



# CPS News

The Newsletter of the Canadian Population Society

Fall 2016

## President's Letter

First, let me say how honoured I am to serve as president of the Canadian Population Society. Thanks to all of you for your support, and to Alain in particular for leading us over the past two years. Second, as we all know, this is a time of profound change in our discipline. Once a cornerstone of a single discipline (sociology), Demography and Population Studies now span the social sciences, and even beyond. This presents both challenges and opportunities for us as a collectivity, and I encourage us all to think more actively about inclusiveness. This could be an era of significant growth for us, and I encourage everyone to try to encourage people to join our Society.

We also have a lot of work ahead of us. A few months ago, you overwhelmingly gave me the mandate to pursue a bid (through the Federation of Canadian Demographers) for the 2021 Congress of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population. The bid is due in a few short months, and you will may soon be approached to commit time and resources to help us with our bid. Please respond positively.

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My job is made much easier by knowing that each aspect of the Society is being run by dependable and hard-working people. Thanks to all of you for collectively stepping forward to assume the responsibilities of running our Society. From organizing receptions at the PAA conference to running student paper competitions, you are helping to keep our Society strong.

Two particularly important and time-consuming jobs are those of Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer. As someone whom I've worked with in the past, I have no doubt in Lisa Strohschein's ability to shine as our new Vice-President and Program Chair. Don Kerr tirelessly

handles the duties of Secretary/Treasurer, and I naively hope that Don will agree to hold the position forevermore.

I'm heartened by what I hope is a sustained growth in the number of students attending our meetings. For long-term survival, it is our young people that matter most, and it is our passion and enthusiasm that will keep them coming back!

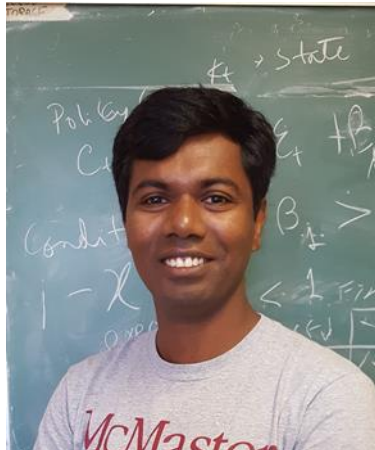
Best Wishes, and thanks again for your support.

— Michael Haan

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## Student Paper Award

The winners of the 2016 CPS Student Paper Award are Natalie Malak, Md Mahbubur Rahman, and Terry Yip. All three are in the Ph. D. program in the Economics Department at McMaster University. Their winning paper is entitled: "Baby Bonus, Anyone? Examining Quebec's Pro-Natal Policy." In this issue, we interview Mr. Rahman about his award winning paper as well as his research interests. Before enrolling in McMaster's doctoral program, Mr. Rahman completed master's degrees in economics at the University of Ottawa and the University of Dhaka.



### ***What are your main research interests?***

My area of research interest is economic growth, economic policy reform, and population economics. I am interested in examining how government policy (e.g., fiscal policy, trade policy) can affect countries' economic scenarios and family decisions. In my research, I use an empirical approach to explain the effect of Quebec's Allowance for Newborn Children from 1988 to 1997. In another paper, I use a theoretical approach to study how Indian economic reform in 1991 has affected its growth.

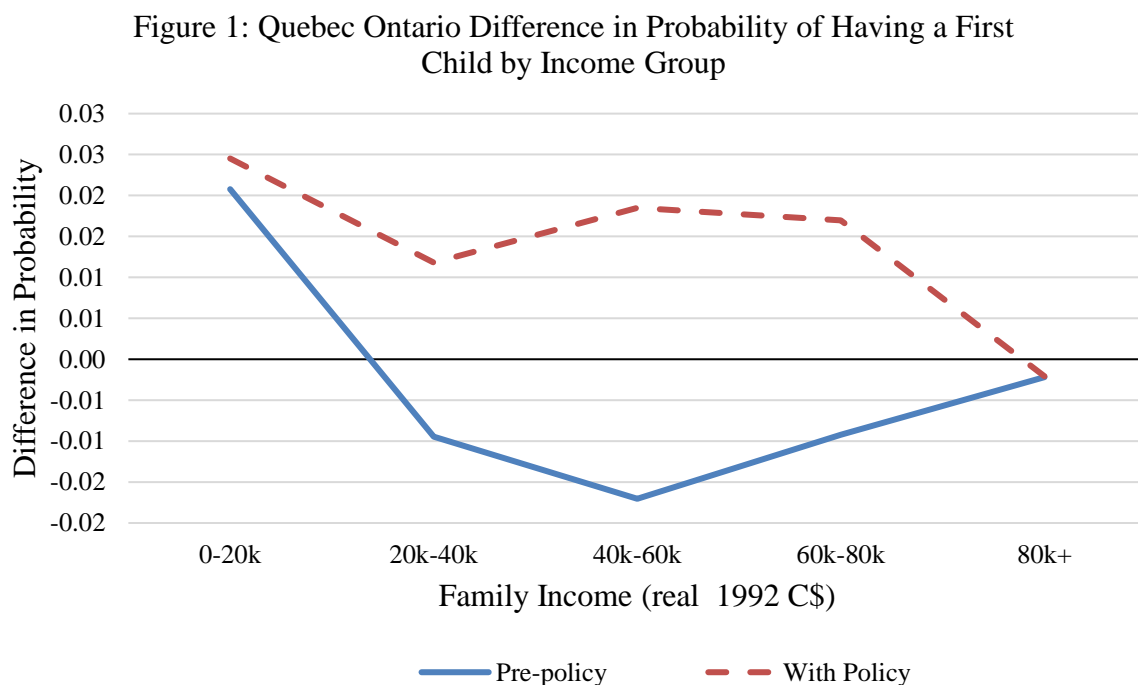
### ***How did you become interested in this line of research?***

With declining birth rates Canada is concerned with the burden placed on the working population to support a growing fraction of the retired population. To overcome this issue, policy makers have undertaken some pro-natalist policies, which raises a number of questions: Do they work, who is taking advantage of the incentives provided, and how costly are the programs? Past Canadian research finds that tax exemptions for children, child tax credits, and family allowances all increase fertility; however, large increases in the universal benefits would be needed to reach replacement fertility levels. If we could identify heterogeneous responses to the incentives, then

governments might be able to tailor pro-natalist policies that would encourage more births while containing costs.

