

Welcome! Bienvenue

PSR issues

Enjeux parrainage des réfugiés

7 February 2017 | 7 février 2017

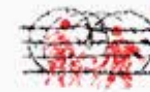
The conference call will begin at 2:00 pm Eastern Time

Agenda | Ordre du jour

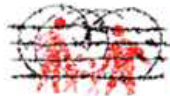
1. Introduce the PSR toolkit
2. Roles of different organizations
3. Updates and strategizing on refugee levels and restrictions (and slow processing)
4. Issues needing information, networking and advocacy
5. Invitation to join CCR

Who is here | Avec nous

- Janet Dench, Executive Director, CCR
- Gilbert Iyamuremye and Mary Purkey, co-chairs, CCR Working Group on Overseas Protection and Sponsorship
- Moses Moini, Overseas Protection and Sponsorship Steering Committee member
- Melissa Scott, RSTP
- Malaika Njau and Ania Kwadrans, SSP
- Sabine Lehr, SAH Council member



CCR PSR toolkit



Private Sponsorship of Refugees Toolkit

[PSR toolkit home](#) >

[Overview](#)

[Applications for sponsors](#)

[Applications for refugees](#)

[Applications in process](#)

[Other useful information](#)

[CCR's Private Sponsorship of Refugees page](#)

What is the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Toolkit?



The toolkit is a practical web-based resource to provide information about private refugee sponsorship to groups across Canada.

The toolkit includes:

- Information about program options across the country
- Information about how to prepare an application for sponsors and refugees
- Resources for sponsors and refugees (both pre- and post-arrival)
- Links to other resources
- Information about national and local organizations offering support to sponsoring groups



This resource is primarily geared towards groups applying to privately sponsor refugees through a Group of 2 to 5 or Non-profit organization (in Quebec), or a Group of 5 or Community sponsor (in the rest of Canada). However, it also includes a lot of information relevant for other types of groups.

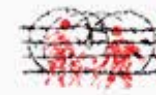
The Toolkit Table of Contents

[Overview](#)

PSR toolkit

1. Practical help
2. Links to resources
3. Information on advocacy

<http://ccrweb.ca/en/psr-toolkit/home>



Roles and resources

- CCR
- RSTP
- SSP
- SAH Association

Introducing the CCR

- Umbrella organization
- Three working groups (including Overseas Protection and Sponsorship)
- Small office in Montreal
- 4 meetings a year
- Networking, information-exchange and advocacy
- Public education materials
- Connections with organizations in other countries

Introducing Refugee Sponsorship Training Program (RSTP)

<http://www.rstp.ca>

- Trainers in Toronto, ON, with Trainers also in Vancouver, BC (BC and Alberta) and Halifax, NS (Atlantic provinces)
- Funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and other sources of funding for special initiatives
- National Program (excl. Quebec)
- Program designed to assist all sponsoring groups, including the Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAHs) of Canada (Constituent Groups and Co-sponsors), Groups of Five and Community Sponsors
- Mandated to provide PSR information, training and support to the refugee sponsorship community, along with responding to the initial information needs of refugees.
 - *Blended Visa Office Referred (BVOR) Program*

What does RSTP offer?

- Guidance and training for existing sponsoring groups and
 - In-person workshops and training sessions
 - Webinars
- Inquiries and case specific problem solving
- Training materials and guides
- Updates and information-sharing
- Information sessions for general public interested in PSR Program
- Annual SAH Conference

Introducing Refugee Sponsorship Support Program (SSP)

- Trained volunteer lawyers provide free help with private sponsorship applications
- We assist G5's, Community Sponsors, SAHs/Constituent Groups with sponsorship of refugees from around the world
- National scope: chapters in 11 communities; remote matching for others
- Assistance provided through clinics or 1-1 lawyer matching
- Connect and learn more:

www.refugeeSSP.ca twitter.com/RefugeeHub

refugeeSSP@uottawa.ca

Introducing Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAH) Association

- Canadian Refugee Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAH) Association
- SAH Council and SAH Secretariat
- Mission: Collective voice for SAHs re/PSR program - within membership; Canadian public; national & international org's; govt's of Canada and provinces
- NGO-Government Committee
- Resources: SAH Association www.sahassociation.com includes [Sponsorship Guidebook](#) (useful for SAHs and G5/CS)

