



Czech Refugees in Cold War Canada: Book Review Part One

Martina Stvan

Martina Stvan came to Canada as a refugee from Czechoslovakia, arriving with her parents in 1968 after being accepted by officers at our embassy in Vienna. She joined Canada's immigration foreign service in 1989 and spent the early years of her career assessing applications from Hong Kongers applying to Canada following the events of Tian'anmen Square and from Indochinese refugees in camps in Indonesia. She is currently posted to New Delhi.

Introduction

Czech Refugees in Cold War Canada was written by Jan Raska and published in 2018 by the University of Manitoba Press as part of its Studies in Immigration and Culture.

What started as an interest in immigration history stemming from Jan Raska's own resettlement experience leaving Czechoslovakia in 1985 turned into a PhD dissertation, followed by a book. Having meticulously researched archives belonging to the government and to Czech-Canadian community organizations, Raska seeks to fill a gap in existing scholarship on Czech refugee experiences in Canada after the Second World War. Many of these newcomers were political refugees, but who were they? What made them choose Canada? How did the Canadian government and local Czechoslovak communities influence their immigration and resettlement experiences? How did they integrate?

My interest in reading the book was twofold. As a Czech refugee myself, I wanted to compare the book's history to that of my own family, who had arrived in 1968. As an immigration officer, I wondered how Canadian policies and approaches towards immigration and refugee resettlement evolved as a result of refugee movements such as that of the Czechs.

Raska outlines the history of Czech immigration to Canada and explains why, as refugees arriving during the Cold War through three distinct waves, they reflected Canadian values and political views and thus met Canada's rather subjective criteria as to what constituted "desirable immigrants", qualities which in turn allowed them to integrate seamlessly into mainstream Canadian culture.

This aspect of seamless integration had long puzzled me. The Czechs were never a large ethnic group in Canada. I was always the only Czech student in my class and usually my entire school, whereas there were always many other Eastern Bloc kids—Poles, Ukrainians, Croatians, Serbians—who coalesced around their churches, community centres, and Saturday language classes. But not the Czechs. Was it part of the national character, or a lack of sufficient numbers dispersed across the vastness of Canada, or life experiences that made them pursue a typical Canadian lifestyle?

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Raska considers himself an “insider-outsider”, a Canadian of Czech ancestry, inactive in Czech community organizations in Canada and therefore well placed to examine the history of the Czech refugee experience during the Cold War. I would argue that in this, he is a typical Czech immigrant to Canada, much as he describes in his research, seeking to integrate into mainstream Canadian culture, retaining his Czech heritage only in private and among select friends. And this is exactly my own experience as a Czech refugee growing up in Canada.

Cold War Politics Shape Canada’s Refugee Policies

As Raska rightly points out, for much of the twentieth century, Canada did not have an active refugee policy. Instead, federal officials relied on cabinet decisions, including individual Orders in Council (OICs) and regulations, to either admit or refuse refugees (and indeed, most immigrants). Canadian officials denied that any legal or moral obligation to resettle refugees existed under Canada’s immigration policies. The displaced persons movement after World War II was heavily biased against non-Western Europeans, who were considered less desirable due to concerns about their work ethic and ability to assimilate. Cold War politics, however, overcame concerns about the resettlement of “undesirable” individuals, “security risks”, and communist spies. Canada came to view Czech refugee resettlement positively for a number of reasons: to embarrass the Soviet Union by resettling refugees from behind the Iron Curtain, economic self-interest, and to support international efforts to alleviate the growing postwar European refugee crisis.

Three successive waves of Czech refugees migrated to Canada as a direct consequence of Cold War politics: the Communist Party takeover of Czechoslovakia in 1948, the events of Prague Spring in 1968, and the collapse of the communist regime in 1989. As a result, some 550,000 individuals, or 3.5 per cent of the total population, left Czechoslovakia. Of this number, some 36,000 individuals settled in Canada—not a large number in itself, but a huge bump compared to the few thousand who moved to Canada between the two world wars.

As Raska explains, these refugee groups, referred to as the “cream of the crop” and a “small gold mine of talent”, were better educated and of a higher socio-economic class than the Czechoslovak immigrants who came to Canada as farm workers. They were primarily motivated by ideological reasons. From Canada’s positive experiences with these and similar groups of “non-preferred migrants”, several of our current immigration practices evolved.

At this juncture a small explanation is needed. The creation of Czechoslovakia in 1918 from the remnants of the Austro-Hungarian empire brought together several ethnic groups: Czechs, Sudeten Germans, Slovaks, Hungarians, Subcarpathian Ruthenians, and Jews. They sought to forge a national identity as part of a newly created state but did not necessarily agree on that path either in their home country or as new immigrants in the New World. As interesting as the nationalist history of the Slovaks or Ruthenians may be, the focus of this book is on those who identified as Czechs or Czechoslovaks in Canada. The developing notion of Czech versus Czechoslovak is detailed in the book, as is the interplay between the different waves of Czech émigrés, but will not form part of this review. As a form of shorthand, I am conscious that at times in this review I use “Czech” instead of the lengthier “Czechoslovak”; I mean no offence and do not mean to imply any ethnic bias.

Policy Before and During World War II

Prior to the outbreak of World War II, most Czechoslovaks who immigrated to Canada were agricultural workers, chosen to fill Canada’s labour needs. Indeed, for “non-preferred countries” (Austria, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia) only agriculturalists, farm labourers, domestics, and sponsored family members could be admitted. Some came on short-term labour contracts, intending to return home after two to three years.

During the Great Depression, an Order in Council (OIC) limited immigration to Canada to American citizens and British subjects who possessed “sufficient means” to maintain themselves until they secured employment. The only avenue available for others was to qualify as agriculturalists with financial means. This emphasis on agricultural workers held well into the 1950s and would hinder large-scale resettlement of postwar displaced persons and refugees while Canadian officials sought creative means to overcome this restriction and develop new immigration criteria.

After the Munich Agreement was signed in 1938, fear of Fascism and Nazism propelled some 80,000 Czechs and Sudeten Germans to flee Sudetenland as political refugees. The Canadian National Committee on Refugees and Victims of Persecution joined with railway immigration agents to investigate the possible immigration of farmers and tradespeople, such as glassworkers, to fill local labour market shortages. Canadian Pacific and Canadian National Railway agents were permitted to examine and select potential immigrants for resettlement on to land owned by the railways. With the Great Depression raging, the Canadian government did not wish to be seen to be resettling immigrants. Only 303 families and 72 single men who had 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.