***What does your study of Quebec tell us about how public policy can influence fertility rates and child-bearing decisions?***

We examined the impact of the Allowance for Newborn Children (ANC), a universal baby bonus offered by Quebec, on subgroups that differed in terms of income, education, and birth order. We found a hump shape response by income group, where mid-income (C\$40,000-C\$59,999) families responded the most (see Figure 1). Due to the generous nature of the baby



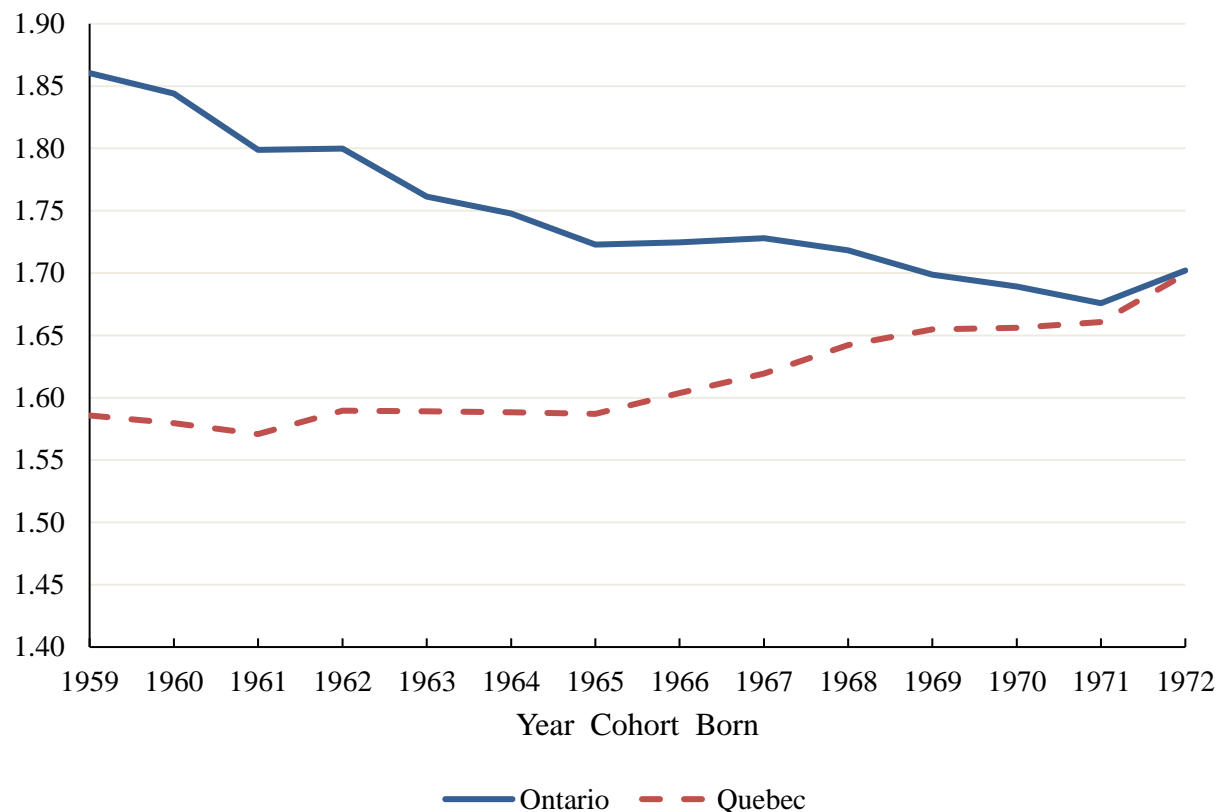
Note: The values used to calculate these probabilities come from the probit model estimated for each income group separately. The reference female used to calculate the probability of having a child is a married non-immigrant francophone woman who is 30-34 years old, with some post-secondary education, lives in an urban area, and has no previous children. Due to our specification, the same shape would appear for second or third and higher children with a vertical shift.

bonus we observe a larger response for third or higher-order children. Interestingly, we find the baby bonus provides stronger encouragement if there were two previous sons or a previous son and daughter rather than two previous daughters. Moreover, using confidential vital statistics, we calculate cohort fertility rates and find a suggestion of an increase in completed fertility, implying that the ANC was successful (see Figure 2 below). Hence, pro-natalist policies can encourage births by targeting the subgroups whose fertility decisions are highly responsive to cash incentives.

### ***What are the benefits of a pro-natalist policy for Canada?***

Pro-natalist policies, if structured correctly, could cost-effectively increase fertility and alleviate the concern of below-replacement rates for developed nations. Moreover, policies such as subsidies for childcare could encourage women's labour force participation.

