

1983, les investisseurs dont les propositions étaient sujettes à examen aux termes de la Loi ont éprouvé moins de difficultés à comprendre les exigences et les attentes du Gouvernement en ce qui touche l'autorisation de leurs propositions.

CANADIANS OF WELSH ORIGIN

The first known Welshman to come to Canada was Sir Thomas Button, a naval officer who commanded an expedition in search of the Northwest Passage in 1612. Other early Welsh Canadians came in the guise of British army officers or as dissenters from the Church of England establishment. Three Welsh regiments served in Canada during the American Revolution and the War of 1812 with the United States. When demobilized some soldiers decided to settle near Kingston, London or in the Niagara Peninsula. After the war of 1812 a number of families from the Pennsylvania Welsh Tract, a settlement founded by the Welsh Society of Friends in 1682, journeyed northwards and established the Quaker settlement of York County.

During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Welsh immigration received its chief impetus from the large-scale unemployment resulting from economic depression in the old country. Liverpool-based shipping representatives circulated handbooks on Canada and offered low cost passage to Welsh families. In 1862 one in three of the working population of Rhymney, Wales, was said to be keen on emigrating. The 1961 census recorded 143,942 people who identified themselves specifically as Welsh-Canadians.

Three principal group migrations of Welsh people to Canada are as different as they are interesting. The first was brought about by John Mathews, a native of Hansamlet, Wales, when he received permission in 1821 to establish his relatives in Upper Canada (later the Province of Ontario). He settled his own 34 relatives northwest of the new town of London and then encouraged other Welsh settlers to join them. As it grew, the Welsh Settlement became well known, with result that Welsh immigrants arriving from Montreal and Toronto often heard of it and chose to make it their home. By 1850 some 385 Welsh-Canadians were farming the area. By this time, however, the available land had been occupied and many of the young people growing up there in the 1860s and 1870s moved west to the prairies which were just beginning to open up.

A second group migration of Welsh to Canada was triggered by the discovery of gold in British Columbia in 1858 and the 1860s. The gold rush was shortlived and ruinous to the majority of independent prospectors drawn by gold fever, but the Welsh were among those who stayed on when surface mining was superceded by deep diggings and they successfully applied the mining skills they had learned in the Welsh coal valleys.

A third group migration occurred in 1902. Some 234 Welsh journeyed north from Patagonia, where they had experienced difficult relations with the Argentinian government and a series of disastrous floods, and settled in Saskatchewan, in Western Canada.

Welsh-Canadians have created their own Gymanfu Ganu, a song festival, and Eisteddfod, a festival of music and poetry. Churches, often named St. David, also play an important role in preserving the Welsh culture. For example, the Dewi Sant United Church in Toronto has a Welsh-speaking minister who conducts Welsh-language classes. The St. David's Society, a Welsh cultural club located in many Canadian towns and cities, is instrumental in preserving the Welsh language and culture. Toronto, Ottawa and