CANADA

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NEW IMMIGRATION RULES FOR CANADA

Manpower and Immigration Minister Jean Marchand recently announced new Canadian immigration regulations that would be applied universally, give increased recognition to family relations and be more closely attuned to Canada's economic needs. They will go into effect on October 1.

For the first time, the principles governing the selection of immigrants are described in detail in the regulations. An assessment system will permit immigration officers to apply the same standards in the same way to potential immigrants from all areas of the world.

OTHER MAIN PRINCIPLES

The regulations formally confirm the right of Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada to bring their dependants to Canada.

The privilege of citizens or permanent residents of applying for the entry into Canada of more distant relatives is extended to all areas of the world and new classes of relatives become eligible for this assistance. In the past, there have been geographical limitations on certain categories of relative.

By linking selection standards to conditions in Canada, the new regulations seek to ensure a flow of immigrants closely related to the economic and manpower requirements of Canada.

"With these regulations," says Mr. Marchand, "I believe we can abolish discrimination, pay more regard to the claims of family relationship, act with both greater efficiency and greater compassion than in the past and, through an expansionist immigration policy, serve the manpower needs of our growing Canadian economy."

The regulations, which are authorized by Order-in-Council, put into effect a policy proposed in April by Mr. Marchand to the Parliamentary Committee studying the White Paper on Immigration. The Committee recommended that the policy be implemented as soon as possible.

CATEGORY OF IMMIGRANTS

The new immigration rules make a clear distinction between dependants and relatives entering the working force. Thus there will, in the future, be three categories of immigrant: "sponsored dependants", "nominated (that is, non-dependent) relatives"; and "independent applicants", who are neither sponsored nor nominated.

For immigration purposes, dependants are defined as husband or wife, fiancé or fiancée, unmarried sons or daughters under 21, parents or grandparents over 60 (or younger if they are widowed or unable to work), and orphaned brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces or grandchildren under 18. Provision is also made for adopted children and, in cases where the only dependant is a husband or wife, for the nearest living relative.

SELECTION STANDARDS

Sponsored dependants will be admitted to Canada provided they are in good health and of good character. Independent applicants have to meet certain standards under an assessment system based on the following factors:

(Over)

Education and Training – up to 20 assessment units may be awarded on the basis of one unit for each successful year of formal education or occupational training.

Personal Assessment – up to 15 units on the basis of the immigration officer's assessment of the applicant's adaptability, motivation, initiative and other similar qualities.

Occupational Demand – up to 15 units if demand for the applicant's occupation is strong in Canada, whether the occupation is skilled or unskilled.

Occupational Skill – up to 10 units for professional persons, sinking as low as a single unit for unskilled persons.

Age – 10 units for applicants under 35, with one unit deducted for each year over 35.

Arranged Employment – 10 units if the applicant has a definite job arranged in Canada.

Knowledge of French and English – up to 10 units dependent upon the degree of fluency in French and English.

Relative – up to five units if the applicant has a relative in Canada able to help him become established but unprepared or unable to sponsor or nominate him.

Employment Opportunities in Area of Destination – up to five units if the applicant intends to go to an area of Canada where there is a generally strong demand for labour.

To qualify for admission, an independent applicant will normally have to obtain 50 of the 100 assessment units available.

A major feature of the selection standards, which assures universality of application, is that they can be applied in different areas of the world by different interviewing officers in exactly the same way.

The major purpose of the new standards, as it was with the old, is to select immigrants who can make a successful adjustment to life in Canada and thereby contribute to Canada's progress.

The interviewing immigration officer may approve the admission of an applicant who does not achieve sufficient units of assessment, or refuse the admission of an applicant who does achieve sufficient units, if there are good reasons why the assessment does not reflect the particular individual's chances of successful establishment in Canada. In such a case, however, the immigration officer would have to submit a report in writing and obtain the approval of a superior officer.

NOMINATED RELATIVES

The first five factors in the assessment – education, personal assessment, occupational demand, occupational skill, and age – apply also to applicants in the nominated relative category. The remaining four, as short-term factors affecting the applicant's initial establishment in Canada, apply only to the independent applicant.

