

City of Toronto Refugee Resettlement Program

November 25, 2015

Refugee Types

There are two main categories of resettled refugees:

- **Government-Assisted Refugees (GARs):** The federal government funds a network of settlement agencies to provide assistance to GARs, and provides income support for up to 12 months based on provincial social assistance rates.
- **Privately Sponsored Refugees (PSRs):** PSRs are supported by private sponsors or organizations or groups of individuals, including financial support and practical assistance for the first year in Canada.

Federal Plan

- 25,000 refugees by March 2016, more throughout the year
 - 10,000 by end of December (primarily PSRs)
 - Additional 15,000 by the end of February (GARs, some PSRs)
 - Additional arrivals throughout 2016 (GARs and PSRs)
- Screening prior to refugees leaving current locations
- Most vulnerable prioritized for resettlement

Federal Plan

- Landings in Toronto and Montreal
- 36 destination cities
- Desire for even distribution across country
- Estimated federal cost: \$678M over the next six years
- Goal: to bring refugees fast, while also doing it right

Impact on Toronto

Key Considerations

- Toronto has a long history of welcoming newcomers
- Toronto has a strong and established settlement sector
- Key systems are in place, preparations have been made
- We will continue to focus on high-impact activities
- Particular focus on private sponsorships

Impact on Toronto

The Refugee Resettlement Program

- Aims to mobilize the existing supports, while facilitating enhancements where needed
- Focuses on strategies that can create the most impact

Three Key Roles

- Coordination
- Enhancement
- Integration

Impact on Toronto

Immediate Priorities

- Appropriate supports for PSRs and their sponsors
- Housing help for all refugees

Actions Initiated

- Enhancements to existing housing supports
- One-on-one supports for sponsors
- Sponsors information fair at City Hall
- Webpage

Impact on Toronto

Next Steps

- Meetings: Inter-Divisional Team and Inter-Agency Task Force
- National planning meeting
- Service agreements with partner agencies
- Acceleration of settlement supports in City facilities
- Information fairs across Toronto
- Release of webpage