

# CANADA'S EMIGRATION AND CANADA-ASIA RELATIONS



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# THREE QUESTIONS

1. Does Canada have significant emigrants?
2. How many Canadians residing in Asia?
3. What does it mean for Canada?

# CONTENT

1. Mapping the Canadians in Asia
2. Key Findings of Hong Kong Survey 2011
3. Issues for Canadian Policy
4. Concluding Remarks: Future Direction

# 1. *MAPPING THE CANADIANS*

## 1.1 Conceptualizations of national population

	Citizens	Others with resident status	Others
Resident in Canada	I	II	III
Absent	IV	V	

# *1. MAPPING THE CANADIANS*

## 1.2 APF working definition of Canadian diaspora

- Who are Canadian citizens
- Who have resided abroad for one year or longer, or
- Who have a definite plan to reside abroad for one year or longer

# 1. MAPPING THE CANADIANS

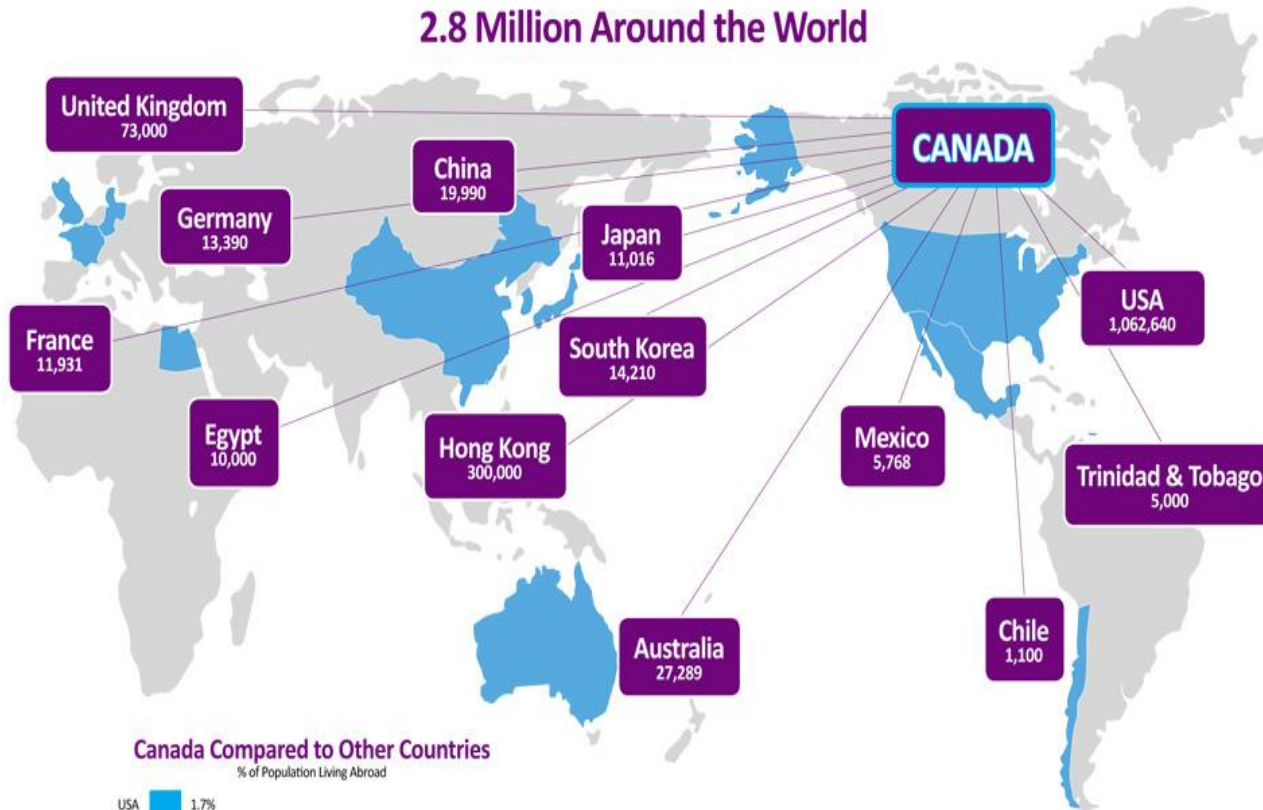
## 1.3 International Mobile Canadians

Canada's Population	Exit Rate (96-06)
Canadian Born	1.3%
Foreign Born	4.2%
Of which: Hong Kong	24%
Taiwan	30%
PRC	3%
USA	11%

