



Report on the 2011 Annual General Meeting Thursday 21 October 2011

Minister Jason Kenny Addresses the AGM

The 2011 Annual General Meeting had the privilege of being addressed by the Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism, the Honourable Jason Kenny. First elected to the House of Commons in 1997, Mr Kenny has been re-elected five times. He was appointed Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism on October 30, 2008, and reappointed May 18, 2011.

Minister Kenny's remarks are summarized in the article below. Following his remarks, and in the presence of Dr. Margaret Walton-Roberts, Director of our partner institute, the International Migration Research Centre at Wilfrid Laurier University, Minister Kenny presented the second annual Gunn Prize to Ms. Alyshea Cummins of Wilfrid Laurier University.



President's Report - by Mike Molloy

We have had a busy year. We are on the verge of a new partnership with an organization called the Welcoming Communities Initiative, which we hope will give us the chance to continue the video interview series the Society started a decade or so ago.

The CIHS *Bulletin* has reached a high standard: both CIC's in-house newsletter, "The Insider," and PAFSO's award winning magazine, "Bout de papier," are reprinting some of our articles. Lynda Joyce's wonderful article on the Home Children has been republished in the 2011 Heritage Book of the Federation of Danish Associations in Canada. And, incidentally, in this year of the "Home Child, Lynda's sister, Sandra Joyce, has written a fascinating novel centering on the life of a home child following World War I ("The Street Arab" – Welldone Publishing) – a tough story, beautifully written. Highly Recommended

Of the articles we carried in the past year, Kurt Jensen's essay on security screening from 1946-52 casts light on a subject that has been little known or understood. Other highlights included Rob Vineberg's article on Canada's Immigration Halls, Craig Goode's piece on the War Crimes Unit and

the two concluding parts of Jim Humphries' "CAIPS Chronicles". Garry Komar's "1972: A Year in the Life of an Immigration Officer" provided an intimate picture of work (and frustration) in the immigration department 40 years ago.

Several of us participated in the annual Metropolis Conference in Vancouver last winter where, in partnership with IMRC, we held a seminar: "Learning from the Legacy." During CIC's Public Service Week In June, Raph Girard delivered a well-received talk on the contribution that Civil Servants have made to immigration policy over the years.

It was also an active year in terms of academic outreach. We assisted about a dozen academics and graduate students who contacted us about immigration topics.

As for upcoming activities, we are planning to broaden the Bulletin's circulation through the offer of a special one-year free subscription to the electronic Bulletin for academics across Canada; and we have been offered the use of a display case at CIC Headquarters, where we plan an introductory display.

This coming September will mark the 40th anniversary of the Ugandan Refugee Movement. Thanks to the University of Ottawa, a pair of graduate students spent the summer amassing a wonderful collection of images, artefacts, official documents and articles from Canada, the UK and Uganda, and in addition we have been loaned two collections of media articles relevant to the Uganda expulsion. These are: a three-volume collection of articles from a Ugandan newspaper, The Uganda Argus (1970-1972), and a five-volume collection of journalism, comprising virtually every article on the crisis that appeared in Canadian newspapers. We will be consulting the Ismaili community and others about the possibility of having these documents scanned and preserved in an electronic resource centre.

We have had a setback in our long-standing effort to set up a new and improved website because of the departure of the consultant.

Despite this hiccup, it's been an otherwise very productive and satisfying year.

Membership

The CIHS currently has 85 life-members, of whom 24 have subscribed at the enhanced rate. There are 35 annual members (four in arrears, two in the process of being enrolled and two honorary members). There are two corporate members, one new sustaining member and five courtesy subscriptions.

Treasurer's Report - by Raph Girard

The past year has produced encouraging trends toward lower costs and higher revenues, which leave the CIHS at year end in an enviable cash position, more robust than we have previously experienced.

With the distribution of the *Bulletin* by email to a growing number of members, our production and mailing costs have gone down by over \$80.00 per Bulletin.