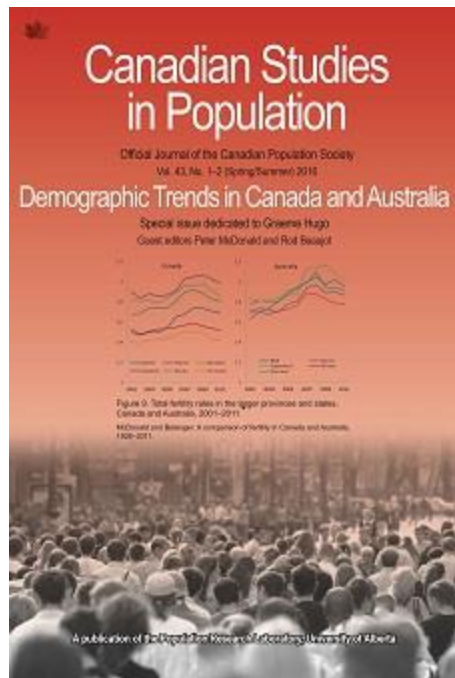
Figure 2: Completed Fertility Rate, Cohorts Aged 15-39



Source: Birth Vital Statistics, 1974 to 2011

### **Free Student Membership**

The CPS is now offering free 1-year student memberships to Ph. D. and master's students. This offer is of potential interest to students in sociology, economics, public health, and other programs. Membership in the CPS has numerous benefits for students, including: (a) professional development workshops, (b) quantitative methods seminars, (c) information on new datasets, and (d) networking opportunities. We encourage all CPS members to distribute [this brochure](#) to their students or to direct their students to the CPS website.



## Canadian Studies in Population *Annual Report*

**Frank Trovato, Editor**

### *The Year 2015-2016*

1. The production costs of CSP volume 42 consisted of \$12,211.08 for copyediting, formatting, and French translation of Abstracts.
2. From May 1, 2015 to April 2016, 29 manuscripts were submitted to the Canadian Studies in Population for consideration. Of these: 14 were rejected (including inactive and withdrawn submissions), seven were accepted, and eight are currently under review or at the revise and resubmit stage.
3. In early May 2015, Professor Wayne McVey Jr., one of our distinguished colleagues, passed away. During his career at the University of Alberta, Wayne served for many years as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal. The success and prominence of the Journal is owed to a significant degree to Dr. McVey's dedicated work and commitment over the course of his editorship.
4. A special issue of the Journal is being planned featuring selected papers from the Federation of Canadian Demographers conference that was held in Ottawa in June 2015.
5. Thompson Reuter has released the Impact Factor (IF) for CSP for the year 2014. The journal's IF is 0.194. During 2014, it received a total of 67 citations.
6. The latest issue of the Journal (special issue on demographic trends in Canada and Australia) is dedicated to Professor Graeme Hugo (University of Adelaide). The late Professor Hugo was originally involved in this special issue, edited by Rod Beaujot (Western University) and Peter McDonald (Australian National University).

The Journal thanks:

- The Department of Sociology at the University of Alberta for providing office space and a graduate student editorial assistant.
- The members of the Editorial Board and the CPS Journal Committee for their assistance throughout the year.
- Those that took time from their schedules to review manuscripts or prepare book reviews for the journal.

## **AGM Minutes (abridged version)**

Attendees: Alain Belanger, Michael Haan, Don Kerr, Zheng Wu, Zenaida Ravanera, Laura Wright, Lisa Strohschein, Margaret Michalowski, Yoko Yoshida, Zoua Vang, Darcy Hango, Vivian O'Donnell, Anne Milan, Feng Hou, Shelley Clark, Rachel Margolis, Lisa Kaida, Patrick Sabourin.

### **Report of the Secretary-Treasurer**

- D. Kerr reported that the final membership total for 2015 was 142. For 2016, to date, membership had fallen to about 120 persons. The reason for a high membership for 2015 was the popularity of the 2015 FCD meetings in Ottawa, which was particularly well attended by both members of the ADQ, CPS, as well as many attendees from the host city. We will continue with monthly reminders for renewal.
- The annual conference payment for non-members was revised in 2016 to encourage membership. On registration, non-members paid the equivalent of “regular registration fee plus the cost of a one year membership.” This change was introduced without any difficulties/complaint.
- The CPS had a surplus in 2015, spending less than received. The major factor responsible for this was that the meetings in Ottawa (FCD) were very well attended as well as a climb in membership. It is not likely that 2016 will see comparable revenues due to location of congress outside of central Canada and the expected decline in membership. At the end of 2015, the net balance in our bank account was about \$25000. It is expected that this shall decline somewhat in 2016 as our subsidy to Canadian Studies in Population was raised to \$6000 in 2015 and membership/congress registrations are down somewhat in 2016.
- After some discussion on how to maintain and grow membership, it was decided that: CPS members be given the option of 3-year membership rather than merely annual memberships on renewal at a slightly reduced fee. More specifically, the new fee schedule will be:
  - Regular 1-year: \$75
  - Regular 2-year: \$140
  - Regular 3-year: \$210
  - Student 1-year: \$40
  - Student 2-year: \$75
- It was also agreed that Graduate programs will be contacted across Canada to encourage students to join the CPS, with a free first year membership.



## Program Committee

- M. Haan pointed out that the organization of the meetings went smoothly, with perhaps the minor exception that session organizers continued to make all sorts of “last minute” changes in the program. For future conferences, he recommended a clear and earlier deadline in making such changes. M. Haan also mentioned that G. Goldman plans on helping coordinate a special issue of Canadian Studies in Population, in using papers from last year’s FCD conference.
- M. Haan also thanked K. McQuillan for his role as the “local organizer” of the CPS meetings at the University of Calgary.



The CPS membership hard at work! Thanks to Fernando Mata for submitting his photos from the CPS annual banquet.

## Graduate Research Conference

Y. Sano (student organizer) was not present. A. Bélanger reported on his behalf that the Graduate Student Conference was well attended with several papers presented. It was agreed

that this is an important part of our annual meetings, and will be repeated next year. A. Bélanger thanked Y. Sano and all of the research mentors who volunteered in organizing these meetings.

### **National Committee**

A. Milan provided a draft of the mandate for the National Committee that was approved by Council:

*The aim of the CPS National Committee is to inform CPS members and others of population – related issues of regional/national interest, by promoting and encouraging the awareness of, and participation in, population related activities and research at both the national and regional levels. Possible activities of the committee include, but are not limited to: contributing a condensed version of Statistics Canada’s Canadian Megatrends series to the CPS newsletter, contributing to the CPS monthly bulletin, organizing sessions (on regional demographics, national policies, and the like) for the CPS annual meetings, and engaging in outreach to regional/national associations and municipal, provincial, territorial and/or federal governments through the organizing of joint sessions.*

Following from this new mandate, for 2016, A. Milan reported that the Committee hopes to: “find ways to encourage regional participation in CPS activities” and to “include a session on regional demographics at next year’s CPS meetings.”

