

Acknowledgments

A book of this size and complexity is the culmination of the time, talents, and knowledge of many people. *Forced Migration in/to Canada: From Colonization to Refugee Resettlement* would not have been possible without the enthusiastic commitment of the thirty-eight contributors who prioritized writing, editing, and discussing their chapters in the midst of busy professional and personal lives. I am grateful for the creativity, dedication, and patience of each author as we generated this book together. While each chapter stands on its own as an important contribution to a particular issue or theme, collectively, the book also represents a pan-Canadian conversation about how forced migration has shaped individual lives, policies, and national identity. By centring lived experiences of displacement – including Indigenous displacement and slavery – our chapters have required us to reflexively question the narratives we tell to ourselves and the outside world about the country we now call Canada. We hope this is the beginning of ongoing discussions, reflections, and analysis of the role of forced migration studies within Canadian academic, public, and policy spaces.

Two reviewers gave in-depth, constructive feedback that helped us improve the manuscript immeasurably. Reviewing is a thankless job at the best of times. To have agreed to review such a long and diverse manuscript, and to have done so with such thoroughness and thoughtfulness, is true public service. I hope the reviewers can recognize their impact on *Forced Migration in/to Canada* as they read the final version.

Martha Vargas Aguirre provided invaluable research assistance at the beginning of this project and then agreed to write the chapter on trafficking. Sarah Dubuc coordinated the submission of the manuscript, as well as the adaptation of the book into French. I am grateful for her careful work, attention to detail, and patience with the many moving parts of such an epic project. Students in my FSS 4550 *Recherche dirigée* course in winter 2023 engaged with the book material and helped identify resources for the French language adaptation.

Emily Andrew at McGill-Queen's University Press has been our fiercest advocate and our most constructive critic. She championed this book at all levels,

despite its length and unique format. I am grateful for her wise counsel, calm competence, kindness, and humanity. Jacqueline Mason, Jonathan Crago, Megan Bradley, and James Milner enthusiastically embraced this project from its earliest stages. I am particularly thankful for MQUP's commitment to publishing *Forced Migration in/to Canada* in open access format and consenting to a discrete French translation and adaptation. In the context of shrinking non-profit press budgets, this commitment is remarkable and appreciated.

A Connection Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and additional funding support from the University of Ottawa have allowed us to translate the text into French and publish both versions in open access format. Given the relevance of the issues for the general public, I am particularly grateful that SSHRC and uOttawa have expanded the book's impact through open access and bilingualism.

My approach to forced migration – and the subsequent commissioning of chapters for this book and its unique format – were inspired by mentorship from Susan McGrath and Jennifer Hyndman, to whom this book is dedicated. I am grateful for their leadership of York University's Centre for Refugee Studies early in my academic career, as well as their ongoing support and care for this and many other projects. The majority of the contributors to *Forced Migration in/to Canada* have interacted with Susan and Jennifer in some capacity. This book, and the field of forced migration studies in Canada, have been directly and indirectly shaped by their extraordinary intelligence, passion, care, and dedication to teaching and mentoring.

Books have a way of permeating the lives of their creators. This one is no exception. I am grateful to my husband and partner of more than twenty years, Sam, and our children, Anahita and Rustom, for living beside this book over the course of many months and for taking up the slack on the home front when the demands of shepherding this through the publication process spilled over into our family time. They brought me tea and food, forced me to take breaks, and reminded me that life exists beyond work.

I hope readers of *Forced migration in/to Canada* will remember that all of us – authors, editors, and people with lived experiences of forced migration – are human beings with human rights, including the right to live with dignity. We also all make mistakes. As editor, I accept fully any shortcomings, errors, and omissions in this book. As an academic, I have the privilege of being able to learn continuously and hope that any such mistakes will generate important conversations and learnings.