Membership subscriptions are healthy, but unlikely to sustain expansion of CIHS activities in the field of research and the recording of member experiences that will provide a body of research material for the future. The continued corporate support of CIC remains a valued source of mainstream funding, while a one-time generous contribution from the Walter Gordon Foundation

has provided capital that will assure our ability to pay the annual essay prize without having to commit funds to an investment in order to guarantee our annual contribution to the cash prize.

The bulk of our expenditures in 2011 year related to the *Bulletin* and the costs of the AGM. In addition, we paid a one-time cost for production of the CIHS banner that we use to identify ourselves at meetings and conventions.

The actual figures are as follows:

Cash on hand as of Oct. 1, 2010	\$6862.35
Donations, membership fees, interest on account	\$3070.98
CIC corporate membership	\$1000.
Duncan & Walter Gordon Foundation donation	\$3000
Total cash and revenue	\$13933.33
Expenses	
AGM 2010	(\$ 950.90)
CIHS Banner	(\$ 456.75)
Bulletin and administrative expenses	(\$ 926.46)
2010 Gunn Prize contribution	(\$ 500.00)
Post box rental	(\$ 152.55)
Total expenses	(\$2986.66)
Cash position Sept 30 2011	\$10996.67
Commitments - previous <i>Bulletin</i> expenses, travel for prize recipient	(\$1100)
Actual cash position at year end	\$ 9896.67
Investment account	\$ 6821.
Total assets	\$16717.67

Election of Additional Board Members – by Joe Bissett

Three CIHS members who have contributed actively to the CIHS over the past year were elected by acclamation: Gerry Maffre, Kurt Jensen, and Peter Duschinsky.

Other Business

Dr. Ravi Pendakur informed the meeting of an upcoming research project looking into the policy-making process behind the 1976 and 1993 Immigration Acts, and Meyer Burstein briefed us on the Welcoming Communities' offer to partner with CIHS to bring a historical perspective to their work.

With 52 members and guests in attendance this was the biggest AGM ever. We were pleased to welcome students from UBC, Wilfred Laurier and the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (U of Ottawa).

Minister Jason Kenney's Remarks – by Dr. Pendakur's students

Minister Jason Kenney, the first Canadian Immigration Minister to speak at a CIHS function, gave a very well received presentation on the current state of the Canadian immigration system and some of the problems it faces. He stressed that we can be proud of our system, which works well because it is centred on the recruitment of highly-skilled workers.

He noted that some challenges are, however, arising. The biggest issue is the massive backlog of applicants that has developed, but the election of a majority government will allow the CIC to make

the changes needed to ensure immigrants and their skills are directed to the sectors in which they are needed.

Improvements in the accreditation system will help to ensure that new immigrants are able to use their skills and qualifications earlier, and modification of the points system will assist in the selection of immigrants with in-demand skills, such as plumbers and welders. The Minister further described pending changes to the way family class immigrants are selected, including limitations on the number of applications accepted per year.

In response to expressions of concern from some CIHS members regarding the Temporary Foreign Worker Program, the Minister underlined that temporary foreign workers are crucial in some areas of the Canadian economy. He did not suggest that they should be allowed to apply for permanent residency, but he did note that some communities and businesses in Canada would like well-integrated temporary workers to be able to stay.

The Minister noted that integration of immigrants is also an essential component of current immigration policies, and told the meeting that the department is looking at ways to encourage newly arrived immigrants to settle in areas other than Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal, with some success already achieved. The Provincial Nominee Program has proved helpful in this, as it encourages better integration of people into rural communities and also helps to clear the backlog. Canadian practice in this regard, he suggested, avoids that ghettoization that has created problems in Europe.

Finally, in a discussion on security, Minister Kenney told the meeting that new and old Canadians alike agree that Canada needs to reform the system to ensure that it works to the benefit of all Canadians, and that it is not manipulated by persons bent on circumventing the rules. People-smuggling is a threat to the security of the nation, he said, and it is in the best interests of immigrants themselves and of Canadian society to make sure that legal channels are used. For this reason, the government has proposed Bills C-49 and C-4, which will allow authorities to detain refugee status claimants until their applications can be assessed. This change will also allow Canada to punish smugglers more effectively.