### **International Committee**

R. Margolis mentioned the well-attended “Canadian Demographers Happy Hour at the PAA”, which received financial support from the CPS (\$500). R. Margolis explicitly thanked Laura Wright for her role in organizing this event. She also emphasized the timeliness of efforts to organize “joint sessions” of the CPS and PAA at their annual meetings. Nothing has yet to be organized for the 2017 PAA meetings. It was recommended that the organization of this “joint session” become part of this committee’s “mandate” in future years.

### **Student Paper Competition**

- Z. Vang reported that five papers were submitted, and that this year’s winner was: Natalie Malak, Md Mahbubur Rahman, and Terry Yip for “Baby bonus anyone? Examining Quebec’s Pro-natal Policy.”
- Z. Vang proposed that for future conferences that “all papers submitted to be presented at the Graduate Student Conference also be automatically considered for the CPS Student Paper Competition (if they qualify).”
- In addition, the Council has recommended that “financial support” be budgeted for students who plan on attending our annual meetings (\$2000 to be distributed among students who apply). These monies would be distributed by the National Committee in promoting student participation.





# Statistics Canada Updates

Anne Milan, National Committee

## 2016 Census

The [2016 Census Program release schedule](#) is now available, with the first topic on population and dwelling counts to be released on February 8, 2017.

## RDC updates

The following microdata files were added to the Research Data Centre (RDC) collection since the last CPS Bulletin:

- Canadian Cancer Registry 2013 (CCR)
- 1881 Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohort (CanCHEC)
- Labour Market Activity Survey (LMAS) 1991
- Canadian Income Survey (CIS) 2014

## Recent data releases

- *Annual Demographic Estimates: Canada, Provinces, and Territories*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. [91-215-X](#).
- *Quarterly Demographic Estimates: Canada, Provinces, and Territories*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. [91-002-X](#).

The Ethnicity, Language, and Immigration Thematic Series was introduced, with the first study in the series on: [The Literacy Skills of New Brunswick Francophones: Demographic and Socioeconomic issues](#).

## Women in Canada

Understanding the role of women in Canadian society and how it has changed over time is dependent on having information that can begin to shed light on the diverse circumstances and experiences of women. [Women in Canada](#) provides an unparalleled compilation of data related to women's family status, education, employment, economic well-being, unpaid work, health, and more. This publication allows readers to better understand the experiences of women compared to that of men. Women are not a homogenous group and their experiences

differ across groups. The most recent chapter of *Women in Canada* is on [Women and Education: Qualifications, Skills and Technology](#). Previously released chapters include:

- [Senior Women](#)
- [The Health of Girls and Women in Canada](#)
- [Visible Minority Women](#)
- [First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Women](#)
- [Families and Living Arrangements](#)
- [Immigrant Women](#)
- [Female Population](#)

Other studies related to women include: [The Canada–U.S. Gap in Women’s Labour Market Participation](#); and [Women in Scientific Occupations in Canada](#)

### **Other publications**

Aboriginal peoples:

- [Literacy and Numeracy Among Off-Reserve First Nations People and Métis: Do Higher Skill Levels Improve Labour Market Outcomes?](#)
- [The Influence of Community Well-Being on Mortality Among Registered First Nations People](#)

Immigrants:

- [Permanent and Temporary Immigration to Canada From 2012 To 2014](#)
- [The Contribution of Immigration to the Size and Ethnocultural Diversity of Future Cohorts of Seniors](#)
- [Immigrants’ Initial Firm Allocation and Earnings Growth](#)

Young adults:

- [Diversity of Young Adults Living with their Parents](#)

### **\*\*\*Important Notice\*\*\***

STC has one longitudinal survey currently running, the Longitudinal International Survey of Adults (LISA), and has been expanding their use of administrative data to survey data linkages to provide a longitudinal (historical and/or prospective) component to existing or terminated surveys. But these data may still leave gaps open and questions unanswered. We are writing to solicit your help to provide a more fulsome picture of those potential gaps in your area of research. We have developed a short online survey, available here: <https://fr.surveymonkey.com/r/RHHRR65>. Please respond on or before October 15, 2016.

