

# The Settlement Experience of Refugees in Alberta

A study being conducted for Citizenship and Immigration Canada

by the

Population Research Laboratory  
Department of Sociology, University of Alberta

## ADULT QUESTIONNAIRE

Form A2

Questionnaire Number:

Enter Start time of interview here: \_\_\_\_\_ [a.m.] / [p.m.]

Enter End time of interview here: \_\_\_\_\_ [a.m.] / [p.m.]

Interview Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Interviewee: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name)

**We will begin the interview with some questions about yourself and your family, and about when you first came to Canada.**

1. Sex: **[Do not ask]**

Female ..... 1                      Male ..... 2

2. When were you born? \_\_\_\_\_ (*day/month/year*)

3. Are you married, or have you ever been married (*current marital status*)? **[Do not read]**

- Married (*and living with spouse*) ..... 1
- Married, spouse in different location ..... 2
- Common-law relationship ..... 3
- Separated/divorced (*and not living with partner*) ..... 4
- Widowed (*and not living with partner*) ..... 5
- Single (*and not living with partner*) ..... 6 **[Go to Q. 5]**

4a. Has your marital status changed since you came to Canada?

No ..... 1  
 Yes ..... 2 → → 4b. How has your marital status changed? \_\_\_\_\_

5a. In total, how many people live in your household? \_\_\_\_\_

5b. **How many are** children under the age of 5? \_\_\_\_\_

5c. ....children between 6 and 14? \_\_\_\_\_

5d. .... youth aged 15 to 21? \_\_\_\_\_

5e. ....adults aged 22 to 64? \_\_\_\_\_

5f. .... adults 65 and older? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is your first language (*learned as a child*)? \_\_\_\_\_

7a. Do you speak any other languages?

No ..... 1  
 Yes ..... 2 → → 7b. What languages? \_\_\_\_\_

8. What language do you speak most often at home? \_\_\_\_\_

9. **[Ask if children in household]**

What language do your children most often speak at home? \_\_\_\_\_

10. What is your ethnic origin (*cultural heritage*)? \_\_\_\_\_

11. In what country were you born? \_\_\_\_\_

When did you leave? \_\_\_\_\_ (*mo/yr*)

12a. Did you live anywhere else before coming to Canada?

No..... 1 **[Go to Q. 13]**

Yes..... 2 → → 12b. Where else?

Country 1: \_\_\_\_\_ When did you leave? \_\_\_\_\_ (*mo/yr*)

Country 2: \_\_\_\_\_ When did you leave? \_\_\_\_\_ (*mo/yr*)

Country 3: \_\_\_\_\_ When did you leave? \_\_\_\_\_ (*mo/yr*)

13. When did you arrive in Canada? \_\_\_\_\_ (*mo/yr*)

14. Before coming to Canada, what country did you consider home? \_\_\_\_\_

15. About how many people lived in your HOME COMMUNITY in *(name of home country)*? \_\_\_\_\_

16a. Did you spend any time in a refugee camp before coming to Canada?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 17]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 16b. In what country was this refugee camp? \_\_\_\_\_

16c. How long did you spend in this camp? \_\_\_\_\_ (*months*)

17a. Did other members of your family come to Canada with you?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 17b. Which family members came with you?

**[Do not read; check or record number if more than one]**

Wife/husband \_\_\_\_\_

Children \_\_\_\_\_

Parents \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_ (*specify*) \_\_\_\_\_

18a. Did you leave any members of your IMMEDIATE FAMILY (*wife/husband, parents, brothers/sisters, children*) behind in your home country (*or a refugee camp*)?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 18b. Which family members did you leave behind?

**[Do not read; check or record number if more than one]**

Wife/husband \_\_\_\_\_  
Children \_\_\_\_\_  
Parents \_\_\_\_\_  
Sisters/brothers \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_ (*specify*) \_\_\_\_\_

19a. Did any members of your family already live in Canada when you arrived?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 19b. Which family members were already in Canada?

**[Do not read; record number if more than one]**

Wife/husband \_\_\_\_\_  
Children \_\_\_\_\_  
Parents \_\_\_\_\_  
Sisters/brothers \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_ (*specify*) \_\_\_\_\_

20. Before coming to Canada, did you have a choice which country you came to? (*i.e. Canada, Australia, Germany*)

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2

21a. How were you sponsored when you came to Canada? Were you: **[read responses]**

Government sponsored ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 22]**

3-9 Program ..... 2 → → 21b. Who were your sponsors? **[Do not read]**

Privately sponsored ..... 3 → → Church group ..... 1  
Ethnic-cultural organization ..... 2  
Family ..... 3  
Other (*specify*) ..... 4

21c. Do you still maintain contact with your sponsors?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2

22a. Were you ever in a Canadian host matching program?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 23]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 22b. For how many months did you meet (*have you met*) with your host? \_\_\_\_\_  
(# of months)

22c. Do you still have contact with your host?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2

22d. How helpful was the host program, in helping you get settled in Canada?

