 **What Are Barriers to Migration?**

**Personal Barriers**

* Immigration is a huge risk;
* No one can know what life will be like in a new country;
* Emotional barrier to leave friends and family behind;
* Many people cannot afford the cost to move, visas, and application forms;
* Many people can’t find a sponsor in the new country.

**National Barriers**

* Physical and political factors present major obstacles to migration;
* Physical separation between countries make it more difficult, dangerous, or costly to migrate;
* Political policy may not let people leave the country;
* Some countries do not allow people to immigrate from particular areas of the world.

**Legal Barriers**

* Migration within and between countries is regulated by international law;
* The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights includes freedom of movement;
* However, these statements have not always been practised by individual countries.

**Conclusion**

* In 1951, the UN expanded the freedom of movement in the Convention relating o the status of refugees;
* When refugees come to Canada, they declare refugee status under this Convention;
* They are allowed to stay until their case is presented at a legal hearing;
* Canada accepts between 15,000 and 50,000 refugees each year, roughly half the people who claim refugee status.