How Tomas Bata, of Bata Shoe Company fame, migrated to Canada to re-establish his shoe company makes for an interesting story and gives insight into the difficulties Canadian officials had in permitting entry to “good immigrants” when the regulations only allowed for those with backgrounds in agriculture. As Raska describes it, the young Tomas Bata presented himself at Canada House in London in December 1938. As an industrialist, he did not meet Canada’s immigration requirements; however, following his meeting with High Commissioner Vincent Massey, his passport was notated with “admit the bearer as a visitor”. Massey also gave Bata assurances that an OIC would be forthcoming to allow him to be legally admitted to Canada. When Bata arrived in New York City, he was detained on Ellis Island for possessing a passport of a country which had technically ceased to exist. Due to his prominence and connections, he was eventually permitted to travel to Canada. In Ottawa, Bata met with Frederick Charles Blair, director of the Immigration Branch, to petition for visas for 250 Bata Shoe Company employees and their families. Despite assurances that Canada would admit them, a cabinet sub-committee only allowed admission of up to 100 Bata employees and family members.

Following the German invasion of the Czech lands in 1939 (Slovaks were forced by Hitler to proclaim independence or be partitioned between Hungary and Poland), some 186,000 refugees fled. Only a few hundred settled in Canada, mostly those with capital, business experience, and personal networks of prominent businessmen and diplomats. Canada benefited from the establishment of two industrial plants by these Czech refugees: a munitions plant in Sorel, Quebec (originally part of Skoda Works); and the Bata Shoe Company, which set up the small community of Batawa Ontario (now a part of the modern city of Quinte West) as a planned community around its factory.

During World War II, nationals of states that no longer existed were viewed by Canada as potential security risks, classified as “enemy aliens” and had their civil liberties severely restricted. Czech immigrants in Canada were preoccupied with obtaining acceptance as “desirable” immigrants. They strove to show that they supported democratic values, were not politically subversive, could remain gainfully employed, and supported the war effort. Nevertheless, they had to fight against their official status as “enemy aliens” to prove their loyalty to Canada. The Czechs and Slovaks who remained as foreign nationals in Canada were subject to these national security measures. Others feared being mislabelled as Germans. Lobbying by the Czechoslovak consulate in Montreal resulted in an OIC which granted Czechs and Slovaks amended status as “liberated enemy aliens” and certificates of exemption as nationals of a friendly Allied nation.

Policy After World War II

After 1945, as the author describes, Canada was in the midst of profound social and economic change as a large number of displaced persons and political refugees were resettled in the country. Federal authorities were well aware of the need to assist European states in alleviating postwar displacement. At the same time, the Canadian government was concerned with the immigration of Eastern Europeans who might hold leftist sympathies, suffered from psychological or physical trauma, or were members of dysfunctional and immoral family units.

More lenient immigration measures were not introduced until 1946 through an OIC which for the first time allowed Canadian citizens to sponsor close relatives from Europe. The Canadian public continued to put pressure on the government to respond to the humanitarian crisis in Europe. This “problem of immigration” was put forward in April 1946 by Senator Arthur W. Roebuck, who questioned whether Canada was to remain a third-rate power with a secondary influence in the world or if it would open its doors to immigration in order to become one of the most powerful states. The Senate Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour subsequently studied the issue.

At the same time, the Cabinet Committee on Immigration Policy in May 1946 decided that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police would screen prospective immigrants overseas. In keeping with prevailing sentiment, the committee sought to prevent communist party agents, sympathisers, and leftist agitators from entering the country, despite there being no legal provision to reject an individual for being a communist. Cabinet ignored this technicality and decided that Immigration Branch would refuse any prospective immigrant who, after a security review, was deemed “unlikely to adapt themselves to the Canadian way of life and to our system of democratic government”. In 1948 the immigrant security vetting process (the origin of Canada’s current system of immigration background checks), was created. It also entailed an interview with an immigration officer and a medical test.

Meanwhile, businesses and ethnic groups continued to lobby the federal government to allow for higher immigration levels. As a result, forestry workers and garment industry workers were added to farm labourers as admissible occupations. Anyone who did not fit into these categories was required to sign an agricultural labour contract in order to enter Canada. The Department of Labour’s priority was to relocate to Canada young, single, and physically healthy displaced persons. Workers were admitted for one- or two-year contracts. Organizations who sponsored displaced persons had to guarantee that they had the financial and residential means to support them for the length of their labour contracts.

Ed. Note: This is the first of two parts.

A Teddy Bear's Journey

Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

Ed. Note: Pat Marshall worked as a resettlement officer with UNHCR Ottawa, collaborating with Citizenship and Immigration Canada, especially on the Women at Risk program. Before joining the Ottawa office of the UNHCR, Pat was a settlement worker with the Ottawa Carleton Immigrant Services Organization and worked with the local Canada Immigration Centre on the private refugee sponsorship program.

Pat sought CIHS advice on sharing her mementos from her migration experience and her professional years in the immigration sector in Ottawa. The Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 seemed the logical depository. The Museum accepted her donation and recently wrote the story below about her teddy bear, Teddy, who came to Canada with Pat and her family. The story and pictures appear with the kind permission of Pat and the Museum.



The Marshall family, 1949
Canadian Museum of
Immigration at Pier 21
[DI2019.177.8]

His honey-coloured fur has thinned from decades of hugs, his ears are a bit raggedy, and long ago his eyes were replaced with shoe buttons. It's clear he has a story to tell, but he doesn't talk or even growl (his growler mechanism wore out years ago.) Like many teddy bears of the world, if Teddy Marshall could speak, he would tell of how it felt to be endlessly loved as a cherished and constant companion through the bittersweet adventure of childhood.

He would also tell of leaving his home in Liverpool, England, an amazing journey on a huge ship all the way across the Atlantic Ocean, and of starting a new life in Toronto, Ontario.

Teddy and his person, Pat Marshall, were nearly inseparable after Pat rescued him from cousins who were using him as a football. When the time came for ten-year-old Pat and her parents to emigrate to Canada, Pat remembers, she was allowed to bring a limited number of items. There was no question Teddy would be one of them.

Teddy comes up several times in Pat's immigration story—most notably when she whispered in his ear as they boarded RMS *Samaria*, "We are really going to sail to Canada on this big ship" and her horror when her dad jokingly dangled Teddy over the side of the ship. "It was unthinkable. Teddy's little arm was so thin. It might come loose even if Daddy didn't drop him."



Pat Marshall in Toronto, 1954
Canadian Museum of Immigration
at Pier 21 [DI2019.177.2]



Pat Marshall and her grandchildren, 2019. Canadian
Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 [DI2019.177.3]

Teddy first came to the attention of the museum in December 2019 when Collections Coordinator Sarah Little received word from the Canadian Immigration Historical Society that a woman named Pat had a story to share. The curatorial team was delighted to learn that along with the story, letters, and photographs was a child's suitcase and a beloved stuffed bear.

"The thing about Teddy is that he's been with Pat for 71 years", says Sarah, who acted as the liaison to bring Teddy to the museum. "Before he came here, she had celebrated her 75th birthday with him... WITH him... we have a picture of Pat and her grandchildren and Teddy on her birthday.