**[Read] [Card A]**

- Very helpful..... 5
- Helpful..... 4
- Somewhat helpful..... 3
- Not very helpful..... 2
- Not at all helpful..... 1

23a. Is (*name of current city/town*) the only place you have lived in Canada?

Yes..... 2 **[Go to Q. 24]**

No..... 1 → → 23b. Where else?

Community 2: \_\_\_\_\_ When did you leave? \_\_\_\_\_ (mo/yr)

Community 3: \_\_\_\_\_ When did you leave? \_\_\_\_\_ (mo/yr)

Community 4: \_\_\_\_\_ When did you leave? \_\_\_\_\_ (mo/yr)

24. How long have you lived here (*current city/town*)? \_\_\_\_\_ (months)

25a. NOT COUNTING THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THIS HOUSEHOLD, do you have other family members living in (*name of current city/town*) now? \_\_\_\_\_

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 26]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 25b. Who are these other family members?

**[Do not read; check or record number if more than one]**

- Children \_\_\_\_\_
- Grandparents \_\_\_\_\_
- In-laws \_\_\_\_\_
- Aunts/uncles \_\_\_\_\_
- Sisters/brothers \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_ (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

26a. Are you planning to bring any family members to Canada?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 27]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 26b. Who would you like to bring to Canada?

**[Do not read; check or record number if more than one]**

- Children \_\_\_\_\_
- Grandparents \_\_\_\_\_
- In-laws \_\_\_\_\_
- Aunts/uncles \_\_\_\_\_
- Sisters/brothers \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_ (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Now we have some questions about your education experiences.**

27a . What is the highest level of education that you finished BEFORE COMING TO CANADA? **[Probe]**

\_\_\_\_\_ **[Go to Q. 28 if no schooling at all]**

27b . In total, how many years did you spend in school BEFORE COMING TO CANADA?

\_\_\_\_\_ (*years in school before coming to Canada* )

28a . Have you taken any English as a Second Language (ESL) or Language Instruction for Newcomers (LINC) courses here in Canada?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 29]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 28b . Was this full-time or part-time?

Full-time ..... 1

Part-time ..... 2

Both full-time and part-time..... 3

28c . In total, how many months of ESL/LINC have you completed?

\_\_\_\_\_ (*total months of ESL/LINC, all programs*)

28d . In what city did you take ESL/LINC training?

\_\_\_\_\_ (*name of city*)

28e . What was the name of the school (*agency*) where you took the ESL/LINC?

\_\_\_\_\_ (*name of schools/agencies*)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

28f . Did you have to pay for this training?

Yes ..... 2      No ..... 1

28g . Was paying for this training a hardship (*financial*) for you?

Yes ..... 2      No ..... 1

29a. Have you had any other (*formal*) education or training in Canada?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 30]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 29b. What kind of education or training was this? (*describe longest program if more than one*) \_\_\_\_\_

29c. Was this full-time or part-time?

Full-time ..... 1

Part-time ..... 2

29d. In total, how many months were you in this program? \_\_\_\_\_  
(*total months in program*)

29e. In what city did you take this program? \_\_\_\_\_  
(*name of city*)

29f. What was the name of the school? \_\_\_\_\_  
(*name of school/institution*)

30a. Do you plan to get any further education or training here in Canada?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 31]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 30b. What kind of education do you plan to get? \_\_\_\_\_

31a. **[Ask if children in household]**

What level of education do you want each of your children to get?

→ → 31b. Do you think she/he will achieve that level of education?

→ → 31c. What kind of job or occupation do you hope each of your children enters?

(*begin with oldest child first*)

<u>Level of education desired</u>	<u>Will achieve?</u>		<u>Desired Occupation</u>
	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
Child 1 _____	1	2	_____
Child 2 _____	1	2	_____
Child 3 _____	1	2	_____
Child 4 _____	1	2	_____

**The next questions are about your work experiences,  
in your home country and in Canada.**

32a . Did you have a paying job in (*name of home country*) before coming to Canada?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 33]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 32b . What kind of work did you do in (*home country*)?

What was your occupation? (*note all occupations in other countries*)

\_\_\_\_\_

32c . How long did you do this work? (*years*) \_\_\_\_\_

33a . Did you have formal job or occupational training before coming to Canada?(i.e., *employment credentials of some kind*)?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 34]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 33b . What kind of training (*type of occupation*)? \_\_\_\_\_

33c . Have you had any difficulty getting recognition or credit for this training (*or credentials*) since you came to Canada?