Gunn Award to Alyshea Cummins *by Gerry van Kessel and Gerry Maffre*

The winner of the 2011 Gunn Award is Alyshea Cummins, who holds an undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Windsor (2007), and who is now enrolled at Wilfrid Laurier University pursuing a Masters degree in Religion and Culture. The fact that she was

an undergraduate when she submitted her paper, while most applicants were graduate students, is a particular feather in her cap. She received her award and a cheque for \$1000 from the Honourable Jason Kenny at CIHS' AGM.



CIHS President Mike Molloy, Gunn Prize Winner Alyshea Cummins and Margaret Walton-Roberts, Director International Migration Research Centre

Her essay, "A Comparison of the Refugee Resettlement of Ugandan Ismaili Muslims and Cambodia Theravada Buddhists in Canada," analyzes the reasons for the differing resettlement experiences in Canada of these two refugee groups. In analyzing the Ismaili Muslim's resettlement experiences, she concludes that "Their skill sets and literacy upon leaving their homelands, global connections, the presence of their own respected community leaders in Canada and

wider community support here contributed to their more successful integration.” As survivors of the vast cultural and religious genocide that had damaged their country’s social fabric and eliminated civil and religious leaders, the Cambodians had a much more difficult time rebuilding their community in Canada. The conclusions that Alyshea reaches illustrate the many factors that must come together to ensure the successful settlement of refugees in Canada.

The Gunn Award recognizes academic excellence in immigration research, and is an initiative of the Canadian Immigration Historical Society (CIHS) and the International Migration Research Centre (IMRC) at Wilfrid Laurier University. These partners present an annual award of \$1000 to a student in the social sciences or humanities in a Canadian university who contributes the best essay on the history of international migration in Canada. The award honours Al Gunn, one of the founding executives of the CIHS.

Welcoming Communities Initiative by Michael Molloy and Meyer Burstein

On September 14th, 2011, a very convivial meeting was held at the new Ottawa Convention Centre, involving representatives from the WCI and a six-member group from CIHS. The aim of the meeting was to explore possible collaboration between the two organizations. A number of interesting joint projects and areas for shared development were identified and participants from both groups were enthusiastic about the prospects and benefits of working together. The following ideas were felt to have ‘legs’.

- A **workshop series** to bring historical experience to bear on current issues. One possible topic would contrast the current paper-based selection system with the greater discretion and face-to-face contact that prevailed in the 80s. The workshop would examine such issues as fairness, cultural factors in selection, the value of interviews to assess labour market and integration readiness, as well as the opportunities afforded by interviews to impart information, to exert influence and to extend a welcome. Another aspect of this examination concerns the ability to influence destination decisions by immigrants, a priority topic for the WCI.
- An **oral history project** of recorded video interviews with former officials who had been involved in important policy and program decisions as well as some of the more important and dramatic humanitarian interventions that defined Canada’s immigration stance. Participants agreed that a successful interview series would require careful preparation and background research, along with a script and interview guidelines. The recorded interviews would be made available on the CIHS and WCI websites.
- A series of **thematic documentaries** that would draw on interview footage and the workshops along with additional interviews and discussions. The WCI and the Historical Society would jointly identify the subject matter and develop the narrative line for the documentaries.
- The meeting recommended establishing a **CIHS-WCI steering committee** to oversee joint activities and the creation of **electronic links** between the WCI and CIHS websites.

Chernobyl: 1986-2011 Twenty-Five Years On: by Hector Cowan

From 1981 until 1992, Canadian visa officers were employees of the Department of External Affairs and International Trade (now the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade). As members of the so-called Social Affairs Stream, we had responsibility for immigrant and visitor visa processing, but we also took on other “social” areas, including consular duties.

As consular officers we handled any and all problems facing Canadian citizens outside Canada, and it was in this capacity that in April of 1986, I suddenly found myself called upon to deal with the situation of the Canadian citizens who were in Kiev when the Chernobyl nuclear accident occurred.