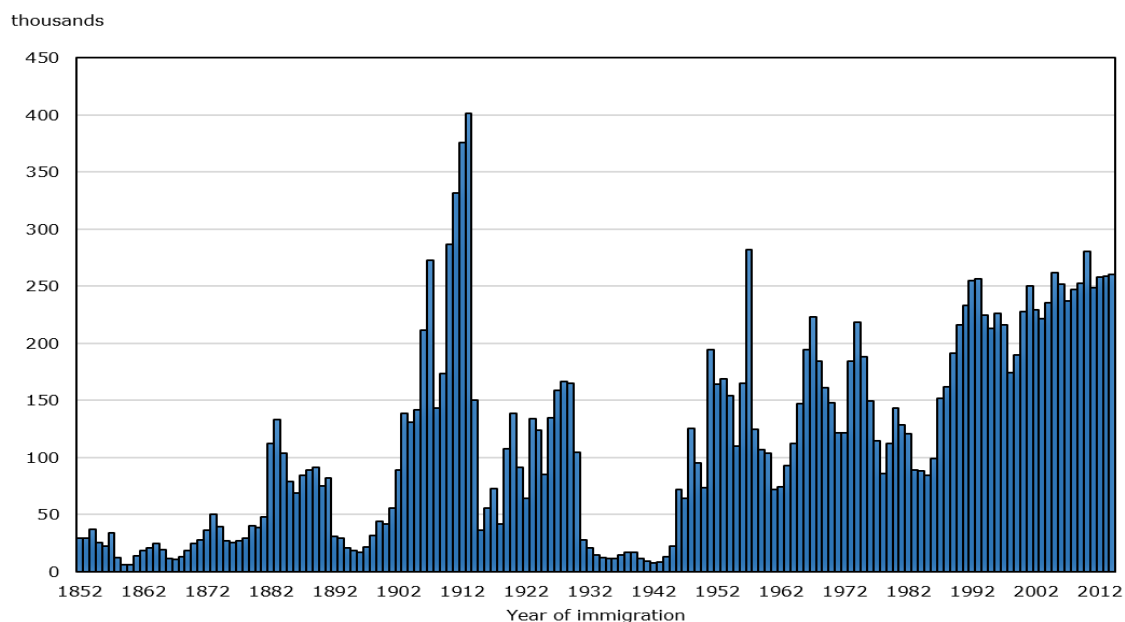
# CANADIAN MEGATRENDS

Statistics Canada is turning 100 in 2018! In celebration of this milestone and the wealth of statistical information produced over the years, Statistics Canada would like to shine a fresh light on the numbers. *Canadian Megatrends* explores some of the sweeping changes that have had a lasting impact on Canadian society and economy.

## 150 Years of Immigration in Canada

Canada has long been, and continues to be, a land of immigration. Since Confederation in 1867, more than 17 million immigrants have come to Canada. The annual number of landed immigrants in Canada has fluctuated considerably over the last 150 years. Some of these fluctuations can be linked to immigration policy changes, others to Canada's economic situation or world events connected with the movement of migrants and refugees. For example, in the late 1800s, the number of immigrants admitted annually to Canada varied between 6,300 and 133,000. Record numbers of immigrants were admitted in the early 1900s when Canada was promoting the settlement of Western Canada. The highest number ever recorded was in 1913, when more than 400,000 immigrants arrived in the country.

**Chart 1**  
**Number of immigrants who landed annually in Canada, 1852 to 2014**



**Sources:** From 1852 to 1979—Employment and Immigration Canada, 1982. For 1980—Immigration Statistics, Immigration and Demographic Policy Group, Catalogue no. MP22-1/1980. From 1980 to 2014—Immigration Refugees Citizenship Canada.

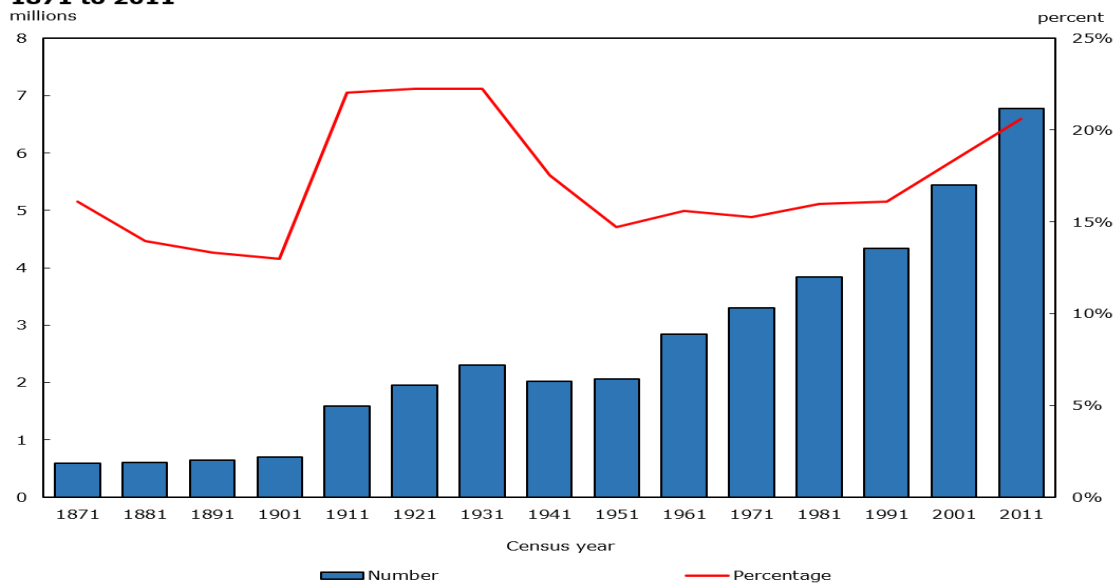
Other record levels of immigration have been registered during political and humanitarian crises, including in 1956 and 1957, when 37,500 Hungarian refugees arrived in the country, and

in the 1970s and 1980s, when a large number of Ugandan, Chilean, Vietnamese, Cambodian, and Laotian refugees came to Canada. However, the number of people entering the country dropped dramatically during World War I, to fewer than 34,000 landed immigrants in 1915. The lowest numbers of landed immigrants were recorded during the Great Depression in the 1930s and during World War II. The return of peace fostered economic recovery and an immigration boom in Canada. Since the early 1990s, the number of landed immigrants has remained relatively high, with an average of approximately 235,000 new immigrants per year.

### *The number and proportion of foreign-born*

Annual statistics on landed immigrants in Canada may not reflect the number of people living in the country. Some immigrants may simply be passing through on their way to settle in a third country. Others may travel back and forth between their country of origin and Canada. Some immigrants may have died. The Census of Population measures the most direct impact of immigration on Canada's population by counting the number of people who have been or who are landed immigrants (or permanent residents) living in Canada at a specific point in time.