"He wasn't just a beloved childhood toy; he's been a beloved teddy bear her whole life".

The curatorial team knew just how important this bear was, so his arrival on loan via couriered package from Ontario was carefully managed and highly anticipated.

“It was very exciting. I was tracking the package from when it left”, says Sarah. “I had only seen pictures of Teddy, but I had heard a lot about him”.

Teddy journeyed to the museum the same way he travelled from England to Canada, nestled into Pat’s tiny suitcase. His arrival was met with some amount of fanfare from the team. “I immediately opened it up, and I showed him off to everyone in the lower annex”, says Sarah. “Everyone was very excited to see him. We took pictures”.

Now it is the museum’s honour to pick up Teddy Marshall’s story for a while and to propel it along in the many ways he will connect visitors with Canada’s immigration story. Sarah hopes his time at the museum will help visitors think about immigration from the point of view of a child, demonstrate the power of a great story, and remind people of why their own childhood toys were so significant.

“Teddy was her best friend and her brother”, explains Sarah of Teddy’s significance. “In some way I think that helped her adapt. She had her parents with her, but she also had her little Teddy friend with her as well. He really helps tell Pat’s story, and a child’s immigration story”.

The Teddy Marshall display can be found in *The Canadian Immigration Story* exhibition at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21.



Museum staff Sarah Little, Dan Conlin, Sabrina Orr, and Tanya Higgins greet Teddy Marshall shortly after his arrival at the Museum. Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

Save the Date: Annual General Meeting, Thursday 22 October 2020

The 2020 CIHS annual general meeting will be held at St. Anthony’s Soccer Club, 523 St. Anthony Street, Ottawa.

St. Anthony Street runs off Preston immediately north of the Highway 417 overpass. The club is wheelchair accessible and has free parking.

Guest speaker to be announced.

A cash bar will be open at 6:00 pm, and the meeting will come to order at 7:00 pm.

The meeting will be accompanied by an excellent Italian buffet at the cost of \$40.

Students are particularly welcome and pay half price.

We are looking forward to greeting new members and old and extend a special invitation to any members from outside the National Capital Region who happen to be in Ottawa.

Please RSVP rgirard09@gmail.com, info@cihs-shic.ca or call 613-241-0166.

New York Visa Officers Remember 9/11

Anne Arnott, Jean-Pierre Cliche, Randy Orr, Bob Romano, and Susan Lopez

The authors are career immigration foreign service officers with many decades of service both in Canada and abroad.

Out of a clear blue sky at 8:46 am on Tuesday, 11 September 2001, the first of four hijacked commercial airliners flew directly into the north tower of the World Trade Center in lower Manhattan—and the United States changed, perhaps forever. Canada-based visa officers working at the consulate general in New York on 9/11 have decided not to wait for the tragedy's next anniversary before putting pen to paper. We want to describe how our visa office was involved in the days following the event, how we were affected, and what our most enduring memories are almost 20 years later.

The Canadian consulate general in New York (CNGNY) had a very busy immigration program in 2001. The consulate general was located at Avenue of the Americas and 50th Street, some 70 blocks north of the World Trade Center. Our visa office was in the concourse level (a basement by any other name). We had four Canada-based officers (Anne Arnott, immigration program manager; Bob Romano, head of the immigrant unit and second in command; Randy Orr, head of the visitor unit; and Jean-Pierre Cliche, immigration control officer) and 25 locally engaged staff, including four designated immigration officers with decision-making authority. We were supported at immigration headquarters by Susan Lopez and other colleagues.

On that morning, Anne and Bob were in her office with the door closed, discussing a human resources issue. Someone knocked on the door and said "Turn on the television!" When they did, they saw that one tower of the World Trade Center was in flames. Bob went upstairs and returned to say that he had seen smoke and heard a huge bang—the second plane hitting the south tower.

As usual, the visa office had a waiting room full of applicants for temporary resident visas and some who had come for scheduled immigration interviews, and none of us knew what was going on. When the first plane hit, we assumed that it was just a terrible, but not abnormal, disaster. When the second plane hit 15 minutes later, everyone knew that something more was happening. We all went into a shocked, automatic mode. No one screamed or sobbed. Randy spoke to the people in the waiting room and gave them the option of coming back another day, but everyone chose to stay. We processed the temporary resident visa applications in the same way we had always done. We all just got on with our jobs with our emotions of horror, disbelief, and fear firmly held in check.

That day was full of meetings for the entire consulate general, with the organization of rotas to keep the office open around the clock and answer telephone calls from Canadians desperately looking for their friends and family. All staff continued to be completely calm, despite the fact that our office in the Rockefeller Center complex could easily have been another terrorist target.

After the second plane hit, we were advised by the consul general that city officials had told everyone to stay where they were because no one knew whether other acts of terrorism were planned. Anne telephoned headquarters to let them know that we were unharmed and that we would be lending staff to consular operations. Our staff were understandably anxious about the fate of friends and relatives. The telephones worked only intermittently, and while some had cellphones, they were not as ubiquitous as they are now. As the day wore on and no further attacks occurred in New York, the restriction to remain in the building was lifted and staff started to leave the office. Some returned to our office when they found they could not easily get home: the trains and ferries which normally took people off the island had been stopped, and car traffic was not allowed into or out of Manhattan. Many people walked across the bridges to get to the other boroughs where they lived. Later we learned that a record number of running shoes had been sold that day.

CNGNY was unusually well resourced to deal with this tragedy. Consul General Michael Phillips had experience managing major catastrophes. He participated in Canada's response in Ireland when a terrorist bomb exploded aboard an Air India flight in Irish airspace in June 1985, killing everyone on board, many of whom were Canadian.

Mr. Phillips wanted to show that our office was giving as much support as possible to Canadians during this crisis. He kept the consulate general open all night in case Canadians came looking for help. Jean-Pierre was one of the employees on duty one such night, but no one came. Jean-Pierre remembers Mr. Phillips saying that the Canadian government had been criticized during the aftermath of the Air India downing and he was anxious to show that the office was providing all assistance possible. This 24-hour operation lasted only two or three nights, as it became apparent that there was no need for it. In addition, the recently arrived wife of an officer posted to the Canadian permanent mission to the United Nations, Maureen Girvan, who was a Canadian consular expert on leave without pay, was hired immediately to assist with the consular response. She was an invaluable addition to our office. All told, 24 Canadian citizens, as well as others with strong Canadian connections, were killed in the attack.

“Normal” business at CNGNY resumed on Friday, 14 September, following two days of city-mandated closure, and our waiting room was again full of people seeking temporary resident visas for Canada. Immediately following the attacks, Canada re-imposed the temporary resident visa requirement for citizens of Saudi Arabia, but otherwise visa processing remained essentially unchanged in the short term. There were some special requests from U.S. resident diplomats seeking to attend an urgently called international meeting in Canada. Anne remembers receiving a telex from a displeased Canadian ambassador in another country questioning the fact that we had requested urgent vetting from security colleagues in Canada to be able to issue a visa to a citizen from his country of accreditation. Anne returned a somewhat less than diplomatic response to say that the vetting was mandatory, the visa had been issued, and we had expected support and not censure in the circumstances.

