



Refugee Sponsorship in 2025: The Current Landscape



Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church of Canada

43.4 million

global refugee population as
of May 2024

The refugee population has

doubled

in the last decade

73%

come from Afghanistan,
Syria, Venezuela, Ukraine &
Sudan

51,081 refugees

welcomed by Canada through government
resettlement and private sponsorship in 2023

27,660

of these were through the
Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR)
program.

Towards the end of 2024, Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) announced **three changes**:

17% reduction

in landing (arrival) targets
for the PSR program in 2025

1 year pause

on new Group of Five (G5)
and Community Sponsorship
(CS) applications

20% reduction

in spots available for
Sponsorship Agreement
Holders (SAHs) for 2025
applications

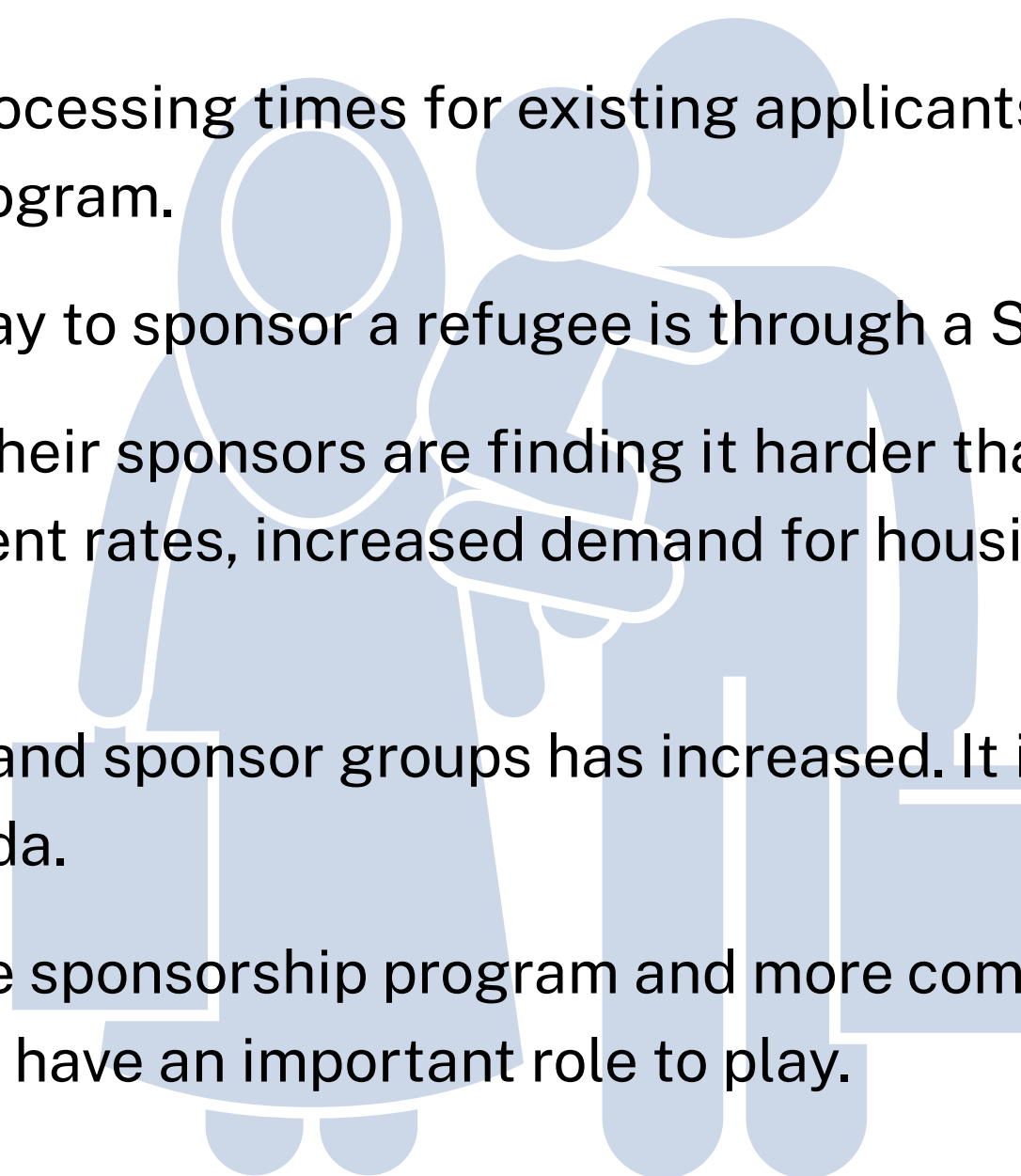
While this is aimed at reducing processing times for existing applicants (currently 3+ years), it means fewer refugees will access the program.

It also means that now the only way to sponsor a refugee is through a Sponsorship Agreement Holder.

Locally, refugee newcomers and their sponsors are finding it harder than ever to land jobs and find housing, amidst high unemployment rates, increased demand for housing in general, and high costs of living.

In this context, the work of SAHs and sponsor groups has increased. It is also **more important than ever** to help refugees find safety in Canada.

In light of IRCC's divestment in the sponsorship program and more complex post-arrival challenges, individuals and faith communities have an important role to play.



**You have the power to make a real impact by forming, joining or
supporting a refugee sponsor group.**

If your Diocese is a Sponsorship Agreement Holder, contact the person responsible for refugee resettlement to learn more about how you can get involved.

Sources: UNHCR [Refugee Statistics](#), IRCC [2024 Annual Report to Parliament on Immigration](#).