At the time I was on posting with the Canadian Embassy in Moscow. My family and I had been there only since July of 1985, but then as now, few Canadian diplomats stayed more than two years, or three at the most. My diplomatic title was Counsellor and Consul and that meant that I dealt with visas and any problems Canadian citizens might have inside the Soviet Union. In those days there were very few private visitors from the USSR to Canada, since few people were allowed out, and even fewer immigrants. I recall that in my first year there, 1985-86, I issued only 67 immigrant visas: This was with a staff of three Canadians, myself and two assistants, and two Russian employees. (At present a staff of more than 50 people cover those same jobs.) Most of my work, therefore, was in dealing with problems Canadians in the USSR had: anything from helping to straighten out tangled Intourist reservations to occasionally repatriating the remains of a Canadian who died there.

In any case, my responsibility for Canadians was what put me at the forefront when the Chernobyl story broke.

As it happened, I was still on leave with my family on Saturday, April 26, 1986, the day the Chernobyl nuclear plant exploded. In fact, we were leaving Paris for Moscow via Helsinki on that date. We were supposed to fly to Helsinki and transfer directly to the Finnair flight to Moscow, but because of a Finnish air traffic controllers' strike, we were diverted to the western Finnish town of Turku where we stayed overnight before we could carry on to Moscow the next day. With Sunday afternoon to kill in Turku, we wandered around the town seeing the sights. It was a beautiful day, with a clear blue sky and the temperature somewhere around 10°C – warm enough that many Finns were out sunbathing shirtless in the parks among the piles of rapidly melting snow. We learned later that the radiation level in Turku that day was around 1000 times normal...

That night we flew into Moscow still blithely unaware of the nuclear accident that had happened already more than 24 hours earlier. I was up early to go to work on Monday, April 28, and that morning I heard the first hint that something was up when I listened to the BBC news on shortwave (which, by the way, was not too easy because the Soviets were still routinely jamming it). At that point nothing was very clear, but some automatic warning devices had been activated on a Swedish nuclear plant, where they initially thought the problem was with them! (These alarms were designed to detect any possible contamination on workers leaving the the Swedish plant and were very sensitive.) Arriving at work I started to confer with my colleagues, who, it turned out, knew even less than I did. However, over the course of the morning we began to piece together a picture of what was going on. Not everyone in the diplomatic community learned as quickly as we did; my Irish colleague called me at about 11:00 to ask what was happening. It seems he had just had a call from an Irish newspaper which wanted to know how the Irish Embassy was handling "the situation." Not having a clue what situation the newspaper was referring to, he quickly claimed he had a bad line and said he would call back – then called me to see if I knew what was going on.

Once we had some idea of the nature of the accident we immediately began calling Canadians we knew in the vicinity. Most of these were students at the university in Kiev. We managed to talk to one or two that same morning, but they knew nothing at that time. Remember that the Soviets did not publicly acknowledge the severity of the situation until several days later. As time went by, however, it became clearer and clearer that there was a major problem. The Canadians we were talking to were also becoming more nervous, but at the same time, most did not want to believe that there was any danger: On the one hand their Soviet hosts were assuring them that there was

no problem, or at most a minor one; and on the other, many were inclined to believe that the Western news was American propaganda against the Soviet Union.

Nevertheless, we (the Embassy and the responsible divisions of External Affairs in Ottawa) recognised that we had to try to assist any Canadians in the region to leave if they wanted to. Even the few details of the accident that were beginning to leak out of the Soviet Union, together with measurements from outside the country, were making it clear by this time that there had been a massive release of radiation.

By Tuesday, April 29, the Ambassador (Vernon Turner) decided that I should go to Kiev as soon as possible to try to help the Canadians there to leave. In those days, we could not travel more than 40 km from the centre of Moscow without permission from the Soviet Foreign Ministry, so Ambassador Turner immediately began to ask our Soviet hosts to allow me to travel to Kiev. Permission was not initially granted, so I started looking for ways to travel anyway, but Soviet controls were such that I was not successful in boarding the train which left from Kievski Vokzal, the train station which was very near my apartment. This was Tuesday night, and as I walked around the train station, I began to notice that there was a small knot of people who seemed to be strolling in the same direction I was. This was the first sign I could detect of the Soviet surveillance effort apparently put in place around me; I would later see some of the same people watching over me in Kiev.