Although the city was generally shut down on 12 and 13 September, everyone charged with the consular response was at work. When the office reopened, new tasks were assigned and the immigration section lent two Canada-based officers and several locally engaged staff to assist consular colleagues. Bob and Jean-Pierre continued to work with the mission’s consular team, helping Canadian citizens and residents try to locate missing family and friends who might have been in or around the World Trade Center at the time of the attacks. Aside from offices, shops, restaurants, observation deck, and major transportation hub within the World Trade Center itself, the surrounding neighbourhood was significantly affected by the collapse of the buildings. Bob became CNGNY’s liaison officer with the family centre which the city set up and was given a list of Canadians to try to locate. One of the people Bob was asked to locate was Mark Mulroney, son of former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, who was working as an investment banker in the city. By the time Bob called, Mark Mulroney had already got in touch with his parents. Bob continued to help Canadians for some time after the crisis. He received personal items belonging to missing individuals that might have contained their DNA, such as toothbrushes and hairbrushes, and he took them to the family centre to see if the DNA matched remains found in the ruins. He also assisted family members of the deceased to arrange for death certificates and other documents.

One of our colleagues in Ottawa, Kate O’Brien, had been posted to Nairobi when the 1998 terrorist attack against the U.S. embassy took place. She called Anne very early on to say that we should insist on having a visit from the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) staff. Anne met with the consul general, who agreed and tasked her with coordinating this. An EAP staff member spent a number of days in New York with members of both missions (CNGNY and Canada’s permanent mission to the United Nations, which were not co-located), to allow everyone to talk about how this tragedy had affected them and their families. We were very fortunate because no one from either mission lost anyone close. Nevertheless, the sessions helped staff to work through their fears and challenges in dealing with the aftermath of the attack. Even colleagues who had been out of New York on that day experienced trauma: they felt that they should have been there to share the shock and grief first hand.

As is well known, U.S. airspace was closed for several days following the attack. New York had always drawn high-profile visitors; such visits by Canadians normally require considerable programming and logistical support from the relevant mission. The Quebec government has an office in New York and was about to begin a major showcase, to be launched by Premier Bernard Landry. When we spoke to our Quebec colleagues, they said that they were overwhelmed with assisting the Quebecers who were already in town but that, luckily, the premier had not yet arrived. Premier of New Brunswick Bernard Lord did happen to be in town on business; he was wonderful, simply telling the mission not to worry about him and that his provincial staff would get him home.

Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and the leaders of the other parties decided to visit New York City shortly after the tragedy to meet with Canadians and city officials. Jean-Pierre became the mission’s liaison with the Prime Minister’s Office. Because of his organizational skills and bilingualism, Jean-Pierre was assigned, along with others, to accompany Prime Minister Chrétien and the Opposition leaders on 29 September when they came to New York. The whole convoy took a boat on the Hudson River from a pier somewhere in midtown to go to ground zero. Jean-Pierre remembers clearly that smoke was still coming from the smoldering debris, two and half weeks after the catastrophe. Many workers were present on the site, and a heavy chemical and burned-plastic smell hung in the air. The whole scene was quite eerie. Later that day, the Prime Minister met with the families of the Canadian victims at the consulate general. It was a touching event, free from politics and media. We noticed that afterwards the Prime Minister was not allowed to walk from the consulate general to a nearby reception but had to go by car.

Immigration Minister Elinor Caplan had been travelling outside Canada on business on the day of the attacks, and it took her a couple of days to get back to Canada. When she did, she personally called Anne to say she had worried about us and asked how we were all doing.

There were a number of changes after the attacks, some more long-lasting than others. Security at the consulate general was higher, and clients had to pass through a metal detector before moving into the immigration waiting room. Minister Manley was not allowed to run in the New York marathon unless he agreed to be accompanied by two secret service

agents. Anthrax attacks started only a week after 9/11 in New York and were often directed at news media whose offices were very close to our own. Since the anthrax spores were enclosed in mail, this had a huge impact on our immigration section because we received so much mail. The consulate general had to retrofit the mail room to give it negative pressure to ensure that, if anthrax was delivered to us, it would not leave the mail room. Luckily, we never had to find out if the precautions actually worked.

Before the attacks, U.S. immigration offices were understaffed and had to focus on only the most important issues and cases. After the attacks, the U.S. government quickly created the Department of Homeland Security, moving immigration under this enforcement umbrella agency and giving it new resources and a new focus as Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Canada responded by creating the Public Safety umbrella organization, and in 2003, the Canada Border Service Agency, which took the enforcement and intelligence side of our immigration service. Immediately after 9/11, our consular colleagues began to receive calls from the FBI and other American enforcement units to verify the status in Canada of people in whom they had an interest; if the individuals were not Canadian citizens, Jean-Pierre in our section got the call.

Everything and everyone were under suspicion after 9/11, and we seemed to go from one crisis to another. We never made it back to "normal".

Anne Remembers

On a personal level, I remember the panicked call from my sister that afternoon, relayed by my then husband through a Canadian government line because the public lines were jammed. When I was finally able to go home that evening, the other passengers on public transit were silent, in stark contrast to their usual noisy babble. The bus driver refused to take my fare. I found that my dry cleaning had still been delivered from the cleaners around the corner. My daughters (aged 10 and 14 at the time) were home and "commented" that I hadn't gone to the school to pick them up before the normal end of the school day, as so many other parents had done. We could see the smoke from the World Trade Center rising in a pillar from our south-facing apartment window.

A week or so later, my younger daughter had an orthodontist appointment. This was normally a military operation—children staged through the two or three dental offices and the orthodontist making his way quickly (but well) among his patients. On this day, he came to the waiting room and sat down with us. He told us that his wife had worked in the World Trade Center but that on 11 September, she was still at home when the first plane struck because she was meeting with a new babysitter. He said that this quirk of fate had made him realize how lucky he was and that he wanted to share his feelings with others.

My posting to New York had come about at a relatively late date and my choice of schools for the girls was limited. Thanks to an introduction by a colleague to the school his girls attended, my daughters ended up in a wonderful Catholic private school, even though we are not Catholic. Just how wonderful that school was became evident after 9/11. The head mistress, a nun, lost her nephew in the World Trade Center attack. In the week immediately following, the school brought in people to teach the girls about Islam, so they would know, notwithstanding the fear and ugly rhetoric from every side, that all Muslims were not bad people despite the fact that a few people who were Muslim had done this terrible thing.

