last friday of each month in hundreds of cities all over the world. It is fun and safe for all ages, old and young. It is free, and you do not have to register to participate. There are NO corporate sponsors, no political parties, and anyone can play a role in organizing and promoting it, AND! it happens all winter long!

<http://masse-critique.org>

**November 8 to December 8 - Tuesdays to Saturdays,  
noon to 6 p.m.**

The Sonic Tree Ecology Project: Tree stories from Palestine and beyond

The MAI is proud to present The Sonic Tree Ecology Project, a solo exhibition by the emerging artist, Reena Katz from November 8 to December 8, 2007.

Inhabited by wooden sculptures echoing with recorded voices, the MAI's gallery turns into a virtual forest thanks to Katz's ingenious installation.

While encouraging us to acknowledge our relationship with nature, The Sonic Tree Ecology Project also plants seeds for reflection about the complicated issues surrounding the purchase of trees for Israel as part of the Jewish National Fund's afforestation programme.

Reena Katz is a Toronto-based musician, composer, and audio installation artist. Her work explores gender, ethnicity, migration, and anachronism through experimental electro-acoustic, performance, and sound art formats.

Information: Aneth Sin, Public Relations: 514  
982-1812, ext.227  
comm@m-a-i.qc.ca

Tuesday December 4th - 11:30am

Action: Commando-Bouffe (Food-Grab)!

@ 1710 Beaudry street (Metro Beaudry)

\* see description above in food politics section

Organized by: Comite des Sans Emploi,  
Montreal-Centre