Restrictions on applications by Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAHs)

- **SAH Global cap:** the total number of refugees (persons) that all SAHs may apply for in a year
- **Individual Allocation:** the total number of refugees that an individual SAH may apply for in a given year.
 - Individual Allocation to SAHs this year: 28 Feb.2017
- **Sub-Capped Mission:** a Visa office with a limit on how many refugees SAHs may apply for in a given year (**in 2017: NONE.** In 2016: Nairobi, Dar-es Salaam, Cairo, Pretoria, Rome, Islamabad, Tel Aviv)

Groups of Five & Community sponsors

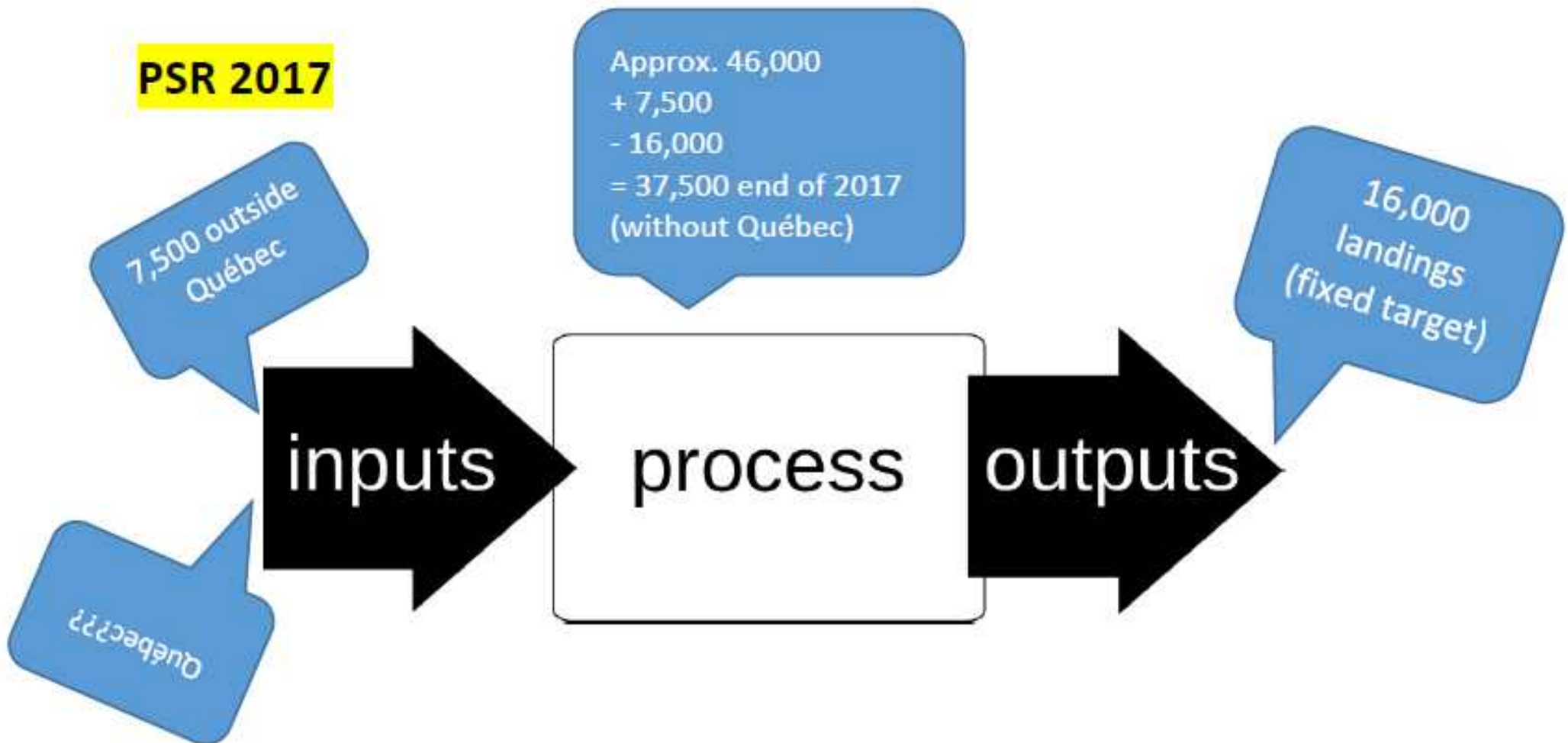
- **2012 - Present:** Groups of Five and Community Sponsors are limited to sponsoring refugees with a RARE document proving they have refugee status, issued by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) or by the country where they are currently living
- **Sept. 2015- Jan 2017:** Requirement above lifted for Syrian and Iraqi refugees on temporary basis
(From 19 Dec 2016 – 25 Jan 2017: Cap of 1,000 Syrian and Iraqi refugees exempted).

