Immigrant Profiles

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| **Names:** F: Sabeen Alnassari (May 3rd, 1985) & M: Humamn Alnassari ( Dec 15, 1984)**Occupation:** Freelance journalist & ShopkeeperWe are Syrian residents currently living in a displaced people’s camp in Turkey. We left Damascus, Syria in 2014 when our apartment building was hit by a rocket meant to destroy an ISIS command center. Having lost our home we had no other choice but to flee the dangerous conditions of our home country. We left everything we own back in Syria and have lost access to our small savings account equivalent to $5600 Canadian. Before the war broke out we lived normal lives, both healthy law abiding citizens caught up in a power struggle between competing political groups.  |
| **Names:** F: Xiùyīng Huang ( August 13th, 1975), M: Jié Huang (Jan 21st, 1980) & M:Yong Huang ( April 5th, 2009)**Occupation:** factory owner & primary caregiver  We are a family of 3 from the Gansu province of China. My husband Jie started a successful company that creates Christmas decorations sold the Dollarama chain across Canada. As the company expanded and Jie began traveling regularly to Canada he thought it would be a great place for us to live and raise our son Yong who has been recently diagnosed with autism. Though our business is highly successful and we are considered extremely wealthy by Chinese standards ( savings of $500000 Canadian).  |
| **Names:** M: Miguel Contaras (June 1st, 1982) & F: Lola Contaras (July 31st, 2003)**Occupation:** Factory WorkerI am a single father from Mexico city, Mexico. 3 years ago my wife was killed due to her father’s ties to a organized crime unit that has operated in the country for decades. I am looking for a new start in a new country, hoping to escape the past of my family history. I speak English very well and have many skills as a certified welder. Although I only have $11000 in savings I am sure that I can easily find a job in the skilled trades. |
| **Name:** M: Pablo Chavez (November 7th, 1995), F: Jolena Martinez (September 3rd, 1997) & expecting child **Occupation:** Farm hand I have spent parts of the last 3 years as a temporary foreign worker in Canada on an onion farm in the Holland Marsh agricultural region. I am from the Chihuahua state of Mexico where I work seasonally but it is not nearly enough money to support my soon to be wife and expecting child. In order to support and save for my future family I am hoping to move to Canada permanently and then later sponsor my wife to be and our child. I have modest savings of $9000 but have a written agreement with my Canadian employer for a regular job if I qualify to become a Canadian citizen.  |
| **Names:** M: Ardarsh Vandinar ( June 23rd, 1988) F: Chetana Vandinar (May 21st, 1999), F: Indrana Vandinar (October 18th, 2001) & F: Jayanti Vandinar (February 11th, 2003)**Occupation:** Structural Engineer Greetings from Mumbai, India. It is my greatest intention to become a citizen of the great country of Canada. I am a recent graduate of the University of Mumbai and have spent the last year working as an engineer building bridges. I am the oldest in a family of 4 children and have cared for my 3 younger sisters since my parents passed away at the early ages of 45 and 48 respectively. I am hoping to use my skills to be admitted into Canada and bring with me my 3 young sisters who I am the legal guardian of. My parents left us a trust of $ 100000 dollars in their passing and I am currently making a respectable income of $33000 / year.  |
| **Name:** F: Emily Black (September 24th, 1991)**Occupation:** Oncology Nurse I have spent the last 3 years working for a non-profit hospital. I am a nurse with several additional qualifications which make me a desired worker in the healthcare profession. I live in Buffalo, New York and hope to move to Canada to be with my boyfriend of two years who is a Canadian citizen living in Toronto. We plan to get married in the future and raise a family in Canada. I am financially stable with a yearly income of $39000 dollars. I speak English but do not have strong French skills; however my intention is to settle in Ontario which is a dominantly English speaking area.  |
| **Name:** M: Nigel Stone (January 3rd 1981) & Laura Stone (November 23rd, 1980)**Occupation:** Bartender & Customer Service Representative My wife and I are from Essex, England. We both have worked in the service industry for over a decade but have been feeling the pressure to join our majority of our family who have emigrated to Canada over the past few decades. Firstly, my brother came over (to Vancouver) in the early 2000s as an electrician with his family and just a few years ago Laura’s only sister was transferred to Montreal in her position as a VP of operations with a large multinational corporation. She is currently living as a permanent resident. I do have to declare that my wife and I had a bit of a wild lifestyle before settling down. We were once active members of the environmental group Greenpeace and were both have criminal records for a tussle with police at a rowdy climate change protest. Those days are past us now and we have been steadily working to save the money needed. A past bankruptcy from a failed restaurant has all been cleared and we have $15000 in savings to make the move.   |
| **Names:** M: Francisco Perez ( May 1983) **Occupation:** UnemployedI named Francisco from Guatemala. I grow up in a poor family in Guatemala City where no jobs and life is very unsafe. My brother was killed by a gang last year and I am trying to leave to country for better life. I have no money but am hard worker and a clean medical and no criminal past. I hear that I can work on Canadian farms and save much money.  |
| **Name:** Katerina Yankovich (June 1st, 1990) **Occupation:** Professional Circus Contortionist  I am a professional performer and have spent the last 5 years working in the evening shows on Carvinal Cruise lines all around the Caribbean and Mediterranean. I am currently in negotiations with Cirque de Solei for a 1 year contract in the Toronto show. I would very much like to take this contract and work in Canada for the entire year. I am single and have no ties to any country other than being born in my native Russia, but I have not been back in many years. I have $18000 in my bank account but need a new job as I have grown sick of working on cruise ships.  |
| **Name:** M: Gabir Bahad (May 1st, 1970) & F: Amira Bahad (January 30th, 1973) & M: Ari Bahad (July 10th, 2000)**Occupation:** Gabir is a former soldier for Iraqi government Life has been tough in Iraq since the war with the USA in the 2000’s. Before the war I was a high ranking colonel with the ruling dictatorship. It was not always an easy job but it fed my family and provided a steady income. Since the fall of the dictatorship I have fled the army and took my family into hiding. The new government does not treat those loyal to the former ruler kindly and we are fearful every day for our safety. I regret the decisions I made in my previous role but am now looking for a clean slate to start over with my family. We have only $2000 but I am confident I could work for the Canadian military if given the chance to show my experience. My English is good as spoken but I have no experience in other languages and my writing is quite poor ( this letter has been translated for me by a former translator in the overthrown military I used to work for.  |
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