The next day, April 30, our Embassy again tried to get permission for me to travel to Kiev, but had no reply until late in the evening when suddenly the Foreign Ministry called my Ambassador to say that I could travel that same evening. I went immediately to the airport and managed to get on a flight leaving around midnight. The flight was full, and I was almost the last to board, finding myself in the middle seat of three in one of the last rows in the aircraft (a Tupolev 154). We arrived in Kiev at about 1:30 in the morning, and after some struggles with the Soviet payphone system in order to call the Ambassador to confirm I had reached Kiev, I took a taxi directly to the university residence where I was to meet one of the Canadian students we had been talking to. I stayed there for what was left of the night, and early the next day I went to a hotel in the centre of the city where it seemed that I was expected, even though I had not made a reservation.

At this time there were about 17 Canadian students in Kiev, and I immediately set up a meeting with the group of them at the hotel, relying on the one or two to whom we had been speaking to round up the rest. At the meeting I explained what we knew about the accident, including the fact that it appeared to be the worst nuclear accident in world history, and that it was all happening about 100 kilometres from the room we were in. I stressed that we, the Canadian Government, believed that there was reason for serious concern. Somewhat to my surprise, my briefing was met with a certain degree of muted suspicion. Why, some of the group asked, if it was so dangerous to be in Kiev, was I there? To this I could only answer that I was doing my job and that I certainly did not intend to stay any longer than I had to.

By way of comparison, I was contacted by the Canadian leader of a group of some 24 Canadian tourists who had just flown in from Budapest, and had somehow learned of the accident and the fact that I was in town to assist Canadians. I explained what we knew by then, more or less in the same terms I had used with the students. The person said thank you very much and that he would look into changing their itinerary; when I contacted his hotel later the same day I discovered that the entire group had already flown out to the West. So it would seem that different parts of the Canadian population had different attitudes to the whole episode.

The students continued to hesitate and in the end it took me seven days to get them rounded up

(all but one, who decided to stay) and on the train to Moscow. The Soviet authorities in Kiev, for all that it appeared that I was under constant surveillance from the security “organs,” were relatively helpful, and even got me seats on the train for all of my group at a time when ordinary Soviet citizens were trying to leave for other parts of the Soviet Union in their tens of thousands, with a huge proportion of young children among them. My Canadian charges and I managed to travel uneventfully back to Moscow on the train, where we were met by a considerable press contingent.

The attitude of the Soviets I dealt with in Kiev over the seven days I was there changed noticeably. Whereas I had been met with derision in the first day or two, by the time I managed to leave Kiev with my group of students in tow, the hotel personnel, for example, were asking me “Does your government really believe that it is dangerous here?” Soviet television had by this time acknowledged that there was a problem, but they were giving by and large useless advice. One bulletin I saw suggested that people should brush off their shoulders when they came in from outside – as if nuclear fallout was something like dandruff! At the same time, however, city street-washing trucks were constantly rinsing off the city’s roads, in an apparent attempt to wash away any radioactive material that might have been falling from the air.

The accident itself was caused by some of the technicians in the plant. I am not technically competent to describe in detail what they did, but in my understanding it amounted to disconnecting the automatic safety systems and then deliberately provoking a reactor overload. This caused it to overheat in seconds and then to blow a large number of its uranium fuel rods right out of the building, through the roof. (Unlike western nuclear reactors, the Soviet RBMK model did not have a containment structure around it.) Those who caused the accident were among its first victims. Many Soviet firemen and military personnel also died in their heroic attempts to bring the situation under control. While there is considerable debate as to the total number of people who died as a result of the Chernobyl disaster, there is little doubt that, in the first few hours and days, dozens of people received lethal doses of radiation. An alleged subsequent increased cancer death rate in the most-affected areas (the worst of the radioactive cloud went north, into Belorussia) may or may not be attributable to the accident, but there is some statistical evidence that supports such a conclusion. Bad as it was, however, it seems that it could have been even worse if the reaction had been just a little more violent, or lasted just a little longer. Even now there is concern that the “sarcophagus” in which the reactor has been entombed is disintegrating, and may ultimately collapse, leading to another massive release of radiation into the environment.