**Chart 2**  
**Number and proportion of the foreign-born population in Canada, 1871 to 2011**



**Sources:** Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1871 to 2001. National Household Survey, 2011.

The 1871 Census enumerated approximately half a million foreign-born people, representing 16.1% of the Canadian population. The foreign-born population continued to rise at the end of the 1800s, but at a slower pace than the population born in Canada. The 1901 Census recorded the lowest proportion of foreign-born population in Canada (13.0%). After the considerable rise in immigration at the beginning of the 1900s, the 1931 Census counted nearly 2.3 million of foreign-born people, representing 22.2% of Canada's population. This influx of foreign-born people was followed by a significant drop to approximately 2 million in 1941, as a result of the Great Depression and World War II, but also due to high emigration levels. By

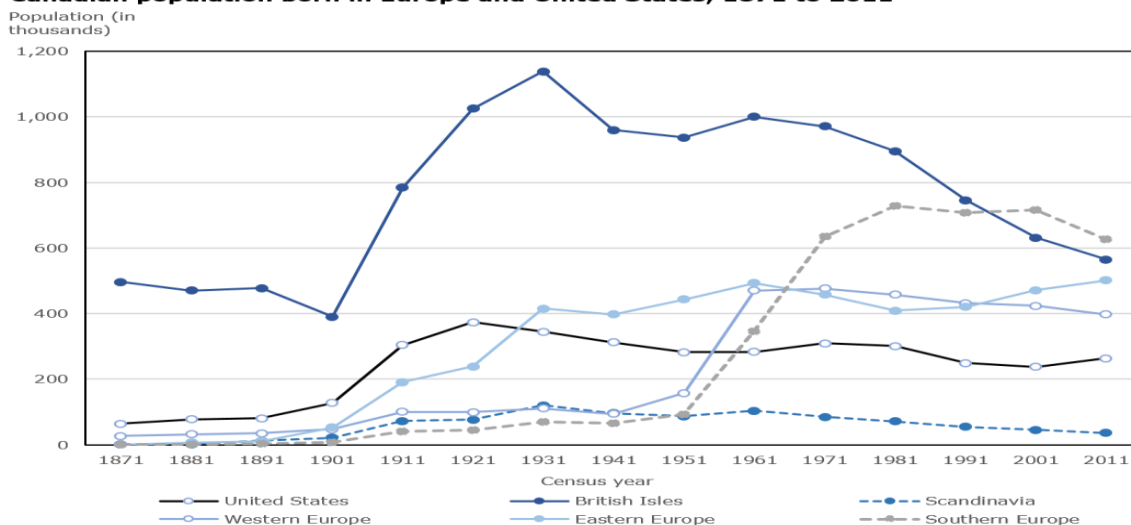
contrast, since the 1950s, the foreign-born population has been steadily increasing. For example, by 2011, the National Household Survey estimated the foreign-born population at 6,775,700, representing 20.6% of the total population. This was the largest proportion since the 1931 Census.

### *European-origin immigrants*

During the first few censuses after Confederation, the British Isles were the main source of immigration, accounting for 83.6% of the foreign-born population in the 1871 Census, or close to half a million people. Immigrants from the United States (10.9%), Germany (4.1%), and France (0.5%) were far behind.

The population of immigrants born in European countries other than those of the British Isles started to increase in the late 1800s, slowly at first and then more rapidly, peaking in the 1970s. This transformation consisted of three major waves. The first wave began in the late 1800s and early 1900s, with the arrival of new groups of immigrants from Eastern Europe (Russians, Polish and Ukrainians), Western Europe, and Scandinavia. A second immigration boom following World War II continued to favour immigration from the British Isles, but a significant number of immigrants also arrived from Western Europe (Germany and the Netherlands) and Southern Europe (Italy, Greece, Yugoslavia, and Portugal) from the 1950s to the 1970s. At the time of the 1971 Census, 28.3% of immigrants were born in the United Kingdom and 51.4% were born in another European country. Lastly, Canada admitted immigrants from Eastern Europe (including the Russian Federation and former Soviet republics, Poland and Romania) in the 1980s and 1990s, following political changes in Communist bloc countries, including the fall of the Berlin Wall and the breakup of the Soviet Union.

**Chart 3**  
**Canadian population born in Europe and United States, 1871 to 2011**



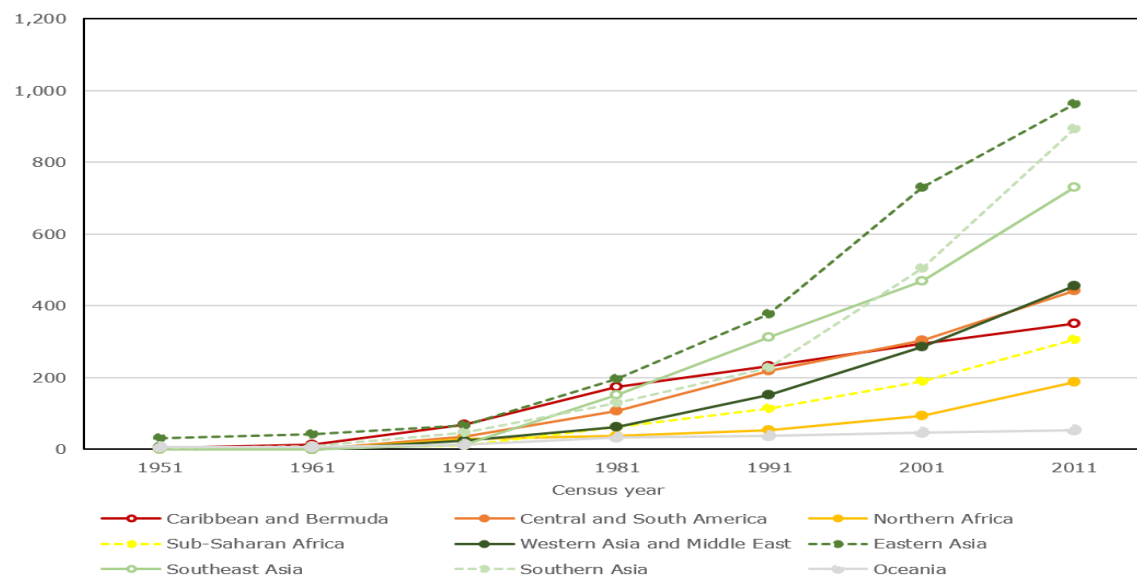
**Sources:** Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1871 to 2001. National Household Survey, 2011.

