

# Canada Weekly

Ottawa  
Canada

Volume 10, No. 2  
January 13, 1982

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## **New immigration figures indicate increases for next three years**

For the first time, the number of immigrants to be admitted to Canada has been set for a three-year period.

The change in the setting of Canada's immigration levels was announced in a report tabled recently in the House of Commons.

Entitled *Annual Report to Parliament on Immigration Levels, 1982*, it is the fourth report since 1978 when new immigration legislation called for consultations with the provinces and a public announcement of upcoming immigrant intake prior to the end of each year.

In 1982, Canada will admit 130,000 to 135,000 immigrants. In the following year, the numbers will range from 134,000 to 144,000 and in 1984, 130,000 to 145,000 immigrants will enter Canada. The total number of immigrants to Canada in 1981 is estimated at 122,000.

The 1982 levels were set following consultations with provincial governments and private sector organizations. "They are designed to be flexible and will be reviewed annually and adjusted if necessary," said Employment and Immigration Minister Lloyd Axworthy in

tabling the report.

The three-year planning cycle will improve co-ordination of the immigration inflow and enhance the federal government's capacity for more precise longer-range planning of the labour-market aspects of the movement. In addition, the three-year term will permit improved development of closely related federal activities such as immigrant settlement and adaptation programs. It will also respond to provincial preferences for more comprehensive immigration planning, and will enhance the capability of provincial governments for longer-term development in program areas for which they have responsibility, for example, education and health-care delivery.

Future levels are identified to foster better planning in the federal, provincial, and non-governmental sectors. The levels are not "targets" which must be reached without regard to changing conditions. The levels will, therefore, be reviewed and updated annually, at which time a "new third year" will be added to the three-year cycle.

"These levels will enable Canada to



*A receiving centre for Indo-Chinese refugees at an armed forces base.*



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