Have not tried ... 1 → → 33d . Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

No ..... 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Yes ..... 3 → → 33e . Tell me about the problems you encountered.

\_\_\_\_\_

34a . Not counting the time that you received a living allowance (*as a refugee*), have you ever been unemployed since coming to Canada (*out of work and looking for work*)?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 34b . How many months, in total, were you unemployed?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (total months unemployed)

35a . Have you ever had a paying job in Canada?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 37]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 35b . In total, how many paying jobs have you had in Canada?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (no. of jobs in Canada)

35c . What was the first job you had in Canada? \_\_\_\_\_

36a. Do you have a paying job right now?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 37]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 36b. Are you working full-time or part-time (*less than 30 hour/week*)?

Full-time ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 36d]**

Part-time ..... 2 → → 36c. Are you working part-time

Several part-time jobs .... 3 → → because you cannot find a full-time job?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2

36d. Is this job permanent or is it temporary (*has a specific end date*)?

Temporary ..... T Permanent ..... P

36e. What is your job? (*what do you do in your job?*)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

36f. How did you get this job? \_\_\_\_\_

36g. How long have you had this job? \_\_\_\_\_ (*months*)

36h. Have you had any promotions?

No ..... 1 Yes ..... 2

36i. Are you over-qualified for the job you now have?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 39]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 36j. Please tell me why you feel you are over-qualified for the job you now have.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**[Go to Q. 39]**

37a. Are you unemployed now (*out of work and looking for a job*)?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 38]**

Yes. .... 2 → → 37b. For how many months have you been looking for a job? \_\_\_\_\_  
(*no. of months unemployed*)

37c. Why do you think it is difficult to find a job?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**[Go to Q. 39]**

38. Are you retired?

Yes ..... 2 **[Go to Q. 41, if moved; Q. 46 if did not move]**

No ..... 1

39. What kind of job (*occupation*) do you hope to have in five years?

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40. People want jobs for different reasons. For you, what is the most important thing about having a job here in Canada? Anything else? **[Probe]**

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**Now I would like to change the topic and ask about your settlement experiences in Canada.**

*\*If respondent has lived in only one community in Canada, go to Q. 44 (page 10).\**

41. You said earlier that when you came to Canada, you were first sent to (*name of first city in Canada*). Why did you leave (*name of first city*)? **[Probe]**

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42a. Now, looking back on the decision, do you think leaving was the right thing to do?

Yes ..... 2

No ..... 1 → → 42b. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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43a. **[Ask if respondent has a family]**

Did anyone else in your family want to stay in (*name of first community*)?

Yes ..... 2

No ..... 1 → → 43b. Who wanted to stay? Why? **[Probe]**

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44 . During your first year in Canada, which of the following services DID YOU RECEIVE from agencies in (name of first community)? **[CARD A]**  
**[For each service listed below, ask Q. 45 only if “yes” for Q. 44.]**

→ → 45 . HOW HELPFUL was this service for you (and your family)?

	<u>Services received?</u>				<u>How helpful for you?</u>				
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>NA</u>		<u>Not at all helpful</u>			<u>Very helpful</u>	
a. Orientation ( <i>learning about the community</i> )	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
b. Language training	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
c. Occupational/job training	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
d. Help with translation	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
e. Help finding a job	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
f. Help finding housing	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
g. Help with children’s schools	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
h. Help with health problems	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
i. Help with shopping	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
j. Help with banking system	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
k. Help with money when you need it	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
l. Help filling in forms	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
m. Help with legal matters	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
n. Help finding family members	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
o. Help with personal problems ( <i>supportive counseling</i> )	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5

**If respondent has been in Canada for one year or less, Go to Q48a**

**FOR ALL RESPONDENTS**

46. After your first year in Canada, which of the following services DID YOU RECEIVE from agencies in (name of current city)? **[CARD A]**

**[For each service listed below, ask Q. 47 only if “yes” for Q. 46. ]**

→ → 47. HOW HELPFUL was this service for you (and your family)?

	<u>Services received?</u>			→	<u>How helpful for you?</u>				
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>NA</u>		<u>Not very helpful</u>			<u>Very helpful</u>	
a. Orientation ( <i>learning about the community</i> )	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
b. Language training	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
c. Occupational/job training	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
d. Help with translation	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
e. Help finding a job	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
f. Help finding housing	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
g. Help with children's schools	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
h. Help with health problems	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
i. Help with shopping	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
j. Help with banking system	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
k. Help with money when you need it	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
l. Help filling in forms	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
m. Help with legal matters	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
n. Help finding family members	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5
o. Help with personal problems ( <i>supportive counseling</i> )	1	2	3	→	1	2	3	4	5

48a . Do you still use any of the settlement agency services in this community?

No ..... 1 → → 48b . When was the last time you used these services?