What was my own personal experience with exposure to radiation? Well, I was flown back to Canada to be tested in the facilities of the quaintly-named RadProt (which sounds appropriately Soviet); this is, or was, the radiation protection branch of Health Canada. In their facility in Ottawa I was put into a massive steel box made from armour plating taken from a First World War battleship (and therefore from steel smelted before there were any common sources of man-made nuclear pollution in the world) and my level of radioactivity was measured for an hour. At the end of all this they were able to tell me that I was roughly twice as radioactive (especially with caesium 37) as the average Canadian; this was not particularly significant, I was told, given that we had all been ten times as radioactive in the 1960s when we were exposed to nuclear fallout from the American bomb tests in Nevada.

I also had my Warholian 15 minutes of fame, being interviewed several times on Canadian radio and television, even by Barbara Frum!

2011 marked the 25th anniversary of the Chernobyl accident, and while concern lingers for the future of the accident site, it is fascinating to see that the “exclusion zone” around the reactor has

now become a kind of nature preserve by default, with animals and plants that had been thought long gone from the area flourishing through benign neglect, apparently undisturbed by radiation.

Letters to the Editor

from Slim and Stan Noble Enjoyed the #61 issue of the Bulletin very much. It was good to hear about our older officers from the age when actual personal selection was the order of the day and preferable. Slim and I enjoy our quiet life in the truffid-like grape fields which encompass most of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

from John Baker I salute Jim Humphries for "The CAIPS Chronicles". I strongly believe that the staff, clients and management of CIC owe an enormous debt to Jim, John Reynolds, Liz Boyce, Fran Psutka and a few others for their pioneering work on CAIPS. The immigration program and its processes were crying out for automation. Fortunately, a tiny team of incredibly practical people put together a system that was very intuitive and proved extremely adaptable over the 25 years it lasted. When implemented with imagination, it led to significant reductions in paper, increased staff productivity and much improved service. Eventually, CAIPS was installed on time and within budget, a rarity in the history of GOC technology projects. When I became involved with CAIPS in the fall of 1987, I was delighted to discover that I had interviewed and visaed John Reynolds in Belfast. One of my best decisions!

After my retirement, I know from some of my consulting projects that knowledgeable techies continued to heap kudos on John Reynolds for the work he had done and continued to do on CAIPS. Considering the sorry history of too many computer projects in the federal government, CAIPS was an amazing achievement.

PS-This was written before I had learned of the unfortunate passing of John Reynolds.

Mosquitoes Growing Rapidly by Rob Vineberg

When researching my article on Immigration Halls in Winnipeg ('Welcoming Immigrants at the Gateway to Canada's West: Immigration Halls in Winnipeg, 1872-1975', *Manitoba History*, No. 65 (Winter 2011)), I came across an interesting telegram. The new four-storey Immigration Hall in Winnipeg had just been completed a year earlier, at a cost of some \$200,000, a huge sum a century ago. It offered accommodation for upwards of 500 immigrants, but it seems that screens for the windows – then as now, very important things in most parts of Canada - were omitted from the plans. At the beginning of the summer, the Immigration Department requisitioned screens from the Department of Public Works, but by the end of August, nothing had happened, as is evident from the telegram J. Obediah Smith, the Commissioner of Immigration in Winnipeg, sent to his boss, the Superintendent of Immigration in Ottawa. For those of us who

have had to work with Public Works, our reaction to this might well be *plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose!*

711503
T. D. Form 1

Canadian Pacific Railway Company's Telegraph

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All messages are received by this Company for transmission, subject to the terms and conditions printed in their Blank Form No. 2, which terms and conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message. This is an unreplicated message, and is delivered by request of the sender under these conditions.