The new standards are less rigid than the old, and failure to achieve a high assessment on any single factor, such as education, will not in itself disqualify an applicant from admission to Canada if there are other compensating factors.

In the case of a nominated relative, it is recognized that the nominee would be receiving positive assistance from his nominator in making the adjustment to Canadian life and this would compensate for the last four factors. The other standards applied are therefore much less exacting than for the independent applicant. The "nominated relative" category includes sons and daughters over 21, married sons and daughters under 21, brothers or sisters, parents or grandparents under 60, nephews, nieces, uncles, aunts and grandchildren.

On the presumption that a Canadian citizen will usually be better established in Canada than a more recent arrival and hence in a better position to give his relative more assistance, a slightly higher preference will be given to a relative who is being nominated by a Canadian citizen than one nominated by a permanent resident.

The highest preference, therefore, will be given to sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, parents or grandparents and unmarried nieces or nephews under 21, if their nominator is a Canadian citizen. Applicants in this group will have to achieve only 20 units of assessment on the first five selection factors if their nominator is a citizen. If the nominator is a permanent resident, rather than a citizen, the nominees will require 25 units.

Nephews and nieces 21 years and over, married nephews and nieces under 21, uncles, aunts and grandchildren, will require slightly higher qualifications – 30 units for the first five factors if their nominator is a citizen, 35 if he, or she, is not.

The regulations also provide that either a nominated relative or an independent applicant who comes to Canada as a visitor and then applies to remain permanently will have to meet slightly higher selection standards than if he had applied overseas.

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PARKS CONFERENCE

"The Next 100 Years in Outdoor Recreation" will be the theme of the sixth Federal-Provincial Conference to be held in Sydney, Nova Scotia, from September 25 to 29. The conference, sponsored this year by the National and Historic Parks Branch of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, is held annually to exchange information, and to study possible areas of co-operation between the federal and provincial governments.

The opening speaker will be George B. Hartzog, Jr., Director of the U.S. National Park Service. J.R.B. Coleman, Director of the National and Historic Parks Branch, will be host to provincial delegates.

Delegates, who will discuss economics of outdoor recreation, interpretation in recreation and general problems in recreation management, will also tour Cape Breton Highland National Park, inspect the Cabot Trail, visit the Alexander Graham Bell Museum at Baddeck, and tour Louisbourg, the largest historical restoration on the North American continent.

CENTENNIAL CONTRIBUTION OF EXPO '67

In a statement issued on September 8, Trade and Commerce Minister Robert Winters said that Expo '67 continued to be highly successful. Attendance at the Exhibition, he said, had been 25 percent above that forecast, and, in the first week of September had risen above 38 million.

Officials estimated he added, that 45 million visitors would have clicked through the turnstiles before closing day (October 29) – 15 million more than had been predicted before the Exhibition opened its gates.

Part of Mr. Winters' statement follows:

The heavy influx of visitors from outside the country has resulted in a considerable improvement in Expo's revenue position. As of August 31, the Corporation has collected revenues totalling $102,256,000, against an estimated $103,567,492 as of that date. The principal sources of income have been admissions, revenues from concessionaires and licencees, parking lots and from the performing arts programme. Revenues are presently running at over 98 per cent of the targeted figure.

BUSINESS BOOM

During the summer months, a high percentage of the visitors to Expo have come from the United States and overseas. In fact, during the months of July and August there have been days when over 60 per cent of the people on the site of the Exhibition were Americans. Our International Trade Centre has been booming. Our officials there have received some 5,500 businessmen from 110 countries, and 10,000 business appointments have been arranged across the country.

At the same time, experience gained from operations has enabled the management of Expo to reduce expenditures, thereby improving the overall financial position on operations, although there will, as has been reported from the outset, be an overall deficit in the accounts of Expo as such. To the country as a whole it will, however, result in overall financial earnings.

Expo 67 has indeed focused the eyes of the world on Canada in our centennial year, and we can expect substantial dividends in terms of tourism, trade and investment for years to come. The Exhibition has been built and operated by Canadians from across the country. It is a Canadian achievement of which we can all be proud.