\_\_\_\_\_ (month/year) **[Go to Q. 49]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 48c . What services do you still use?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

48d . How often do you use these services (*refer to service most frequently used*)?  
(*Circle the response from 48c that refers to the service most frequently used.*)

- Every week ..... 1
- Once or twice a month ..... 2
- Every few months ..... 3
- Once or twice a year ..... 4
- Less than once a year ..... 5

49a . Thinking back over your settlement experiences in Canada, are there any services that YOU DID NOT GET that would have been helpful?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 49b . What would have been helpful? **[Probe]**

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

50 . How much did you know about Canada before you arrived here?

Would you say you knew: **[READ]**

- A lot about Canada ..... 4
- Some things about Canada ..... 3
- Only a little about Canada, or ..... 2
- Nothing at all about Canada ..... 1

51. For each of the following, please tell me how important you think they are for SETTLING IN CANADA. Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means “not at all important” and 5 means “very important.”  
**[CARD B]**

	<u>Not at all</u> <u>important</u>				<u>Very</u> <u>Important</u>	<u>Don't</u> <u>know</u>
a. Learning to speak English	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. Being able to get an interpreter	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. Being able to go to an immigrant/ refugee service centre/settlement agency	1	2	3	4	5	8

52. Now, for each of the following, please tell me how important you think they are for CONTINUING TO LIVE SUCCESSFULLY IN CANADA. Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means “not at all important” and 5 means “very important”. **[CARD B]**

	<u>Not at all</u> <u>important</u>				<u>Very</u> <u>Important</u>	<u>Don't</u> <u>know</u>
a. Being able to buy the kind of food you like at a nearby store	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. Finding a good job	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. Having relatives close by	1	2	3	4	5	8
d. Having friends from the same cultural background	1	2	3	4	5	8
e. A good bus system	1	2	3	4	5	8
f. Being welcomed by the people who live here	1	2	3	4	5	8
g. Making Canadian friends	1	2	3	4	5	8
h. Having your own place of worship	1	2	3	4	5	8
i. Having your children do well in school.	1	2	3	4	5	8

53a. Was it difficult for you to adjust to Canadian winters?  
 No ..... 1  
 Yes ..... 2 → → 53b. Have you adjusted to Canadian winters by now?  
 No ..... 1      Yes ..... 2

54 . Different people are concerned (*worry*) about different things when they settle in a new country. How much are you concerned with each of the following issues? Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means “*not at all*” and 5 means “*very concerned*.” **[CARD C]**

	<u>Not at all Concerned</u>			<u>Very Concerned</u>		<u>NA</u>
a. Money ( <i>personal/family income</i> )?	1	2	3	4	5	
b. Finding or keeping a job?	1	2	3	4	5	
c. Learning English?	1	2	3	4	5	
d. Your future here in Canada?	1	2	3	4	5	
e. <b>[If applicable]</b> Your children’s future here in Canada?	1	2	3	4	5	9
f. <b>[If applicable]</b> Your marriage?	1	2	3	4	5	9
g. <b>[If applicable]</b> Getting married?	1	2	3	4	5	9
h. Friends or relatives back home?	1	2	3	4	5	
i. Your own health?	1	2	3	4	5	
j. <b>[If applicable]</b> The health of your family ( <i>living with you</i> )?	1	2	3	4	5	9
k. “Fitting in” in Canadian society?	1	2	3	4	5	
l. Past experiences and bad memories ( <i>before coming to Canada</i> )	1	2	3	4	5	
m. The politics of Canada?	1	2	3	4	5	
n. Canada’s economy?	1	2	3	4	5	

55a . Is there anything else you are concerned about that we have not already mentioned?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 55b . Please tell me about it.

**Some people have suggested that refugees and other immigrants should perhaps pay for some settlement services. We are interested in your opinions on this.**

56a. Do you think that newcomers to Canada (*refugees and other immigrants*) SHOULD HAVE TO PAY FOR ESL/LINC TRAINING?

No ..... 1 → → 56b. Why not? **[Probe]** \_\_\_\_\_

Yes ..... 2 → → 56c. Why? **[Probe]** \_\_\_\_\_

57a. Should parents have to PAY FOR THEIR CHILDREN'S ESL IN SCHOOL?

No ..... 1 → → 57b. Why not? **[Probe]** \_\_\_\_\_

Yes ..... 2 → → 57c. Why? **[Probe]** \_\_\_\_\_

58. Some people think that IMMIGRANTS SHOULD HAVE TO PAY for ESL, but that REFUGEES SHOULD NOT HAVE TO PAY. What do you think about this idea? **[Probe]**

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59a. Do you think it would be fair to CHARGE MONEY FOR ANY OTHER (*EXISTING*) SERVICES FOR REFUGEES? (*e.g. help with translation, help finding housing, employment services*)

No ..... 1 → → 59b. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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Yes ..... 2 → → 59c. For which refugee services would it be fair to charge money?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

60a. Right now, the government or private sponsors are responsible for settlement costs for the first year a refugee is in Canada. DO YOU THINK REFUGEES SHOULD RECEIVE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR LONGER THAN A YEAR?