The one souvenir of New York that I purchased before my departure the following year was a reprint of a *New Yorker* magazine cartoon. A man and his wife are in the front seat of their car reading a ticket, and you can see the police officer who has issued it walking away against the background of buildings draped with enormous U.S. flags. The caption reads "Flagless in a patriotic zone". I always used to joke that New Yorkers were New Yorkers first and Americans a somewhat distant second. That changed on 9/11, at least for a little while. Not only were most buildings draped in enormous flags, but everyone wore a U.S. flag pin on their lapels. I wore a pin with crossed Canadian and U.S. flags until the rumours started that the terrorists had come from Canada. I stopped wearing that pin and made sure that my scarf was casually draped over my lapel so no one could see that I, too, was flagless in a patriotic zone.

Randy Remembers

I stayed at the office until midnight on 9/11, doing whatever needed to be done. As I finally made my way home, there were already flags draped on buildings on Central Park West. Every doorman was standing outside his building, speaking to people as they went by. Pictures of individuals had started to appear on telephone poles, asking if anyone had seen their loved ones.

One of our locally engaged staff could not go home for weeks; she lived too close to the disaster area and was not allowed into her apartment building until it was determined to be structurally sound. The one very brief foray her husband had been allowed to make into the building had resulted in an odd assortment of clothes for her, but she was at work every day.

Bob Remembers

I walked home that night in eerie silence. 9/11 was Tuesday, and by Friday we were open for business again. I remember two things in particular, one amusing and one chilling.

First, in my role as family liaison officer, I had just collected material and affidavits from a woman and her 12-year-old son. She then asked me for help in getting a taxi. I didn't have the heart to tell her that getting a taxi on a rainy Friday afternoon in Manhattan was next to impossible. But miracles do happen. A taxi pulled up, and out came Wayne Gretzky! The National Hockey League headquarters was in the same building as the consulate general. I thrust my notebook into Wayne's hand and shoved the young man in front of him, and he cheerfully gave him an autograph. While this was happening, the taxi driver was yelling "Do you want a taxi, or do you want to buy my f---ing door handle!"

Second, I was asked by her son to speak to a woman widowed by the attacks; he told me that she was in denial and refused to take any action to get the death certificate and other documents for insurance purposes. She opened our conversation with this: "I know my husband is dead. Do you want to know how?" I guess I must have nodded. "The last words my husband said to me over the phone were 'Jesus Christ, there's a plane coming'".

Jean-Pierre Remembers

On 12 September, I was assigned to the consular section, where I answered the many incoming phone calls. Two in particular stick in my mind.

On the wall, someone had put up an image of the twin towers; the names of the tenants on each floor of the buildings were indicated on the side of the image. At that point, even though we didn't yet know the number of people dead, we understood that most of those feared dead would have been located on the upper floors of each building above the impact point of the planes, as the people working on those floors would probably have been unable to flee. After about an hour, I took a call from a sobbing woman who informed me that her Canadian citizen husband was in one of the towers at the time of the impact. I remember clearly that she said he was working for a certain insurance company. When I looked at the image on the wall, I saw that that company was located on floors above the impact of the plane. I felt so sorry for her and was only able to mumble something like, "No, we have no news yet about survivors". I took down her name and said we'd be in touch with her. I remember very well the grief and despair that came through the line and my inability to do anything about it.

An hour later, I answered a call from a television news network in Montreal. They were searching for relatives of victims in order to interview them. I knew what they wanted to do: the TV was on in the consular room, and the American networks were interviewing weeping relatives. I decided that our job was to help the relatives of the victims, not to facilitate the job of a TV network trying to exploit their despair. I told the person calling that I couldn't help her.

Susan Remembers

I was a few cubicles down from the office of the director general, International Region that day. The Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) was on strike, and many people were away at meetings when the planes struck. My mother phoned when the first plane flew into the tower. I went straight to the DG's office to turn on the television and sit by the unattended telephone, as I knew that missions would be reporting in. The immigration program manager in New York was the first to call and advise that they were fine. The immigration program manager in Washington called next. That office was not aware that an airplane had crashed into the Pentagon; they only knew about New York.

The striking PSAC staff left their picket lines within 15 minutes of hearing the news. We all knew that we had to work to support the missions and the offices across Canada which would be called upon to deal with passengers from the many aircraft that were diverted to Canadian airports as U.S. airspace had been closed.

Erratum: Bulletin 91, December 2019

Please note that two photographs on page 3 of Bulletin 91, distributed in December 2019 to CIHS members and others are incorrectly labelled. In both photographs, the person identified as Peter Vang is in fact Thomas Vang.

The website version of Bulletin 91 on www.cihs-shic.ca is correct. The editor regrets this error.

2019 Gunn Prize Goes to McGill Student

Robert Vineberg

Robert Vineberg is the Chair of the Gunn Selection Committee.

Lianne Robin Koren (MA, Department of History, McGill University) has been awarded the 2019 Gunn Prize for her essay "[Europeanized Moroccans: North African Jewish Immigration to Canada, 1955-1960](#)". Of all the essays submitted, this was judged the most meritorious, for its exploration of this understudied movement of immigrants to Canada.

The annual Gunn Prize of \$1,000 is awarded jointly by Wilfrid Laurier University's International Migration Research Centre (IMRC) and the Canadian Immigration Historical Society. It was launched in 2010 in honour of a founding member of CIHS, Al Gunn. Canadian university students can submit a fourth-year undergraduate or graduate-level research paper on the historical evolution of Canadian immigration policy or a historical analysis of Canadian immigration related to specific places, events, or communities.

In her essay, Koren assessed the strategies of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and the Jewish Immigrant Aid Society (JIAS) that led the government of Canada to establish an immigration program for Moroccan Jews in the mid- to late-1950s. She found that the CJC and the JIAS accentuated the "Westernized" identities of North African Jews for the purpose of convincing Canada that Moroccan Jews would assimilate easily. The stratagem worked, and Canada approved migration of this group.

Koren obtained both her BA and MA from McGill and will pursue a PhD that furthers her research on Sephardic Jewish migration in the 20th century and explores issues related to migration, identity, community, and diaspora.

Upon learning that she had won the 2019 Gunn Prize, Koren noted:

The history and experiences of Moroccan Jews in Canada are understudied and deserve greater academic attention. I am proud to have been chosen by the IMRC and the CIHS, who appreciate the value and importance of this subject. My essay submission to the Gunn Prize was expanded upon in my Master's thesis, "North African Jewish Migration to Canada, 1956-1960: A Holocaust Legacy".

The IMRC issues the call for submissions for the Gunn Prize. This year's deadline for submissions is 30 June 2020. A panel of academics and CIHS members with backgrounds in immigration and refugee issues assesses the submissions and selects the winning essay. The Gunn Prize is normally presented to the winner at the Annual General Meeting of the CIHS in the fall of each year. This year, the award was made in Koren's absence because she was in Australia at the time. All of us at CIHS and IMRC wish the winner the very best in her continuing studies.

