



## National SAH Conference: Call for Questions

If you have any questions you'd like answered from the representatives of IRCC, UNHCR, IOM or anyone else at the conference, please submit them to [conference@rstp.ca](mailto:conference@rstp.ca) by Friday, May 13th. Any questions sent to RSTP can be forwarded to the respective presenters.

The following are a few of the sessions that will be held during this year's National SAH conference in Saskatoon:

- IRCC and Overseas Mission Updates—IRCC will be providing an overview of case processing by overseas visa posts;
- In-Canada Processing and CPOW – updates on caseloads, processing times, and sponsorship application processing by IRCC;
- Presentations by UNHCR and IOM
- Also: SAH Agreement, Sponsorship Breakdowns, Allocations, BVOR program, and Future Directions in Sponsoring through Sub-Capped Missions.

## 2017 Immigration Levels Consultations - Summer 2016

The target levels in the 2016 Immigration Levels Plan, released in March 2016, are the highest in recent history. To engage the public and relevant stakeholders, the Government of Canada is soon preparing to launch consultations for 2017 immigration levels and multi-year levels planning.

While there is representation of SAHs by the SAH Council with IRCC, the immigration levels consultations serve as another opportunity to raise your voice and share your opinion as a stakeholder. Now is the time to begin preparing your ideas and feedback, as consultations are expected to take place in Summer 2016. Dates and further information will be announced in the coming weeks.

## Permanent Resident (PR) Cards - Important Reminder on Permanent Address and Photo Updates

IRCC has indicated that a large number of newly-arrived Syrian refugees still need their address updated in the online system and/or new photos in order for IRCC to produce their Permanent Resident (PR) Card. As a reminder, it is very important that the permanent (in Canada) address of privately sponsored refugees be provided within 180 days of their arrival. In addition to this, it is a good idea for sponsors to proactively inform sponsored refugees that their photo may need to be retaken if the Confirmation of Permanent Residence (CoPR) photo does not meet the requirements for the PR card. Please find detailed information below on how to update an address and how to send photos for PR Cards.

### Address

IRCC will mail the first permanent resident (PR) card. To do so, they will need the person's **permanent Canadian address** as soon as they have one. If it is not sent within 180 days of arriving in Canada, IRCC will not print the card, and the person will have to apply for one with all of the necessary documents and pay a \$50 fee.

The address must be complete, including the apartment number or post office box number if this is part of the mailing address. **If the PR card is mailed to an incomplete address, it will be returned to the IRCC office, where it will be held for 180 days. If a new or complete address is not then sent within 180 days, the card will be destroyed. The person who applied will then have to once again apply for a PR card with all the necessary documents and re-pay the fee.**

To easily update a permanent Canadian address, you may use the online address notification tool: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/change-address.asp>. Click on the "Address Notification" link in the blue box, just below Step 3.

### Photos

IRCC will use the photos that are provided with the Confirmation of Permanent Residence (CoPR) to print the PR card. For this reason, the photos must meet the PR card photo specifications. If the photo does not meet the requirements and the person who has applied has not provided IRCC with a permanent Canadian address, IRCC will contact the applicant and ask for new photos. You can review the photo specifications on our website: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/pr-card/apply-photos.asp>. Click on the link just below "Photo specifications."

**Note:** If IRCC needs new photos and there is not a permanent Canadian address on the file, they will not be able to contact the person to make the request. To avoid delaying the receipt of a permanent resident card, it is important to provide IRCC with the updated address as soon as possible.

## Newcomer Participation in the 2016 Census

2016 Census forms were sent to all households in Canada starting on May 2, 2016.

The completion of the Census forms serves as an important way of participating in Canadian society, including for newcomers who have arrived through the PSR Program. The Census is used for decision making purposes and the information from newcomers is used for planning community services that cater to their needs, such as day care centres, schools, health care and language classes. The Census only takes place once every five years, so now is a great opportunity to work together to ensure that newcomers who arrived through the PSR Program are counted.

**Statistics Canada has prepared a number of resources with newcomers in mind:**

- 1) "Census and you" 2 page information (fact sheets) in many languages:  
[http://www.census.gc.ca/ccr16f/ccr16f\\_004-eng.html](http://www.census.gc.ca/ccr16f/ccr16f_004-eng.html)
- 2) Explanation of Census short form in many languages:  
[http://www.census.gc.ca/ccr16f/ccr16f\\_003-eng.html](http://www.census.gc.ca/ccr16f/ccr16f_003-eng.html)
- 3) Explanation of Census long form in many languages:  
[http://www.census.gc.ca/ccr16f/ccr16f\\_002-eng.html](http://www.census.gc.ca/ccr16f/ccr16f_002-eng.html)
- 4) Training kits that are especially designed for educators of newcomers:  
[http://www.census.gc.ca/ccr16e/ccr16e\\_001-eng.html](http://www.census.gc.ca/ccr16e/ccr16e_001-eng.html).
- 5) Frequently asked questions: [http://www.census.gc.ca/ccr16c/ccr16c\\_001-eng.html](http://www.census.gc.ca/ccr16c/ccr16c_001-eng.html)

Please consider passing this information along to your CGs and Co-sponsors, or directly to anybody your SAH has sponsored. It is a great idea to encourage all newcomers to participate in Canadian society in this way, allowing their opinion to be made known.

### IMPORTANT DATES

*2016 National SAH Conference*  
May 30-June 1, 2016

*Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR)  
Consultation*

June 2-4, 2016

For information, please see CCR:  
<http://ccrweb.ca/en/meetings>

This document has been prepared for  
Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAHs) by  
RSTP.

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