No ..... 1 → → 60b. Why not? **[Probe]** \_\_\_\_\_

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Yes ..... 2 → → 60c. Why? **[Probe]** \_\_\_\_\_

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61. Do you think the amount of money given to refugees (*for a year*) is enough?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2

**Now I would like to ask you some questions about your city and how it might compare to other cities in Canada.**

62. Please answer the following questions on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means “*strongly disagree*” and 5 means “*strongly agree*.” [CARD D]

	<u>Strongly disagree</u>				<u>Strongly agree</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
a. ( <i>name of city</i> ) is a good place in which to live.	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. There are good job opportunities here for me.	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. ( <i>name of city</i> ) is a good place in which to raise a family.	1	2	3	4	5	8
d. It would be easier for me to find a job in some other cities.	1	2	3	4	5	8
e. The people in ( <i>name of city</i> ) are very friendly and welcoming.	1	2	3	4	5	8
f. It would be easier to raise a family in some other cities.	1	2	3	4	5	8
g. ( <i>name of city</i> ) has the kinds of agencies and organizations that I need to help me adjust to life in Canada.	1	2	3	4	5	8
h. I would rather live in a bigger city than here	1	2	3	4	5	8
i. I think that people are probably more friendly and welcoming in other places.	1	2	3	4	5	8
j. I would rather live in a smaller city than here	1	2	3	4	5	8
k. I think that other places in Alberta probably have more agencies and organizations that would help me adjust to life in Canada.	1	2	3	4	5	8

63. [Ask If Children In Household] [CARD D]

	<u>Strongly disagree</u>				<u>Strongly agree</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
a. The schools here have good ESL for my children.	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. The schools here encourage my children to keep their cultural identity.	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. The schools here provide good occupational preparation for my children.	1	2	3	4	5	8
d. The schools here will help my children get into university or technical school ( <i>if they want to go</i> ).	1	2	3	4	5	8
e. I think my children will move away from this city some day leave home.	1	2	3	4	5	8
f. I would like my children to continue living in this city when they grow up.	1	2	3	4	5	8

64. What would you say is the BEST THING about living here? [Probe]

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65. What is the WORST THING about living here? [Probe]

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66. How long do you plan to live in this city? \_\_\_\_\_ (*if longer than five years* [Go to Q. 69])

67. Why do you think you will move somewhere else? [Probe]

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68. Where do you think you might move to? \_\_\_\_\_ (*name of city*)

**The next questions ask about how different cultural groups  
get along together in Canada.**

69 . Please answer using the “agree-disagree” responses on the card we used earlier. How much do you agree or disagree that: **[CARD D]**

	<b><u>Strongly disagree</u></b>				<b><u>Strongly agree</u></b>
a. It’s good for ethnic groups in Canada to keep their first ( <i>heritage</i> ) language(s).	1	2	3	4	5
b. People who come to Canada should change their ways to be more like average Canadians.	1	2	3	4	5
c. Having many different cultural groups is good for Canada.	1	2	3	4	5
d. I would like to keep cultural traditions from my home country.	1	2	3	4	5
e. Having many different cultural groups in Canada makes it difficult to develop a sense of unity among Canadians.	1	2	3	4	5
f. I feel like a real Canadian.	1	2	3	4	5
g. I feel that there are too many immigrants coming to Canada.	1	2	3	4	5
h. Being in a multicultural society is one of the things I like best about living in Canada.	1	2	3	4	5
i. <b>[If applicable]</b> My spouse would like me to keep the cultural traditions from my home country.	1	2	3	4	5

70a . Do you keep in contact with family members or friends in (*home country*)?

No. .... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 70b . How do you stay in contact? (*letters, telephone*)

---

71a . Do you try to follow the news in (*home country*)? (*political or economic issues*)

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 71b . How do you find out what is happening?

---

72 . Are there other people from (*home country*) living IN THIS CITY?

No. .... 1 **[Go to Q. 76]**

Yes ..... 2

73a . Do the people from (*home country*) organize social events such as dinners, dances or other group activities?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 74]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 73b. Do you attend? **[READ]**

Often ..... 3

Sometimes, or ..... 2

Never? ..... 1

74 . In general, do the people from (*home country*) who live in this city get along with each other? Would you say: **[READ]**

Not at all, ..... 1

Sometimes, or ..... 2

Most of the time? ..... 3

75a . Are the people from (*home country*) who live in this city ACTIVE IN POLITICS?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 76]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 75b. Can you give me an example of such political activities?