Email to CIHS President Michael Molloy

Ed. Note: The following email from 9 December 2019 is reprinted with permission of the author. It has been edited for publication.

Hello Michael:

This is to say THANKS to you and your colleagues for helping me a long time ago. If I am making a mistake, please forgive me and I will not bother you again. My name is Pravin Desai and I currently live in Markham, Ontario. I was one of those people in Uganda Canada accepted in October 1972.

I accidentally bumped into the following [YouTube video](#). The gentleman at 1:03:47 in beige or orange shirt (whether you or someone else) is the one who issued me a visa at that time. The color of the shirt is what I admired on that visit to Canadian visa centre in Kampala and you can say my eyes took a snap shot of that person and his shirt. I have no words to express my thanks to this person. I will always be grateful to this person for letting me into Canada. This has been a wonderful country for me and I have ever been so happy. I have lived a wonderful life in Canada.

Without taking too much of your time, I will only say THANK YOU.

Pravin Desai



Photograph supplied by the author

My Time in Manila

Doug Dunnington

Doug Dunnington served as a visa officer in Manila and London, after which he had several assignments at immigration headquarters. He then returned to the Kitchener-Waterloo area, where he worked first at the Canada Employment Centre and then the Canada Immigration Centre. In 1998, he left the federal government and ran his own immigration consulting business for the next 20 years.

Ed. Note: Countless first-posting immigration visa officers have been posted to Manila since its opening as a visa office in the 1960s (see Raphael Girard and Gerry Maffre's article on page 13 of this issue). Many aspects of settling into a first posting or a new job anywhere have changed since the events described below took place, but some elements appear to be timeless.

My wife, Barbara, and I left frigid Toronto on 1 February 1969 with all our winter coats and scarves, and we arrived at the humid Manila International Airport eight days later. Our fellow passengers and the Filipinos at the airport looked at us rather strangely, but we just smiled and said, "We're from Canada eh!"

Boris Stipac, the deputy immigration program manager, met us and took us to the Gilarmi Apartment Hotel in Makati. Makati was a modern city within Metro Manila, with all the amenities that word suggests. Our apartment was across from the Makati Commercial Center, which contained a large supermarket, a theatre, a number of variety stores, the Intercontinental Hotel, and several first-class restaurants. The Gilarmi was a ten-storey building complete with an outdoor pool and a clean and pleasant one-bedroom apartment with a balcony for us. We quite liked it and looked forward to our stay until we found permanent accommodation. The following day, Sunday, we explored our new surroundings and found that I would have only a ten-minute walk to the visa office in the morning.

On Monday, I reported to the visa office, located in the Canadian embassy. I met Paul Fortin, the officer in charge, Boris, and Al Farrell, our RCMP officer. Once pleasantries were exchanged, Paul told me that he and Boris were leaving shortly for a two-day meeting of the Asia/Pacific regional offices in Hong Kong. I was to be left in charge!

I received a tour of the visa office, where I met the seven locally hired staff. My first task was to be briefed by each about what they did and what they saw as the challenges of processing immigrant and non-immigrant applications. Formal interviews had been cancelled for the following two days, but I handled the walk-in applicants who warranted attention. Frankly, I was most impressed with the quality, friendliness, and professionalism of our team members and looked forward to working with them.

Finding permanent accommodation in Manila was a problem because the allowance given to a junior officer was far lower than the going rate. I therefore had to be creative. After several false leads, I finally found a place that Barbara liked, in Dasmariñas Village, still in the Makati district. The rent was more than our allowance, and so we used our Kitchener charm to convince Mrs. Medina that we would take care of her home as if it was our own. Barbara had been a teacher at a Catholic high school in Canada, and that helped me convince Mrs. Medina that we would be ideal tenants. I also told her that, as we were diplomats, her house would be seen by many of the Manila diplomatic community. She and her husband would of course be invited to parties. The trump card was my telling Mrs. Medina that we would give her a crown lease. Such a lease meant that she need not worry about renting the house for five years and would have a diplomat family residing there the entire time. She, of course, welcomed us as her new tenants!



Photograph supplied by the author

My first reaction to my work was how naïve some of our visitor applicants were. To support their requests for visas, they often submitted letters purporting to be from Canadian employers. Invariably they used non-Canadian idioms that immediately triggered suspicion. "I will be the one to take care of Corazon" was the most obvious. The next was the supporting document from the Filipino employer guaranteeing that their position would be available on their return. The salary they were being paid could in no way support the cost of a return flight to Canada. A refusal of the application was thus a simple reality.

My only concern about this process was that, while we could refuse a hard-working and pleasant Filipino or Filipina a visitor visa, the equivalent applicant in Hong Kong, Pakistan, or India had no such visa hurdle. Commonwealth ties in place at the time meant that they were exempt from visa pre-screening. They could go to Canada visitor-visa free and then apply for permanent visas once they were in the country.

Immigrant visa applicants were different. Most applied in response to the demands of small towns across Canada for teachers, nurses, and medical technicians. The Philippines had the benefit of an American education system, and Canadian employers were interested in this English-speaking labour pool. I learned all about small-town Canadian

geography as I interviewed applicants with government-approved job offers from Leading Tickles, Dildo, and Twillingate in Newfoundland; Cold Lake in Alberta; Lynn Lake in Manitoba; and everywhere in between. Although our applicants were leaving big cities and a tropical climate for small towns and a freezing climate, none was overly concerned because they looked forward to the opportunity and the chance to send back money to their families. In two and a half years, I received not one complaint from an immigration or employment office in Canada about these immigrants.

It bothered me that none of my applicants knew anything about Canada. We were a second choice to the U.S. for most of them. None knew simple facts about Canada, like what was our capital city, how many provinces there were, or how many people lived there. I decided to correct that. I told my interviewees that they would not be given a visa until they learnt some information about their new country and came back for a second interview.

Shortly after, the librarian at the main office phoned to say she had a large number of Filipinas asking for information about Canada. They were making booklets about Canada similar to a university term paper in Canada. Enquiries weren't only from previous interviewees; several said they had an appointment in the coming weeks and wanted to be prepared. From then on during my time in Manila, we never had any applicants lacking basic knowledge about Canada.

One of the more controversial policy issues occurred when we were told that the Manitoba garment industry was coming to Manila to test sewing machine operators for permanent jobs in Winnipeg. I didn't agree with propping up an industry that had a reputation for underpaying and mistreating its workers. In addition, we would be committing a disservice to Filipinos, who would soon have a reputation in Manitoba for undercutting Canadian workers. I penned a strongly worded memo to Ottawa for the Immigration Program Manager's signature. Paul complimented me on a well-drafted letter but said it would be going nowhere. The issue had been reviewed at the highest levels in Ottawa and Winnipeg, and our job was to implement that decision.