Expo has brought millions of people to Canada this year, and will be an influence in bringing many millions more to our country in the years to come. The average length of stay at the Exhibition for our visitors has been in the order of five days, followed by trips elsewhere in the country before returning home.

SPINOFF EFFECTS

It was our hope that Expo would generate interest in Canada and thus attract a record flow of visitors who would then fan out and see other parts of Canada. Our tourist advertising was developed to that end and, accordingly, I was pleased that the Canadian National Exhibition has had its greatest year, that the Pan-American Games have been a tremendous success, and that the Central Canada Exhibition, the Calgary Stampede and Klondike Days all broke records. One or two areas report lesser tourist activity for a variety of local reasons, but in the overall, this is a great season for Canada and Expo has undoubtedly been one of the ingredients in this success.

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FRANCE STUDIES CANADA'S HOUSING

A national housing-shortage in France has led to the presence in Canada of 18 top housing experts from that country to study Canadian timber-frame construction methods. The visit, which began on September 16 and will end on October 3, is sponsored by the Department of Trade and Commerce. It is the first such mission from France arranged by the Department, which has thereby enlarged its programme for the expanding of markets abroad for Canadian lumber and plywood. Housing missions have also been brought to Canada from Britain, The Netherlands, West Germany, Australia and Ireland.

WESTERN TOUR

The French housing authorities will spend several days in Ottawa discussing Canadian home-construction with representatives of Canadian government and industry. They will then travel to Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Quebec and Montreal, visiting along the way logging camps and plywood plants and touring industrial housing developments and construction sites.

GRANT TO MONTSERRAT

Mr. Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, has announced the approval by the Canadian Government of a development-assistance grant worth $250,000 for the improvement of Blackburne Airport, on the West Indian island of Montserrat. The funds will cover the provision of Canadian-made lighting equipment and the construction of an air terminal by a Canadian company.

The grant was approved following recommendations made after an economic survey which was conducted last year by Canada, Britain, and the United States. The suggestion was made that improved airport facilities would help to attract more tourists, thereby lessening the island's dependence on agriculture.

With British development aid, Montserrat has lengthened and improved Blackburne's runway. The new lights will allow the airport to operate longer hours each day with a greater margin of safety, and more travellers will be handled by the new terminal.

Canada has allocated $632,500 to capital-assistance projects on Montserrat. A $380,000-water development scheme is under way and port-handling facilities worth $2,500 have been provided.

(Over)

Transportation equipment showed an increase for the fourth consecutive month. The non-ferrous metal products major group also showed an increase. Minor changes occurred in the non-metallic mineral products and the iron and steel products major groups.

The 1.2 percent rise in mining was the result of increases of 2.2 per cent in fuel mining (which includes coal, natural gas and crude petroleum) and 5.0 per cent in non-metal mining. Metal mining showed a fractional decrease. The trends within this last group were mixed.

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RESIDENT POST IN THAILAND

Mr. John Cleland Britton has recently been appointed Canada's first resident Ambassador to Thailand, the former Canadian Ambassador to Thailand having resided in Kuala Lumpur, Malaya.

Mr. Britton, now Minister at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo, is a native of Toronto and graduated from Queen's University, Kingston, in 1930. After joining the Department of Trade and Commerce he served in Port-of-Spain, Johannesburg, St. John's, Newfoundland, Sydney and The Hague. In 1963, he was appointed Consul General in Los Angeles, a position he held until he was appointed to Tokyo in 1965.

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MAN-HOURS AND EARNINGS

Canada's average weekly wages in manufacturing decreased slightly from April, to $96.13 in May, according to data that will shortly be published in the monthly Dominion Bureau of Statistics report *Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings*. This was the result of a slight decline in average weekly hours; average hourly earnings showed no change. Compared to May 1966 figures, average weekly wages decreased from $131.07 in April to $129.34 in May, largely as the result of a 4-cent decline in average hourly earnings. Average weekly hours remained unchanged, as an 0.6-hour increase in the engineering component was offset by an 0.6-hour decrease in the building component. A 12-cent decline in average hourly earnings in the engineering component was partially offset by a 2-cent increase in the building component.

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