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Interest in immigration to Canada highest since 1957

A total of 104,089 immigrants came to Canada during the first six months of 1974, an increase of 33,256 or almost 47 percent more than the number who came in the corresponding period of 1973 and an increase of 49,776 or 92 percent more than in the same period of 1972.

"The changing pattern of immigration", said Manpower and Immigration Minister Robert Andras, "is evident from a comparison of arrival statistics for the first six months of 1972 with those for the first six months of 1974. The highest relative increase occurred among immigrants admitted from South America who numbered 1,956 in the first six months of 1972 and 6,505 in the corresponding period of 1974, an increase of 233 per cent. By a similar comparison, immigrants from Africa increased from 1,391 to 4,596 or 230 per cent, immigrants from South Asia increased from 2,751 to 7,620 or 177 per cent and immigration from the Caribbean Islands increased from 4,019 to 11,082 or by 176 per cent. Increases of over 100 per cent were also apparent in immigration from Oceania and other islands (147 per cent) and from East and South East Asia (113 per cent).

Mobility of people

"The increasing mobility of people throughout the world," said Mr. Andras, "is demonstrated by the fact that of

the 104,089 immigrants admitted to Canada in the first half of this year, 17,409 or 17 per cent were born in a country other than the one they were residing in prior to immigrating here.

"Interest in immigration to Canada is at its highest post-Second World War peak since 1957. Not only has there been a 47 percent increase in the numbers of immigrants coming to Canada in comparison to 1973 but the composition of the immigrant movement has changed with particular increases evident among those immigrants admitted because of family relationships especially from the developing countries."

Of the 104,089 immigrants admitted, 48,850 or 47 per cent were admitted on the basis of family relationships to residents of Canada; 24,318 or 23 per cent of the 104,089 immigrants admitted, were extended-family members, (nominated relatives, of residents of Canada).

Overseas offices busy

The continuing increased interest in immigrating to Canada is reflected in the number of applications received at Canadian immigration offices abroad. During the first six months of 1974, 141,220 applications representing about 350,000 persons were received, an increase of 43 percent over the 98,658 received in the same period

The ten countries in which two thirds of all the immigrants were residing prior to emigrating to Canada during the first six months of 1974 were:

Country	Number	Percentage of total immigration
Britain	16,089	15.5
United States	13,789	13.2
Portugal	8,774	8.4
India	6,272	6.0
Hong Kong	6,261	6.0
Jamaica	5,333	5.1
Philippines	4,145	4.0
Greece	3,127	3.0
Italy	2,752	2.6
Trinidad-Tobago	2,392	2.4
Total	68,934	66.2

