

## **Supporting facts (Source: Canadian Council for Refugees)**

Since the end of World War II, Canada has welcomed more than one and a quarter million refugees. [Source: CCR compilation of government statistics.]

According to a Europe-based study, investing one Euro in welcoming refugees can yield nearly two Euros in economic benefits within five years. [Source: Tent, Refugees Work, 2016]

A decade after arriving in Canada, Vietnamese former refugees had a lower unemployment rate and relied less on social assistance than the Canadian average; one in five had started their own business. [Source: Morton Beiser, Strangers at the Gate: The 'Boat People's' First Ten Years in Canada, 1999]

Refugees, with a lower average age than Canadians, help us with the demographic challenge of our ageing population. Without immigration, the number of people of working age in Canada per person of retirement age is projected to fall from 4.2 to 2.4. Young, hard-working, taxpaying refugees will boost our economy. [Source: Tent, Refugees Work, 2016]

Montreal business leader, Louis Audet, President of Cogeco, has called on Canada to accept 100,000 refugees per year. [Source: Radio-Canada, Le PDG de Cogeco appelle le Canada à « exercer son leadership moral humanitaire », 2015]

Research shows that, with time, refugees have the same levels of economic success as other Canadians, in terms of household income and home ownership. [Source: CBC, Research finds refugees have same economic success as other Canadians, but it takes time, 2017]

Refugees' employment earnings increase over time after arrival in Canada. After 10 years, average employment earnings for resettled refugees are over \$32,000. [Source: IRCC, Evaluation of the Resettlement Programs (GAR, PSR, BVOR and RAP), 2016]

Refugees pay more income tax than millionaire investor immigrants. [Source: CBC, Refugees pay more income tax than millionaire investor immigrants, 2015]

The approximately 2,500 Syrian refugees resettled to B.C. late 2015-early 2016, are expected to contribute an estimated minimum of \$563 million in local economic activity over the next 20 years, according to VanCity Credit Union. [Source: VanCity, From Crisis to Community: Syrian Refugees and the B.C. Economy, 2016]

85% of refugees become Canadian citizens - this rate is higher than other immigration categories. [Source: Statistics Canada, Divergent Trends in Citizenship Rates among immigrants in Canada and the United States, 2011]

According to polling commissioned by the CCR in 2017, most Canadians agree that even if there are some costs in the near term, in the long term welcoming refugees will prove good for the economy.

A 2017 British Columbia poll found that a majority of people agreed that immigration creates new economic opportunities. [Source: 2017 Vancity/Insights West survey]