## Increasing diversity

During the first 100 years after Confederation, Canada also admitted immigrants from Asia (primarily China and Japan) and other parts of the world. Starting in the 1960s, when major amendments were made to Canada's immigration legislation and regulations, the number of immigrants from Asia and other regions of the world started to grow. World events also led to the massive movement of refugees and migrants from different parts of the world to Canada. Examples include the arrival of 60,000 boat people from Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos in the late 1970s; 85,000 immigrants from the Caribbean and Bermuda (for example, Jamaica, Haiti, and Trinidad and Tobago) in the 1980s; 225,000 immigrants from Hong Kong over the 10 years leading up to its return to China by the United Kingdom in 1997; and 800,000 immigrants from the People's Republic of China, India, and the Philippines in the 2000s.

**Chart 4**  
**Foreign-born population in Canada, by selected regions of birth, 1951 to 2011**

Population (in thousands)



Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1951 to 2001. National Household Survey, 2011.

According to the 2011 National Household Survey, Asia (including the Middle East) is now the main continent of origin of the immigrant population, although Africa's share has increased. As well, for the first time since Confederation, China and India (excluding the two special administrative regions, Hong Kong and Macao) have surpassed the United Kingdom as the country of birth most frequently reported by foreign-born people.

In summary, immigration has changed a great deal since Confederation, becoming the main driver of [population growth](#) in Canada. Each wave of immigrants has contributed, and continues to contribute, to the ethnic, linguistic and religious diversity of Canada's population.

## Feature Interview



In this issue, Michael Haan (MH) interviews Lisa Strohschein (LS). Dr. Strohschein is Associate Professor in the Sociology Department at the University of Alberta and the Vice-President of the Canadian Population Society. Lisa has been an active member of the CPS, serving as Council member and on several committees.

*MH: What drew you to demography?*

LS: I came to demography somewhat circuitously. I am primarily a sociologist of health and illness interested in understanding how poverty and family dynamics influence health and well-being. As I have developed this line of research, it has become increasingly clear that Canadian families are undergoing tremendous change: the retreat from marriage, the loosening of the links between marriage and parenthood, and the emergence of new family forms such as LATs, to name just a few. My desire to chart these changes in Canadian families in order to better understand their implications for health and well-being is what has led me to demography.

*MH: What are your primary demographic research interests?*

LS: As I noted above, I am interested in charting the ways in which Canadian families are changing. This includes understanding the types of families into which children are born and their risk for change in family structure over the course of their childhoods. For example, what does it mean for children when they are born into households where their parents may have had prior relationships and parenting experiences? On the surface, a household may look like a traditional two-biological-parent household because all the children living there are the biological offspring of the mother and the father. But, dig a little deeper, and one might discover the father has children from a previous marriage who live elsewhere. We might wonder whether child well-being is affected to the extent that this father is diverting some of his time and resources to support children living in another household. And, does having children living elsewhere create problems for the stability of the current family? In short, we need to understand how prior marital and family histories intrude on the present in ways that influence the economic and emotional well-being of the current family and that could contribute to subsequent family instability. This is what I hope to accomplish in my research over the next few years.

*MH: What do you think are some interesting demographic issues arising in Canada?*

LS: I think we need to pay much closer attention to changes in family life that are happening in Canada, instead of naively assuming that our experiences are similar to what is happening elsewhere. American demographers have obviously been at the forefront of family demography, with researchers in Europe also making key contributions. Their collective research has revealed



substantial cross-national variation in the type and rate of family change. How Canada compares to other countries therefore is largely unknown. This is a critical problem because without Canadian research, we cannot accurately forecast the future needs of our population, in terms of knowing how family change might affect systems such as the labour market, pensions, health care, and housing needs. Moreover, Canada is in danger of being shut out of this growing body of international research and helping to find explanations for observed differences. This isn't just an interesting demographic issue for me, it is an area that urgently needs Canadian perspectives.

*MH: What advice would you give to those entering the field of demography?*

LS: I would say that this is a very exciting time to be in demography. The kinds of questions that are being asked in the field today have profound implications for deciding what kind of society Canada aspires to be and making our world a better place for us and for future generations of Canadians. What better calling could there possibly be?

*MH: What do you do for fun?*

LS: Anyone who knows me, even a little bit, will tell you that there are two things I love to do: eat and travel. I am always trying new recipes, and particularly enjoy trying to figure out how to copy a great meal that I've had at a restaurant. There has been a wonderful surge in great restaurants in Edmonton since I arrived a decade ago, and this gives me lots of opportunities to try new flavours. Traveling across the globe makes it possible to try the foods of other cultures. Highlights include eating freshly caught kingfish on the Indian Ocean, hippo in Zambia, lamb knees in Germany, and chicken feet in Guangzhou. And with a nod to my vegetarian friends: I love living animals too! While I hope to eat lots of seafood on my upcoming trip to Isla Mujeres (an island off the coast of Mexico), the trip is really a chance to go snorkeling and swim with the whale sharks. I'm pretty sure it will be an unforgettable experience!



CPS members enjoying a fine meal together at the 2016 annual meeting in Calgary. Don't worry lambs, your knees weren't on the menu!

Photo: Fernando Mata

## Member Updates

**BÉLANGER, Alain.** In July, Alain Bélanger started a six month sabbatical at the Vienna Institut for Demography (VID) at the Wittgenstein Centre. During his sabbatical he will work on the European part of his SSHRC Insight grant titled *Immigration, Education, Ethnocultural Diversity, and the Future Composition of the Population and Labour Force of High Immigration Countries*. Two of his PhD students **Patrick Sabourin** and **Samuel Vézina** (starting in October) are also guest researchers at the VID until the end of December 2016. Currently holding a SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier doctoral scholarship, **Samuel Vézina** obtained a Michael Smith Award Supplement to conduct a research stay at the Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital in Vienna. Under the direction of Alain Bélanger, his PhD thesis focuses on the projection of literacy skills of the Canadian adult population using microsimulation. During his stay at the Wittgenstein Centre, Samuel will develop an Austrian application of his projection model under the direction of Pr. Wolfgang Lutz. **Patrick Sabourin** will also participate in the 2nd Biannual meeting of the *European Society of Historical Demography* in Leuven, Belgium.