---

76a . Do you follow what is happening in the news HERE IN CANADA? (*political/ economic issues*)

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 76b. How do you find out what is happening? \_\_\_\_\_

77a . Since you arrived in Canada, have you ever EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION OR RACISM?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 78]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 77b. How often has this happened? Would you say: **[READ]**

Once or twice, ..... 1

Several times, or ..... 2

Very often? ..... 3

77c . Did this racism or discrimination have to do with EMPLOYMENT?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 77d. Tell me about it.

---

77e . Did it have anything to do with HOUSING?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 77f. Tell me about it.

---

77g. Have you experienced racism or discrimination in other areas?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 77h. Tell me about it.

78a. Have you ever felt that being a refugee in Canada GAVE YOU AN ADVANTAGE over other Canadians or immigrants?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 78b. Can you give me any examples?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

**Now let's change the topic to leisure activities, the kinds of things you do when you are not working or looking after household duties.**

79a. Do you participate in any SPORTS OR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES? (*soccer, bowling, tennis*)

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 80]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 79b. What kinds of sports or recreational activities?

**[Ask Q.79c for each activity mentioned]**

79c. How often PER MONTH, on average?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (*no. of times/month*)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (*no. of times/month*)

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (*no. of times/month*)

80a. Do you GO OUT FOR OTHER ACTIVITIES such as eating out, going to a bar, going to a concert, or watching your children in sports or school activities? **[Probe]**

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 81]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 80b. What kinds of activities? **[Ask Q.80c for each activity mentioned]**

80c . How often PER MONTH, on average?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)
- (2) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)
- (3) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

81 . What kinds of things do you do AT HOME for recreation or entertainment, when you have free time?  
Anything else? **[Probe]**

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) \_\_\_\_\_
- (3) \_\_\_\_\_

82a . Do YOU participate in any VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES in the community or your cultural group  
(include voluntary activities for religious organizations, participating on committee boards, etc.)?

No. .... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 82b . What kinds of volunteer activity?

**[Ask Q. 82c for each activity mentioned]**

82c . How often PER MONTH, on average?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)
- (2) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)
- (3) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

83 . For you personally, is religion (*spirituality*) important?

- Very important ..... 5
- Important ..... 4
- Somewhat important..... 3
- Not very important ..... 2
- Not at all important ..... 1

84a . Do you attend some place of worship (*church, mosque*) on a regular basis?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 85]**

Yes .... 2 → → 84b . What kind of place of worship (*type of religious organization*)

\_\_\_\_\_

84c . About how often do you attend? Would you say: **[READ]**  
 Several times a week.....0  
 Every week, ..... 1  
 Once or twice a month, ..... 2  
 Every several months, or ..... 3  
 Once or twice a year? ..... 4

85 . NOT COUNTING WHEN YOU WERE AT A JOB, how often, in the PAST FEW MONTHS, have you spent time with the following people? Please answer with the responses on this card. **[CARD E]**

	<u>Never</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Often</u>	<u>Daily</u>	<u>NA</u>
a. Family and relatives outside your household?	1	2	3	4	
b. Friends from _____ ( <i>reference country</i> )?	1	2	3	4	
c. Sponsor family or Canadian host volunteer?	1	2	3	4	
d. Other Canadian friends?	1	2	3	4	
e. Neighbours?	1	2	3	4	
f. People from work?	1	2	3	4	
g. Other immigrants ( <i>from a different culture</i> )	1	2	3	4	

**The next questions ask about your health, and about how you felt about life in general, when you first came to Canada.**

86a. WHEN YOU FIRST ARRIVED, did you have physical or mental health problems that needed attention?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 87]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 86b. What kind of health problems did you have?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

86c . Did you receive health care for some or all of these problems?

No ..... 1 → → 86d. Why not? **[Probe]** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **[Go to Q. 87]**

*Question continued...*

Yes, some ..... 2 → → 86e. How satisfied were you with the health care  
Yes, all ..... 3 → → you received? Were you: **[READ] [CARD F]**

very dissatisfied ..... 1  
dissatisfied ..... 2  
satisfied ..... 3  
or very satisfied ..... 4

87. WHEN YOU FIRST CAME TO CANADA, how healthy did you feel PHYSICALLY? Did you feel:  
**[READ] [CARD G]**

very healthy, ..... 4  
somewhat healthy, ..... 3  
unhealthy, or ..... 2  
or very unhealthy? .....1

88. How healthy did you feel PSYCHOLOGICALLY? Did you feel: **[READ] [CARD G]**

very healthy, ..... 4  
somewhat healthy, ..... 3  
unhealthy, or .....2  
or very unhealthy? .....1

