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Does Canada actually expect US influx over Trump's election?

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PAT GREENHOUSE/GLOBE STAFF

By **Matt Rocheleau**

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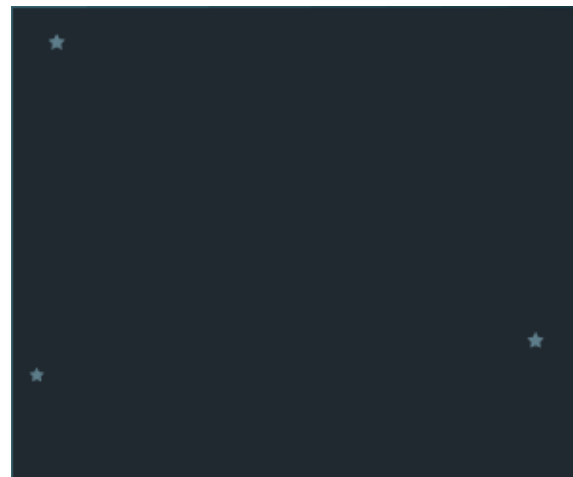
As results Tuesday night indicated a Donald Trump victory, [Canada's immigration website](#) crashed and there was a spike in Google searches for "moving to Canada."

To take the post-election pulse of our good neighbors to the north, Metro Minute asked David Alward, Canada's consul general to New England and a native of Beverly, Mass., about the prospects of an American invasion and how Canadians are sizing up the president-elect.

Q. Does Canada expect larger-than-usual numbers of US residents to move there?

A. There has been keen interest for some time. On the ground in New England, I've felt it ... When I'm out at community-type events, every once in a while someone will come up and say 'What's involved with the process of moving to Canada?'

But there's a big difference in keen interest and people ultimately making a decision to pick up their lives and move to another country.



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This [Trump's victory] is very new ... And there are processes in place if people have interest. The application process is a very detailed process and takes time to go through. There's no special program for people from the US. They would be reviewed with all other people across the globe.

Q. Have other events ever caused spikes in Americans' interest in moving to Canada?

A. I'm new to the department [since June 2015]. So, for me, personally, this is my first experience. But my understanding is this has happened in the past as well, but I don't have any specifics.

Q. What do the Canadian government and its people make of Trump?

There's a desire on behalf of the Canadian government to work with the new president-elect Trump ...

We're looking to build upon a strong and longstanding relationship. [On Wednesday, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau invited Trump for a visit.]

We're both democracies and as a nation, we're as diverse as the United States. If you talk to people across Canada, you'll find different people with different views not unlike what you have in the US.

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