

#Bienvenue Afghans

Annual symposium on Francophone immigration

Resettling Afghan refugees

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Presentation overview

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- Background and some statistics
- Departmental approach and announcements
- Francophone resettlement expertise
- The key to success: engagement
- What's next

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Resettling Afghan refugees

To help address the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan, the federal government has committed to resettling at least 40,000 vulnerable Afghan refugees.





Resettling Afghan refugees



So far, Canada has welcomed more than 8,580 Afghan nationals since August 2021. The pace of arrivals continues to increase in 2022.

Key statistics:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/afghanistan/key-figures.html>

Afghan refugees in Canada



- They are vulnerable and have some critical needs when they arrive
- Very few Afghan refugees can speak French
- Some interesting data is available

The approach: a collective effort

- Critical importance of partners
- Over 100 organizations have mobilized thousands of volunteers
- Sponsorship of refugees: important in our response to this crisis



Refugee Resettlement Program

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- IRCC is funding service providers in 39 communities across the country, outside Quebec
- On January 17, 2022, Minister Fraser announced an investment of over \$35 million

RAP for Francophones

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- A well-established *Accueil* in Manitoba
- An innovative new service centre in Cornwall
- Two future centres in New Brunswick
- A national Francophone network/pillar to be created?

Best practices



- The relative importance of language... among other factors
- National webinars
- Synergy of RIFs and RAP-SPOs
- Creating opportunities
- Customized tools
- Receiving and resettling as community catalysts

A societal project

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- This complex work has only just begun...
- It requires broad, deeply rooted engagement



What's next?



- Continued collaboration with Francophone communities to support the resettlement and settlement of Afghan refugees
- From Kabul to Kyiv...
Challenges and opportunities
- New Francophone pools?
- Continue co-creation with communities for Canada-wide delivery of Francophone resettlement services “by and for...and with”

Thank you for the invitation!



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