89. WHEN YOU FIRST CAME TO CANADA, how STRESSFUL was your life? Would you say:  
**[READ] [CARD H]**

very stressful, ..... 4  
somewhat stressful, ..... 3  
not very stressful, or..... 2  
or not at all stressful? .....1

90a. In the first year, how HAPPY OR SAD did you feel? Would you say you felt: **[READ] [CARD I]**

very happy, ..... 5 **[Go to Q. 91]**  
somewhat happy, ..... 4 **[Go to Q. 91]**  
both sad and happy, ..... 3 → →  
somewhat sad, or ..... 2 → →  
very sad? ..... 1 → →

90b. Did these feelings interfere with your life  
or activities: **[READ]**  
a lot, ..... 3  
sometimes, or..... 2  
not at all? ..... 1

90c. Did you talk about these feelings with anyone?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 91]**  
Yes, but not right away... 2 → → 90d. With whom?  
Yes, right away ..... 3 → → \_\_\_\_\_

90e. Did it help to talk about these feelings?

No .....1 → → 90f. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Yes .....2 → → 90g. Why? \_\_\_\_\_

**Now let's talk about your health and feelings in the past month.**

91. IN THE PAST MONTH, how healthy have you felt PHYSICALLY? Would you say: **[READ] [CARD G]**  
 very healthy, ..... 4  
 somewhat healthy, ..... 3  
 unhealthy, or .....2  
 or very unhealthy? .....1

92. IN THE PAST MONTH, how healthy have you felt PSYCHOLOGICALLY? Would you say:  
**[READ] [CARD G]**  
 very healthy, ..... 4  
 somewhat healthy, ..... 3  
 unhealthy, or .....2  
 or very unhealthy? .....1

93. IN THE PAST MONTH, how STRESSFUL has your life been? Would you say: **[READ] [CARD H]**  
 very stressful, ..... 4  
 somewhat stressful, ..... 3  
 not very stressful, or..... 2  
 or not at all stressful? .....1

94a. Overall, how HAPPY OR SAD have you felt in the past month? Would you say: **[READ] [CARD I]**  
 very happy, ..... 5 **[Go to Q. 95]**  
 somewhat happy, ..... 4 **[Go to Q. 95]**  
 both sad and happy..... 3 → → 94b. Have these feelings interfered with your life  
 somewhat sad, or ..... 2 → → or activities: **[READ]**  
 very sad? ..... 1 → →  
 a lot, ..... 3  
 sometimes, or..... 2  
 not at all? ..... 1

94c. Have you talked about these feelings with anyone?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 95]**  
 Yes ..... 2 → → 94d. With whom? \_\_\_\_\_

94e. Did it help to talk about these feelings?

No .....1 → → 94f. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Yes .....2 → → 94g. Why? \_\_\_\_\_

95 . If you had a serious MONEY PROBLEM, who could you talk to about it, if you wanted to?

\_\_\_\_\_

96 . If you had a serious problem WITH YOUR JOB, who could you talk to about it, if you wanted to?

\_\_\_\_\_

97 . If a serious HEALTH PROBLEM (*for you or your family*) came up, who could you talk to about it, if you wanted to?

\_\_\_\_\_

98 . If you had a serious PERSONAL PROBLEM, who could you talk to about it, if you wanted to?

\_\_\_\_\_

**The next few questions are about what it costs you to live here in Canada, and about how well you think you are doing.**

99a . Do you RENT OR OWN this dwelling (*house, apartment*)?

Rent ..... 1 → → 99b . How much do you pay each month for rent? \_\_\_\_\_ (\$/month)

Own ..... 2 → → 99c . How much do you pay each month for your mortgage or loan? \_\_\_\_\_ (\$/month)

100 . In total, counting everyone who lives with you, what would you say is the TOTAL YEARLY INCOME (*employment income, transfer payments, pensions*) BEFORE TAXES AND DEDUCTIONS, for this household. You can answer by telling me one of the numbers on this card. **[CARD J]**

- |                           |   |                           |    |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|----|
| < \$10,000 .....          | 1 | \$50,000 - \$59,999 ..... | 6  |
| \$10,000 - \$19,999 ..... | 2 | \$60,000 - \$69,999 ..... | 7  |
| \$20,000 - \$29,999 ..... | 3 | \$70,000 - \$79,999 ..... | 8  |
| \$30,000 - \$39,999 ..... | 4 | \$80,000 - \$89,999 ..... | 9  |
| \$40,000 - \$49,999 ..... | 5 | \$90,000 - \$99,999 ..... | 10 |
|                           |   | \$100,000 or more .....   | 11 |

101 . Is this income enough to cover the living costs for this household, or do you SOMETIMES or OFTEN have problems covering living costs?