Source: DeVoretz, 2009

# Mapping Canadians Abroad

2.8 Million Around the World



## Milestones in Canadians Abroad

**1947**

The Canadian Citizenship Act is passed. Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King becomes the first citizen of Canada.

**1977**

The Canadian Citizenship Act is amended to permit dual citizenship.

**1993**

The first year that Canadians living abroad could vote. Currently, they can vote if they have lived abroad for less than 5 years.

**1997**

Handover of Hong Kong to the People's Republic of China. Many immigrants to Canada who had arrived in the previous decade returned to Hong Kong in the years following.

**2006**

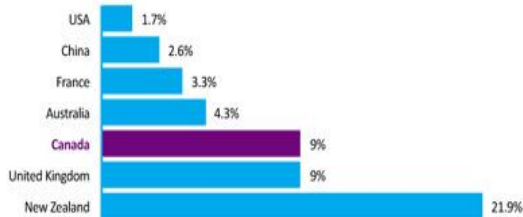
The evacuation of 14,000 Canadian citizens from war-torn Lebanon sparks a debate over whether they were truly Canadians or "citizens of convenience".

**2009**

The Canadian Citizenship Act is amended again. This time, the second-generation of children born abroad do not have citizenship rights.

## Canada Compared to Other Countries

% of Population Living Abroad



## Who Are Canadians Abroad?

**58%** Canadian-born

**42%** Naturalized Citizens



Naturalized citizens are the fastest growing segment of Canadians abroad with an exit rate of 4.5%. This contrasts with Canadian-born citizens whose exit rate is only 1.3%.

The numbers on the map represent selected estimates of Canadians living abroad

Data based on Canadians Abroad: Canada's Global Asset, a report produced by the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada. The full report is available at <http://www.asiapacific.ca/research-report/canadians-abroad-canadas-global-asset-capstone-report>

## *2. KEY FINDINGS OF HONG KONG SURVEY (2011)*

- 67% born in Hong Kong vs. 16% born in Canada
- 80% are within the working age groups
- 80% were originally from ON or BC
- 52% have a Canadian degree
- 83% are citizens of Canada and Hong Kong

## *2. KEY FINDINGS OF HONG KONG SURVEY (2011) – CONT'D*

- 12% do business with client in Canada or working for Canadian entities
- 79% sought for trade/investment support
- 81% have lived outside Canada 5 years +
- Job and family are top reasons of move
- 46% consider Canada home
- 62% consider returning to Canada