Another disturbing issue concerned the use of confidential criminal information from our applicants. We of course had to rely on the cooperation of Filipino police authorities in the National Bureau of Investigations (NBI) to do the vetting. One morning I received a call from a wealthy Chinese Filipina whom I had approved under the Entrepreneur category. She wanted to know if her family's information was confidential because two NBI officers had appeared at her door with copies of her application. It was clear to her that they were looking for "tong" (a bribe). Our visa control officer made a hasty beeline to NBI headquarters to tell them to cease and desist.

When Barbara and I were going to be parents, I thought that she should have the baby back home, where things were familiar and she would have the support of her mom and our families. However, a Canadian friend who had had a baby in Manila suggested that, before making a decision, Barbara should visit the Makati Medical Center and meet obstetrician Dr. Lorenzo and pediatrician Dr. Celdran. Both had just come back from studying for six years at Harvard! Barbara stayed and had both our daughters, Jill and Kelly, in Manila.

After two and a half wonderful years in Manila, it was time to head to a new posting. I filled out the usual forms and, where it asked for my preference, I simply said, "a larger posting with a third language and preferably Germany". We were given London, England. Oh well, one out of three is not bad.

Barbara was due to give birth to our second baby in May, and so we asked to postpone our departure until July. That caused the only negative experience of our posting. The night before Kelly was born, robbers broke into the house. Our bedroom was upstairs. When we heard them, I grabbed a stick and bolted downstairs, but they were already headed out the front door. We lost a camera, stereo, and speaker, but nobody was hurt. I did the needful as required by the service, and we returned to Canada en route to our London posting as scheduled.

Un Texte Français : *Running on Empty*

Le livre *Running on Empty*, publié par McGill-Queen's University Press, contient des chapitres écrits en français puis traduits en anglais. Nous sommes heureux de présenter uniquement sur notre site les versions originales écrites par Florent Fortin et Lucile Horner, deux agents du Service d'immigration du Québec en poste dans les camps de réfugiés indochinois.

Canadian Visa Offices Abroad: Fifty Years of Service

Part Two: 1960–1969

Gerry Maffre and Raphael Girard

This is the second in a series about Canadian immigration or visa offices that were located outside the country. The accompanying chart shows where Canada provided immigration and visa services in particular countries or to specific regions in that country, as well as additional services in neighbouring countries. In making the compilation, we were indebted to the Global Affairs Digital Library for its assistance and access to its holdings of *Canadian Representatives Abroad*. This publication of the Department of External Affairs (now Global Affairs Canada) provides the names of Canadian personnel posted to diplomatic missions and contact information for those missions. The level of detail about the role of the immigration officers varies from year to year and even within editions. In years of multiple editions of *Representatives*, we used the first edition of the year.

Sometimes familiar names confirmed the presence of the immigration function in a mission. In other cases, it was a listing of an immigration doctor, a separate visa office's street, or different Telex address at the mission's location that confirmed a visa office's existence. While other authoritative government resources on office locations may exist in archives, *Representatives* is readily accessible, making it attractive for this project. Offices marked with an asterisk continued to be open until 1970 at least.

Some contrary information on visa office locations and dates can be found in Freda Hawkins's 1972 book, *Canada and Immigration: Public Policy and Public Concern*. Those differences are highlighted in the table. We thank our colleague Robert Shalka for pointing out Hawkins's data and an article by Jasper Trautsch about diplomatic relations between Canada and Germany. The fact that relations between the two countries were only formally established in 1951 is possibly responsible for the discrepancies in the opening dates of the visa offices. The differences may be, to some degree, explained by lag times between the opening or closing of an office and the printing deadlines for a particular year's edition of *Representatives*.

In the case of immigration services in the United States, American citizens could apply at the Canadian border for immigrant visas at that time. The U.S. offices Hawkins identifies were more likely involved in promotional activities and in responding to non-nationals in the U.S. needing visitor visas to enter Canada.

Some 1.3 million people immigrated to Canada in the 1960s. Over the course of this decade, the *Canadian Representatives Abroad* publications list an increasing number of visa offices and show that more countries received itinerant visa services. All this was done to improve service. The later listings also show a tendency to name more than just the senior immigration officer. In 1968, the first immigration officers are identified as other than attachés: Elsa Amadio in Milan and J.P. Fortin in Manila are both titled consuls.

This series is not meant to be a chronological study of the evolution of immigration policy and legislation. That is the job of works like Valerie Knowles's *Strangers at Our Gates*. A very active decade opened with Canada's first woman cabinet minister, the honourable Ellen Fairclough, at the helm of the department. One of her early challenges was managing down the surge in family applicants, especially from Italy. More significantly, she introduced regulations in 1962 to abolish discrimination in the system and changed the basis of selection from citizenship or national origin to employment skills. Minister Fairclough was also the minister who brought an end to a special movement of Moroccan Jews to Canada. This movement was the subject of the 2019 Gunn Prize winning essay by Lianne Koren (see page 10 of this issue).

Later in the decade, there was a White Paper on Immigration (1966), the introduction of the Immigration Appeals Board (1967), the launch under Deputy Minister Tom Kent of the universal points system (1967), the move of immigration to the new department of Manpower and Immigration, and the significant challenge of processing the backlog of in-Canada immigration applications.

Even after the expansion of eligible classes of immigrants in 1961, there was almost no immediate change to the postwar network of immigration offices that would give operational substance to this policy change. It could be reasonably concluded therefore that broadening the categories of skilled immigrants was more a cover for concurrent changes to reduce the migration of unskilled extended family members from Southern Europe than it was to enrich the qualifications of migrants hoping to settle in Canada.

Substantive change began only in 1966. That year, a new objective was enunciated: to create equal opportunity for all persons worldwide to immigrate if they possessed the skills and personal qualities that would support their successful settlement in Canada.

The mission of the overseas network of immigration offices was thereby dramatically reoriented. It was no longer a question of active recruitment, but rather a challenge to meet demand for immigration services efficiently wherever the demand from qualified applicants emerged. Initial attempts to provide service to regions not previously served created large hub "area offices" from which travelling teams would be dispatched periodically to conduct final selections of applicants who had been provisionally accepted on preliminary paper screening. Dealing with such applicants at long distance proved to be costly, slow, and ineffective. The immigration applications were filed based on the labour market demand on that day. When the application was processed months or years later, the skill the immigrant possessed might no longer be in demand in Canada

This change in the selection model began a process that would alter the mix of the annual intake of immigrants from 75 per cent European and 25 per cent from the rest of the world, to an almost complete inversion of those numbers. In less than a generation, Asian sources alone constituted almost two thirds of the annual immigrant movement, while the European proportion declined to less than a quarter.