- Enough income to cover living costs ..... 3
- Sometimes have problems ..... 2
- Often have problems ..... 1

102. Would you say that you (*and your family*) are BETTER OFF, or WORSE OFF, or JUST THE SAME financially than you were a year ago?

Better off ..... 3  
Same ..... 2  
Worse off ..... 1  
Don't know (volunteered) ... 8

103. Now looking ahead – do you think that A YEAR FROM NOW you (*and your family*) will be BETTER OFF financially, or WORSE OFF, or JUST ABOUT THE SAME as now?

Better off..... 3  
Same ..... 2  
Worse off ..... 1  
Don't know (volunteered) 8

**Let's change the topic now and talk about Canadian citizenship.**

104. Have you been in Canada long enough (*three years*) to apply for Canadian citizenship?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 107]**  
Yes ..... 2

105a. Have you applied for citizenship, or become a citizen?

No ..... 1 → →105b. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_ **[Go to Q. 107]**  
Yes, have applied ..... 2 → →105c. Why did you decide to become a Canadian citizen?  
Yes, became a citizen .... 3 → →

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105d. Was this a difficult decision to make?

No ..... 1 **[Go to Q. 106]**  
Yes ..... 2 → → 105e. Can you tell me about it? **[Probe]**

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106a. Did you take (*are you taking*) a citizenship course?

No ..... 1 → → 106b. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_ **[Go to Q. 108]**  
Yes ..... 2 → → 106c. Why? \_\_\_\_\_ **[Go to Q. 108]**

107a. Do you plan to become a Canadian citizen in the future?

No ..... 1 → → 107b. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Yes ..... 2 → → 107c. Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Don't know (*volunteered*) ..... 8

108a. Do you think most Canadian-born people value their Canadian citizenship?

No .....1 → → 108b. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Yes ..... 2 → → 108c. Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Don't know (*volunteered*) ..... 8

**Let's finish with a few questions about the experiences of refugees, and any advice you might give new refugees coming to Canada.**

109a. Do you think that the experiences of REFUGEES and IMMIGRANTS in Canada differ, or are they much the same?

Much the same ..... 1

Different experiences ..... 2 → → 109b. How do you think they are different?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

110a. What about REFUGEES COMING TO CANADA, as compared to REFUGEES GOING TO OTHER COUNTRIES like the United States, Australia, or European countries? Do you think their experiences are different or much the same?

Much the same ..... 1

Different experiences ..... 2 → → 110b. How do you think they are different?

\_\_\_\_\_

Don't know (*volunteered*) ..... 8

111 . What advice would you give OTHER REFUGEES COMING TO CANADA about how to integrate successfully into Canadian society? Anything else? **[Probe]**

(1) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

112 . What advice would you GIVE TO CANADIANS about helping refugees adjust to life in Canada? Anything else? **[Probe]**

(1) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

113a . Thinking back to before you came to Canada, what were your hopes and expectations for your future and the future of your family?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

113b . To what extent have these hopes and expectations been realized?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

114 . Is there anything else about your refugee experience, before or after coming to Canada, that you want to talk about? **[Probe; anything else? Qualify]**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

That was my last question. Thank you very much for taking the time to be interviewed about your experiences as a refugee in Canada. Your answers have been very helpful.

As I said when we started, your name will never appear with any of your answers. Since we are interviewing several hundred other refugees across the province, it will never be possible for anyone to find out who said what.

[GIVE RESPONDENT \$20 for expenses, issue receipt]

Record end time of interview here: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>POST-INTERVIEW QUESTIONS</b>
---------------------------------

Database Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Arrival in Canada (day/month/year): \_\_\_\_\_  
(from original database):

Contact Information:  
[Record all contacts (date/person contacted/address and/or phone number/outcome)]

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date Interview Completed (day/month/year): \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Interview: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Interpreter: \_\_\_\_\_

Interview Assessment:

- Very easy to complete .... 1
- Somewhat easy ..... 2
- Somewhat difficult ..... 3 → Why was interview difficult?
- Very difficult ..... 4 → \_\_\_\_\_

If interpreter required:

- Interpretation appeared to be very successful ..... 1
- ... somewhat successful .. 2
- ... somewhat difficult .... 3 → Why was interpretation difficult?
- ... very difficult ..... 4 → \_\_\_\_\_

Were other family members present during interview?

- No ..... 1
- Yes ..... 2 → Did this create difficulties? No ..... 1
- Yes ..... 2

[IF YES] Why did their presence create difficulties?

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***The Settlement Experience of Refugees in Alberta***

**\$20.00 RESPONDENT COMPENSATION RECEIVED**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Respondent*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Interviewer*

**\$20.00 TRANSLATOR COMPENSATION RECEIVED**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Translator*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Interviewer*