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Rec'd No.	Op's Room	Sent by	Rec'd by	Time	Date	Dist. No.	Op's to	Sent by	Rec'd by	Time	Date
204	Re wgp	ac	630p	28							

Received at _____ 292 00

Check 15 From Winnipeg Man 21 AUG 29 1907

To Superintendent of Immigration Ottawa.

Mosquitoes growing rapidly, Public works have estimate for mosquito screens nearly two months nothing being.

179 J. Obediah Smith

Source: Library and Archives Canada, Immigration Files RG 76-19, File 179-5, Document 711503

CIHS Member in Print – by Gerry Maffre

Responding to Immigrants' Settlement Needs: The Canadian Experience. Robert Vineberg. Dordrecht: Springer Briefs in Population Studies, 2012. 105 pages, \$49.95.

This book is the first comprehensive history of immigration settlement in Canada, from the tentative steps taken by Canadian colonies to assist arriving immigrants, often sick and destitute, to today's multi-faceted settlement program. It also identifies lessons learned from the Canadian experience applicable to policy-makers today. See:

http://www.springer.com/social+sciences/population+studies/book/978-94-007-2687-1?cm_mmc=NBA- -Nov-11 EAST 9613323- -product- -978-94-007-2687-1

Integration and Inclusion of Newcomers and Minorities Across Canada, John Biles, Meyer Burstein, Jim Frideres, Erin Tolley, Robert Vineberg, eds., Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2011. 423 pages, \$85 hardcover, \$39.95 softcover.

This book examines the activities of provincial and municipal governments, as well as those of a range of other important local societal players in immigration and integration. Case studies of each of the provinces, as well as the territories, are included, as are chapters on the history of federal-provincial cooperation in immigration, and the development of provincial multiculturalism policies and programs.

Vineberg's chapter on Federal-Provincial Relations is the only pure history in the book, but each provincial chapter has some history included. See: <http://mqup.mcgill.ca/book.php?bookid=2548>

Ode to Pier 21

It is timely that we re-produce, from the September, 1995 Bulletin, this poetic honour to the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21. Its new Chief Executive Officer, Marie Chapman, was named last October (www.pier21.ca/about/news). The Ode was penned by the late John Leblanc.

Upon the creation of the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission in 1977, John became the Regional Director General in Nova Scotia. After retiring, he turned more actively to his interest in the story of Pier 21. He was assisted by Bill Marks, the former Regional Director of Immigration, who had served at Pier 21 (1954-1973). Operating first as an ad-hoc committee of the CIHS, and then as The Pier 21 Society, John, as President, and Bill, as Secretary, attracted the support of Dr. Ruth Goldbloom in their efforts to create a memorial to those migrants who had passed through on their way to settlement in Canada. It is from this nucleus that the impetus for the creation of the Pier 21 Museum came, culminating in its opening on July 1, 1999. [Thanks to Bill Marks and Darrell Mesheau for help in putting together this information on John.]

Ode to Pier 21 (by J.P. Leblanc)

Unimpassioned, I am no longer the Pier 21
Of wooden ships and ocean liners,
Of barred windows, prison cells, of wire
cages.
I gave way to the jet aircraft.
Hushed, abandoned, postponed,
I stand the husk of bygone days.

Ships of all descriptions conquered the
ocean,
In Halifax Harbour, calm waters hugged
their keels,

To soothe the spirit of their passengers.
Pouring from them they peopled the land.

Silent, I am the platform that processed
Kings, queens, princes and paupers,
Intrepid pioneers, immigrants,
The detained, inadmissibles,
Lost souls, the penniless, the threadbare,
Those with USA destinations.

The torpedoed, refugees from tyranny,
Oppression and revolutions -

Displaced peoples - each
Sought land, hope, harmony, liberty,
War brides....I greeted them all.

