

Processing delays for parents and grandparents

Historically, Canada has accepted about 22,000 parents and grandparents per year; in 2002, it accepted 22,526 immigrants in this class. After 2003 however, there was a drastic decline in the admission quotas for this class, down to a target of only 6,000 for 2005. This created a backlog of about 110,000 cases!

On April 18, 2005, the Minister of Immigration Joe Volpe announced "tripling" of the number of parents and grandparents immigrating to Canada from 6,000 to 18,000. However, in reality, the government is not "tripling" the number of parents in this class at all. Even after the "increase", the quotas will be less than in 2002-2003 and it will take about 6 years to clear the current backlog.

Several groups have been lobbying the Canadian government, and some are considering a Class Action to force Canada Immigration to process the sponsorship cases.

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