Appendix: Categories of Immigrants to Canada

(from **http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/statistics/facts2008/permanent/index.asp**, accessed January 4, 2010)

Since 2002, Canada's immigration program has been based on the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (IRPA) and its regulations. Three basic categories correspond to major program objectives: reuniting families, contributing to economic development and protecting refugees.

The family class is comprised of foreign nationals sponsored by close relatives or family members in Canada and includes spouses and partners, dependent children, parents and grandparents.

Economic immigrants are people selected for their skills and ability to contribute to Canada's economy, including skilled workers, business immigrants, provincial and territorial nominees and live–in caregivers.

Refugees include government–assisted refugees, privately sponsored refugees, refugees landed in Canada and dependants of refugees landed in Canada who live abroad.