

Report to Hearts of Freedom Management Committee

The Hearts of Freedom project includes producing a book based on the experiences reported in the oral histories we have collected.

Our objective is to have a first draft of the book for our main funder, Canadian Heritage, by June 2021. We were delighted when McGill-Queens University Press, the publisher of *Running on Empty*, agreed last fall to publish the Hearts of Freedom book. Extracting the most relevant stories from 170 oral histories has proven to be a large and complex challenge. Most of the writers are still in the research phase, but Peter Duschinsky is now actually writing, and we expect the first draft of his chapter (Chapter 2) by late March.

Originally, we imagined the book being organized by phases of the refugee experience like this.

- Introduction
- Life before departure
- Reasons for departure
- Escape
- Life in the refugee camps
- Decision for Canada
- Arrival in Canada
- Life in Canada
- Conclusion

But this was too complicated. So we decided, and McGill-Queens agreed, it would be better, simpler and easier to read if we organized the book around the experiences of each community - Vietnamese, Laotian and Cambodian - separately. Because the oral histories we collected reflect the relative populations of the three communities, there are approximately 28 Laotians, 30 Cambodians and 87 Vietnamese histories. Because there are so many Vietnamese histories we will divide the Vietnamese section into at least two parts.

As a result, at present the table of contents at present looks as follows:

Chapters	Responsibility
Introduction: 1 Origins and development of the Hearts of Freedom Project	Allan
Ch.1 What caused the refugees from Southeast Asia; Canadian government policy	Allan, Ginette, Colleen
Ch.2 The Vietnamese Experience. First Wave 1975 Life Before flight, Escape, Guam, Wake, US reception camps Why Canada Arrival/initial experience Life in Canada	Mike, Peter, Allan
Ch.3 The Vietnamese Experience Second Wave 1978- on Life before flight Life under the new regime. re-education, new economic zones Escape, refugee Camps Why Canada? Arrival/initial experience Life in Canada	Mike, Peter, Allan
Ch.4 The Cambodian Experience Life before Surviving the KR Escape, refugee camps Why Canada? Arrival/initial experience Life in Canada	Colleen
Ch.5 The Laotian Experience Life before leaving Life under the PL (seminar) Escape Refugee camps Why Canada? Arrival/initial experience Life in Canada	Stephanie
Ch. 6 The Canadian role	Peter and Mike
Ch.7 Analysis: Lessons learned from the Southeast Asian resettlement experience	All
Ch. 8 Conclusions	All
Appendix: data	Mondy