### *3. ISSUES FOR CANADIAN POLICY*

What  
does it  
mean for

• Canada

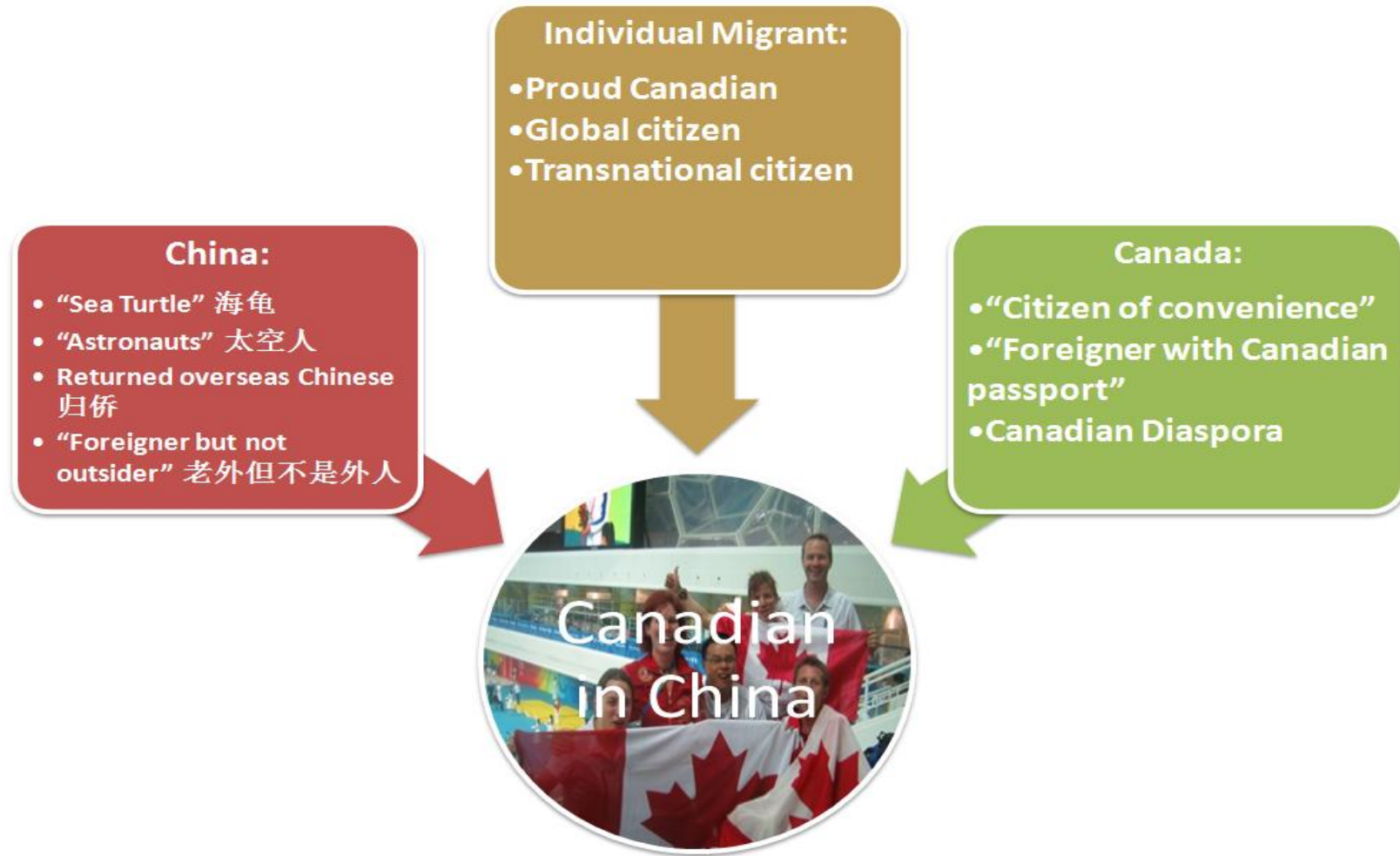
What  
does it  
mean for

• Canada-Asia  
relations

## *3.1 GENERAL ISSUES FOR CANADA*

- Lack of information and attention
- Discouraging attachment to Canada
- Confusions of being a Canadian and be in Canada
- Arguable fee for services
- Divided public opinions (Example of Identity)
- Lack of leveraging Canada's global assets

# EXAMPLE: MULTIPLE IDENTITIES



## *3.2 ISSUES FOR CANADA-ASIA RELATIONS*

- Human bridge: attach to both sides of the Pacific
- Human capital: skills, knowledge and connections in Asia
- Human platform: networks for Canadian business in Asia and vice versa
- People's Ambassadors: promote and deliver the Canadian value and interest in Asia

## 4. CONCLUDING REMARKS – FUTURE DIRECTION

- We need to change our mindset to embrace all global Canadian citizens at home and abroad.
- We need to stop policies and practices that discourage attachments and connections between Canadian citizens abroad and Canada.
- We need to institutionalize our policy mechanisms turning a narrow, piecemeal and reactive policy into a broader, more coordinated and proactive approach.

THANK YOU!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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