**LAPLANTE, Benoît.** Over the last few months, two articles by Benoît Laplante and his colleagues received international awards. The article “Childbearing Within Marriage and Consensual Union in Latin America, 1980-2010,” by Benoît Laplante, Teresa CASTRO MARTÍN, Clara CORTINA and Teresa MARTÍN GARCÍA and published in the *Population and Development Review* (vol. 41, no. 1, p. 85–108) has been selected as the 2015 winner of the IPUMS Research Award. The article “The Contributions of Childbearing within Marriage and within Consensual Union to Fertility in Latin America, 1980–2010” by Benoît Laplante, Teresa CASTRO MARTÍN, Clara CORTINA, and Ana FOSTIK and published *Demographic Research* (vol. 34, article 2, p. 827–844) received the Editor's Choice award from Demographic Research.

**MATA, Fernando.** Fernando Mata (in collaboration with Ravi Pendakur) has published an article on wage trajectories of immigrants in Canada using IMDB as its data source. The paper is entitled “Of Intake and Outcomes: Wage Trajectories of Immigrant Classes in Canada” and is published in the August 2016 edition of the *Journal of International Migration and Integration*. Fernando is an associate faculty member of the School of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Ottawa. He is currently interested in studying the neighborhood environments of the foreign-born in Canada.

**MCDANIEL, Susan.** Susan McDaniel received the Ingrid Speaker Research Award for Outstanding Research, University of Lethbridge, June 2016. She has been recently appointed to several national committees and councils. These include: the Federation for Humanities and Social Sciences Expert Task Force on Federal Support for Fundamental Science; the National Statistics Council sub-Committee on Longitudinal Data; and the Interdisciplinary Adjudication Committee, Canada Research Chairs Program. She will be delivering keynote addresses to the National Council of Family Relations this November and at the QICSS International Conference in December.

## Obituary

### Dr. Kottai S. Gnanasekaran 1936 -2016

Dr. K. S. Gnanasekaran born in Tamil Nadu India passed away on January 27, 2016 in Scarsdale, New York at the age of 80 after a few years of illness. He was staying in New York with his family after retiring from the Statistical Division of the United Nations.

Soon after completing a Master's degree in Economics, Gnanasekaran (Gnana) got a Govt. of India scholarship to pursue studies in demography at the UN sponsored Demographic Training and Research Centre Bombay (which became International Institute for Population Sciences, a Deemed University) in 1957. He was the youngest in the class and belonged to the Center's first batch of students and obtained a post-graduate Diploma in Demography in 1959. As a soft spoken person with mild temperament, he was one of the most liked of his group during his study period. He then enrolled for a Ph. D. program at the University of Bombay and was awarded a Ph. D. in Economics in 1962. An impressive professional career followed the Ph. D. studies with a post-doctoral research fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania in 1964-1965 to work as Research Associate in economics and demography.

At the completion of the fellowship program in Pennsylvania, Gnana was appointed Economist/Statistician at the Dominion Bureau of Statistics (Statistics Canada) in 1967 and worked there mostly in the field of population projections. From 1973-1978 he was Chief of Population Projections Section in the Population Estimates and Projections Division with Dr. Anatole Romaniuc as Director, which became Demography Division as a result of a reorganization. Gnana's time with Statistics Canada was perhaps the most productive time of his life focusing on population projections in collaboration with Anatole Romaniuc. In addition to producing the first set of official population projections for Canada and the Provinces using a projection model for the period 1972-2003, considerable developmental and analytical research was carried out by the Population Projections staff under Gnana's guidance. The culmination of this work was the publication entitled, *Technical Report on Population Projections for Canada, and the Provinces, 1972-2001*. Recalling Dr. Gnanasekaran's team work, his supervisor fondly remembers him for his creative mind and human qualities, a reliable and trustful colleague and friend.

He was very dedicated to his profession and never turned down any new opportunity to make contributions in his field. This can be seen from a contract type project which was undertaken with his colleague Dr. M.V. George for developing population and labour force projections for Alberta, as requested by the Human Resources Research Council (HRRC), Edmonton. The report prepared entitled, *Population and Labour Force Projections for Alberta, 1970- 1985* by M.V. George and K.S. Gnanasekaran was published by the HRRC in 1972.

While working in Statistics Canada, Gnana was seconded to the United Nations to work as UN Expert/Lecturer at the faculty of Cairo Demographic Center, Egypt, 1971-72 for teaching and research in demography. When he returned from this UN assignment from Cairo he took an

interest in working for the UN on a permanent basis. His effort in this respect became successful in 1979 when he was appointed to join the United Nations as Chief, Demographic Statistics Section of the Statistical Division, New York. He worked mainly on migration statistics and censuses. He participated and organized several Expert Committee Meetings and Seminars in these fields as part of his work. Gnana continued his work with the United Nations, New York until he retired. After retiring from the United Nations he was an Honorary Advisor for the International Longevity Center at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York.

Dr. Gnanasekaran was a founding member of the CPS, a member of IUSSP, PAA, and Indian Association for the Study of Population. He had an impressive list of research reports and publications and conference papers to his credit. Gnanasekaran had a brilliant career in demography but he was always an unassuming humble and reliable person with a warm heart and was much liked by his colleagues and friends. We will be missing him much. May his soul rest in peace!

M. V. George, Atlanta, USA

Anatole Romaniuc, Ottawa, Canada

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