VISA OFFICE LOCATION	DATES OF OPERATION	OTHER COUNTRIES SERVED, NOTES
Africa		
Cairo*, Egypt	1967–1969 (Hawkins: opened 1963)	
Americas		
United States of America		Hawkins identifies all these U.S. offices as "Counselling Information Offices"
Chicago*	1960–1969 (only in Hawkins)	
Denver	1960–1969 (only in Hawkins)	
Los Angeles	1966–1969 (only in Hawkins)	
New York City*	1960–1969 (only in Hawkins)	
San Francisco*	1960–1969 (only in Hawkins)	
Kingston*, Jamaica	1968–1969 (Hawkins: opened 1967)	
Port of Spain*, Trinidad & Tobago	1968–1969 (Hawkins: opened 1967)	Barbados, 1969
Asia – Pacific		
Sydney*, Australia	1968–1969	Indonesia 1967–1969, Malaysia 1964–1969, Burma (Myanmar) 1967–1969, Thailand 1968–1969, Sri Lanka 1966–1967
Hong Kong*	1960–1969	
New Delhi*, India	1960–1969	
Tokyo*, Japan	1966–1969	
Islamabad*, Pakistan	1964–1969 (Hawkins: opened 1967)	
Manila*, Philippines	1964–1969 (Hawkins: opened 1967)	
Singapore*	1966–1969	
		Nepal 1967–1969, Sri Lanka 1968–1969
		South Korea 1968–1969
		First use of "consul" for visa officer

VISA OFFICE LOCATION	DATES OF OPERATION	OTHER COUNTRIES SERVED, NOTES
Europe		
Vienna*, Austria	1960–1969	Poland 1967, Lebanon 1964–1967, Iraq 1964–1967, Turkey 1964–1967
Brussels*, Belgium	1960–1969	Luxembourg 1960–1969
Copenhagen*, Denmark	1960–1969	Iceland 19681–969, Norway 1968–1969
Federal Republic of Germany		
Berlin*	1965–1969 (Hawkins: closed 1970)	
Cologne*	1960–1969 (Hawkins: closed 1970)	
Hamburg*	1962–1969 (Hawkins: closed 1970)	
Munich	1960–1968 (only in Hawkins)	
Stuttgart	1960–1969 (only in Hawkins)	
Helsinki, Finland	1960–1966	
France		
Paris*	1960–1969	
Bordeaux*	1967–1969 (Hawkins: opened 1966)	Tunisia 1964–1969
Marseille*	1967–1969 (Hawkins: opened 1964)	
Athens*, Greece	1960–1969	
Budapest*, Hungary	1969 (only in Hawkins)	
Dublin*, Ireland	1960–1969	
Italy		
Rome*	1960–1969	Malta 1965–1969
Milan*	1968–1969	First use of “consul” for visa officer
The Hague*, Netherlands	1960–1969	
United Kingdom		
London*	1960–1969	
Belfast*	1960–1969	
Birmingham*	1967–1969 (Hawkins: opened 1966)	
Bristol	1960–1967	
Glasgow*	1960–1969	

VISA OFFICE LOCATION	DATES OF OPERATION	OTHER COUNTRIES SERVED, NOTES
Leeds Liverpool Manchester* Oslo, Norway Portugal Lisbon* Ponta Delgado* Belgrade*, Serbia Madrid*, Spain Stockholm*, Sweden Switzerland Berne* Geneva*	1960–1968 1960–1969 (Hawkins: closed 1968) 1969 1960–1966 1960–1969 1968–1969 1968–1969 1963–1969 1960–1969 1960–1969 1967–1969	 Iceland 1966 Spain 1961–1962 Finland 1967–1968, Iceland 1967, Norway 1967 Permanent Mission to UN Office, Geneva (representative office)
MIDDLE EAST		
Tel Aviv*, Israel Beirut*, Lebanon	1960–1969 1968–1969 (Hawkins: opened 1967)	Cyprus 1960–1969 Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Turkey 1968– 1969, Kuwait–1969, Most of Africa.

Readers are invited to signal any errors or omissions in this chart to info@cihs-shic.ca.

Canadian Emigration Offices in the United Kingdom, 1910

Displayed below is a copy of the full-page, Government of Canada "promotion and recruitment" advertisement from the early 1900s, showing the names and locations of "emigration agents" in various cities in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, as it was then constituted. The advertisement is taken from the 16 April 1910 edition of *Canada: An Illustrated Weekly Journal*, shared with the CIHS by a member. Canadian emigration office locations listed in this advertisement are: London, Liverpool, Birmingham, Exeter, Glasgow, Belfast, York, Aberdeen and Dublin. The head of the London office is J. Obed Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Canadian Emigration. Smith's profile appears in *CIHS Bulletin 17*, page 7.

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11-12, Charing Cross, London, S.W.

A. F. JURY, Old Castle Buildings, Preeceon's Row, Liverpool.
G. H. MITCHELL, 139, Corporation Street, Birmingham.
ALEX. McOWAN, 81, Queen Street, Exeter.
M. McINTYRE, 35-37, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow.
J. WEBSTER, 17-19, Victoria Street, Belfast.
L. BURNETT, 16, Parliament Street, York.
JOHN McLENNAN, 25, Guild Street, Aberdeen.
E. O'KELLY, 44, Dawson Street, Dublin.

PERIBS

Does the CIHS Have Your Current Contact Information?

We occasionally get returned envelopes or emails from members (both annual and lifetime) when we try to reach out to you about upcoming events in your area or try to send you the latest *Bulletin*.

If you have moved in the past few years or have changed your phone number or your email address and not notified the CIHS, it can be difficult to reach you.

If you suspect that you need to provide us with an update, please take a moment to send the following information by email to info@cihs-shic.ca or by mail to **The Canadian Immigration Historical Society, P.O. Box 9502, Station T, Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 3V2 Canada.**

Member's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Preferred Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Thank you!

Your CIHS Executive Board

CIHS thanks its corporate members - IRCC, P2P and Pier 21 - for their significant support as well as its life and annual members. All these contributions allow us to pursue our objectives and activities.

<p>The Canadian Immigration Historical Society (www.CIHS-SHIC.ca) is a non-profit corporation registered as a charitable organization under the Income Tax Act.</p>	<p>The society's goals are: - to support, encourage and promote research into the history of Canadian immigration and to foster the collection and dissemination of that history, and - to stimulate interest in and further the appreciation and understanding of the influence of immigration on Canada's development and position in the world.</p>	<p>President - Michael J. Molloy; Vice-President - Anne Arnott; Treasurer - Raph Girard; Secretary - Gail Devlin; Editor - Diane Burrows; Members at large - Brian Casey, Roy Christensen, Valerie de Montigny, Peter Duschinsky, Dawn Edlund, Charlene Elgee, Kurt Jensen, Gerry Maffre (Communications), Bob Orr, Ian Rankin, and Robert Shalka Member emeritus - J.B. "Joe" Bissett IRCC Representative - Randy Orr Webmaster: Winnerjit Rathor; Website translations: Michel Sleiman</p>
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