I salute national heroes
Sailors, soldiers, airmen, seamen off to war,
Those at rest at sea,
Imperial War Graves, in Flanders Fields.
I want to become the Pier 21
With walls that speak out.
I want to recall the hustle and bustle,
Of officials and volunteers,
Helpful hands...dockhands, the
longshoremen,
Counselling words and smiling eyes -
The Sisters of Service, the Red Cross, the
Religious groups,
The nursery....the cafeteria,
Red Caps, Aid to the Traveller....and

Welcoming ambassadors and rail stop
delegations.

My international landmark
Welcomed passenger boats, to-day cruise
ships.
My plaque and interpretative panel,
Commemorate history of national
significance.

My guests gave Canada growth, nationality
and diversity.
With generosity of spirit and kind
They contributed to devastated Europe.
Heritage is my emblem of world
understanding.
A visit is a pilgrimage,
To others a shrine.
My past is ennobled, the future bright.
To foster common ground is my vision.

In Memoriam

John Reynolds

Readers who followed Jim Humphries's CAIPS Chronicles (*Bulletins* 59, 60 and 61) will be aware of the contribution of John Reynolds to the creation of the computerized record system that supported CIC overseas operations for two decades. John passed away on 15 September, 2011, deeply missed by family, friends and colleagues.

from John Humphries: Canada Immigration staff who worked with John will feel great personal and professional loss at his sudden passing. He was a superb colleague who contributed so much to the modernization of our program. John was a most calm, talented, cooperative and resourceful expert. As the CAIPS Program showed so well, he could be relied on completely for solutions to our most complex problems, always meeting our ambitions with patience and grace.

from Beth Gazzola I worked with John on CAIPS for a number of years, and on other projects after that. In addition to his direct work on CAIPS, John was a technical genius who was able and willing to assist his IM/IT colleagues with challenging problems and provide innovative solutions for a number of important programs. That he was able to do so with apparent ease, and chose to do so with no fanfare, speaks to his abilities, humility and integrity. He was a kind and loyal friend who will be missed.

Al Campbell from Joyce Cavanagh-Wood

Al was my boss for two wonderful years in Barbados in the early 1980s. He and his lovely wife Dorothy came to fetch me at the airport when I arrived in the dark of night, and from the first moment we met, we got on famously.

In that era Bridgetown was the processing hub for most of the Caribbean: everything north of Trinidad and south of Puerto Rico. Since this was a huge territory to cover, and since Al was not

excited about doing all the traveling himself, he was most generous in sending me to exotic islands with perilous landing strips. I loved it.

Al was a big guy, with a heart to match. He had a very soft voice and a great sense of fun, so working together was a pleasure, even when we had to wrestle with difficult staffing issues which sometimes cast a pall over the office. He was eminently fair, and even-tempered, traits I greatly appreciated, having experienced the opposite.

Al and Dorothy were an ideal FS couple; they enjoyed travel, new faces and challenges. Al graduated in Economics from Western, studied Public Administration at Carleton and joined the Treasury Board. He switched to immigration about the time his younger son Greg was born. Their three children, Robert, Greg and Heather, were the focus of their world, and the kids were also fun to be with, following the example of their parents. The family served in Leeds (1966-67), New Delhi (1967-68), Hong Kong (1968-1972), Ottawa (1972-1974), Seoul (1974-1976), London (1976-1980), Ottawa (1980-1982), Barbados (1982-1986) and The Hague (1986-1990). Al retired shortly after returning to Ottawa in 1990.

In Bridgetown, the Campbells lived in a house that had a large verandah right on the beach, and they were not reluctant to have lunch and dinner parties in this exquisite venue. Many a rum punch and Carib beer facilitated the ingestion of flying fish, plantain or some of Dorothy's more Canadian fare.

I saw Al and Dorothy when they were posted to The Hague and J and I were in London; and of course, after they retired and settled in Ottawa and I was on an HQ assignment. But it was not the same as the glory days in the Caribbean.

Dorothy died in 2007 and in 2008 Al went to be near his son Robert in St Thomas, Ontario, and passed away there on 17 July 2011. Daughter Heather lives in Barbados and son Greg died accidentally at a young age.

Al was a great guy... and I miss him.

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