QUEBEC Private Sponsorship

- **2017:** No private sponsorship applications can be submitted by any type of sponsorship group in Quebec. No date has been given for when this suspension will be lifted

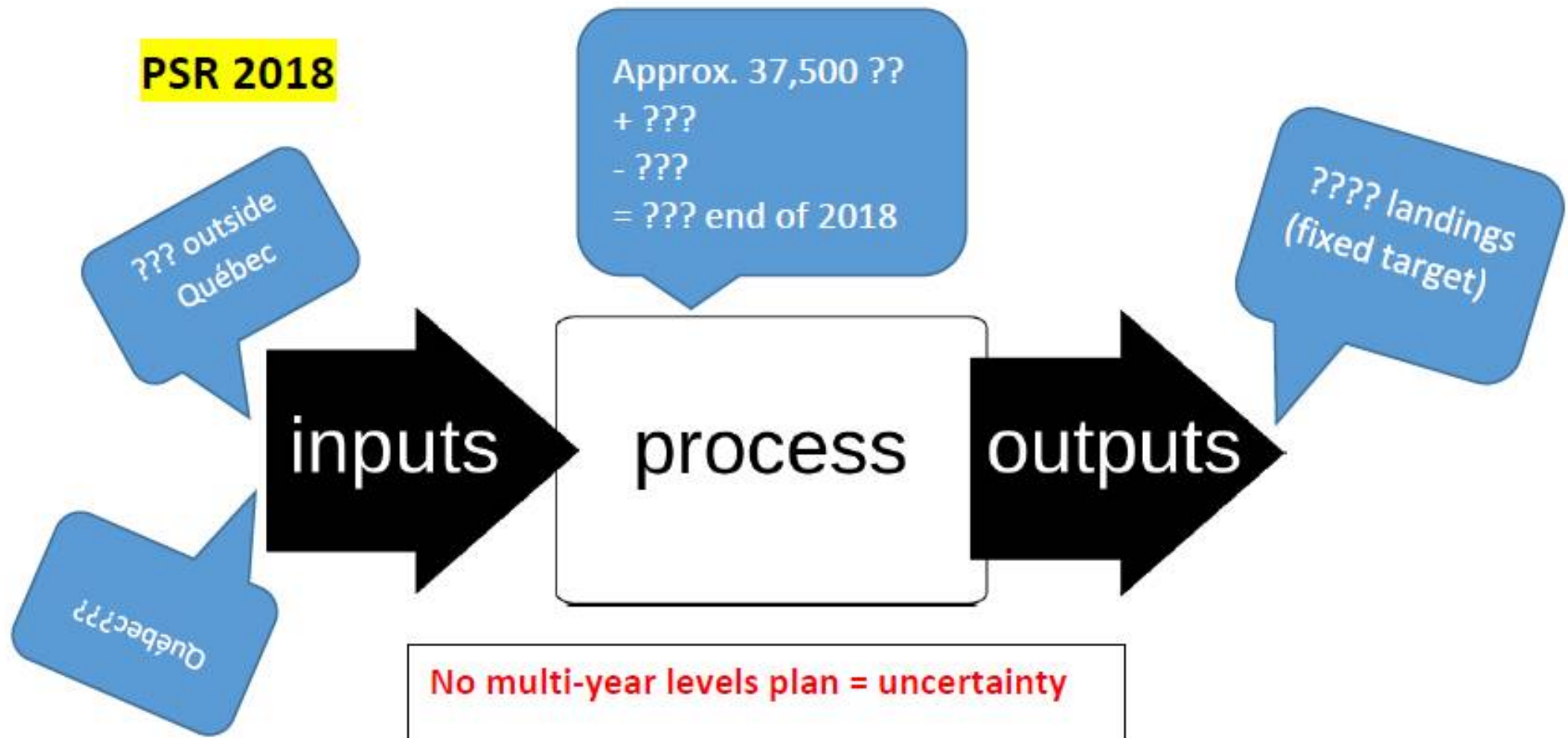


PSR 2017





PSR 2018



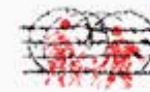
Strategizing on refugee levels and restrictions

Issues needing information, networking and advocacy

Over to participants!

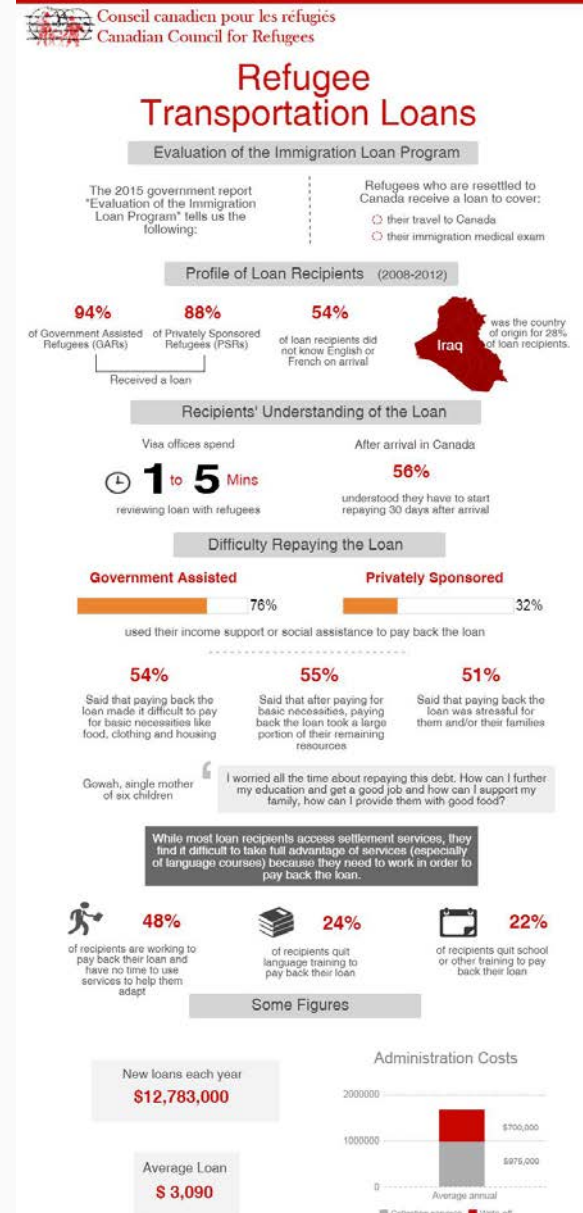
Some issues identified by participants (email survey)

- CPOW Issues
- Refugee levels and restrictions
- Slow Processing (and inconsistency of process)
- Transportation loan
- Family reunification issues (including One year window of opportunity, Age of dependents)



Transportation loan

ccrweb.ca/en/transportation-loans



Family reunification

- One Year Window of Opportunity (in discussion with IRCC)
- Age of dependants (upcoming change in maximum age)
- Family reunification campaign (focus April 4 – Refugee Rights Day)

ccrweb.ca/en/family-reunification

Invitation to join CCR

- Members = organizations (can be informal organizations)
- Associate Members = individuals not associated with an organization
- Benefits include: access to information, participation in collaborative advocacy
- <http://ccrweb.ca/en/join>