

welfare by excluding those people from other countries whose presence in Canada would endanger these interests.

The Immigration Regulations describe the criteria potential immigrants must meet to qualify for admission. Since 1967 Canada's immigration policies have been based on non-discrimination and universality; people from all parts of the world have an equal opportunity to qualify for admission to Canada. Considered are such things as the applicant's occupational skills, training, ability and determination to succeed. Details of these regulations and the immigrant selection criteria may be found in previous editions of the *Canada Year Book*. Several recent changes in the regulations are discussed below.

A provision allowing visitors to adjust their status while in this country temporarily came into being with other regulatory changes in October 1967. It was introduced to avoid penalizing persons who had come here as visitors and wished to stay. The right has been withdrawn in the light of evidence that it was being abused, and since November 30, 1972 persons seeking immigrant admission to Canada have been required to make application in advance at an overseas immigration office.

On January 1, 1973 the Minister of Manpower and Immigration introduced regulations designed to control the employment of visitors in Canada and the long-term visits by non-immigrants. The regulations do not affect Canadians or landed immigrants.

The regulations require that no person other than a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant may accept employment in Canada, unless specifically exempted under the regulations, without first obtaining certification from the Canada Manpower service that no Canadian resident is available or willing to take the employment involved. Non-immigrants in Canada as of January 1, 1973 were required to register with an immigration office if they intended to stay beyond April 1, 1973. Any violation of the regulations constitutes an offence under the Immigration Act and can result in fines and/or imprisonment or expulsion from Canada.

On August 15, 1973 a bill was proclaimed that was designed to allow persons in Canada to regularize their immigration status, to reduce the backlog of cases before the Immigration Appeal Board and to modify the appeals system for the future. The bill provided a final opportunity for those who did not have landed immigrant status, and who were in Canada as of November 30, 1972 and had remained here since that time, to apply for landed immigrant status. Individuals had until the following October 15th to register. Unsuccessful applicants retained their full rights of appeal to the Immigration Appeal Board. Those who did not apply forfeited their last opportunity to apply from within Canada for permanent residence and lost future appeal rights. By the deadline 49,900 persons had registered under the program. The legislation also contained a series of permanent amendments to the Immigration Appeal Board Act to prevent a backlog of appeals in the future, and temporary amendments to clear an existing backlog of appeals.

Between September 5 and November 8, 1972 a temporary immigration office was maintained in Kampala, Uganda to handle applications from Ugandan Asians forced by political pressures to leave the country. By December 1973 a total of 7,553 persons had migrated to Canada under this program. Special efforts were also made in 1973 when a change of government in Chile forced many Chileans to leave their country.

### 3.2.4 Citizenship

The Canadian Citizenship Act (RSC 1970, c.C-19), which came into force on January 1, 1947 replacing previous Naturalization Acts, created the distinct nationality of a "Canadian citizen" to be recognized throughout the world and it provided a means whereby those non-Canadian British subjects and aliens who were permanently residing in Canada or those who might subsequently immigrate to Canada could apply for Canadian citizenship. The Act also provides for reacquisition of Canadian citizenship by natural-born Canadians. Administration of Canadian citizenship is under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Secretary of State, Citizenship Registration Branch.

**Natural-born Canadian citizens.** The Act conferred natural-born status on two categories of persons on January 1, 1947: those born in Canada or on a Canadian ship or aircraft and who were not aliens on January 1, 1947; and those born of Canadian fathers outside Canada who were not aliens on January 1, 1947 and were either minors on that date or had already entered Canada for permanent residence.