A WORD ABOUT VICTOR PICHÉ AND THIS EDITION OF CANADIAN DIVERSITY

Canada is often described as a nation of immigrants, as one in five Canadians is born outside the country. How knowledgeable are Canadians about the history of immigration to the country? How much do they know about the current process of immigration and the rules for acquiring citizenship? It is important for Canadians to possess such knowledge as immigration has a profound impact on our economy and identity. Being ill informed about immigration, newcomer settlement and integration makes it difficult for citizens to thoughtfully participate in national and local conversations about these very key issues. Worse yet, it makes citizens vulnerable to misleading notions about immigration and integration. The ability to check facts with sound empirical work is a challenge, but it must be done. And thankfully there are some champions that demonstrate leadership in attacking myths about immigration that circulate far too widely. One such champion is Dr. Victor Piché, who has dedicated considerable time and energy to this important cause. We are pleased to dedicate this issue of Canadian Diversity to the work of Dr. Piché, who has had a profound influence on many scholars, policy-makers and researchers in Canada and abroad. We hope that the content serves as a guide for our readers in taking up the continued challenge of dispelling myths about immigration.

Jack Jedwab

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