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## ***Freedom at Last Project***

### **News Update: October 21, 2008 Vietnamese refugees from the Philippines in Ottawa**

After the *Freedom at Last Project* was initiated by the Vietnamese Canadian Federation in June 2007, the response of the Vietnamese community in the National Capital Region was overwhelmingly positive. In addition to the monetary contribution (about \$35,000, including the \$3,000 donated by the Tu An Buddhist Temple), 8 community support groups were formed to welcome 15 families (59 persons) for resettlement in this area. These groups are:

Dieu Khong Temple (13 persons)

Nguyen Thi Thanh Le (2)  
Nguyen Dang Hai (5)  
Ngo Van Son (6)

Pho Da Temple (15)

Nguyen Quoc Sanh (3)  
Tran Quang Bao (5)  
Truong Minh Hoang (5)  
Truong The Linh (2)

Vietnamese Catholic Community (6)

Tran Thi Tuyet Minh (6)

Vietnamese Alliance Church (4)

Nguyen Van Teo (4)

Lien Hoa (5)

Vu Ngoc Chinh (4)  
Ho Thi Nhung (1)

Ottawa Friends & Lac Viet Montréal (8)

Nguyen Thanh Nhan (6)  
Nguyen Bao Dinh Duong (2)

New Horizons (7)

Nguyen Duy Quang (7)

NVC & LQS (1)

Nguyen Thi Phat (1)

Up to now, 13 families (50 persons) have arrived in Ottawa, one family (Truong The Linh) has been approved and in the process of completing the exit procedure in the Philippines, and only one family (Nguyen Duy Quang) remains to be processed.

Among those families who have come here, Nguyen Dang Hai has gone to Edmonton, Truong Minh Hoang to Edmonton, and Ho Thi Nhung to Smiths Falls (she has relatives there).

Except for the 2 families who have just arrived – Tran Quang Bao on October 17 and Ngo Van Son on October 20, 2008, all have found employment. In particular, the Vietnamese Canadian Centre was able to arrange for 5 refugees -- Nguyen Bao Dinh Duong, Nguyen Thi Phat, Nguyen Quoc Sanh, Nguyen Thi Thanh Hien, and Tran Dung Linh – to work at Komtech, a manufacturing form in Kanata, in addition to 3 other persons who have come to Canada before.

Tran Dung Linh's family also welcomed a new arrival: a baby girl on October 10, 2008.

Among the 91 families (280 persons) applying for resettlement in Canada under the *Freedom at Last* Project, 79 families (235 persons) have been approved, including 66 families (193 persons) who have arrived in Canada and 13 families (42 persons) who will come before the end of the year. At present, there are still 12 families (45 persons) awaiting the government's decision.

*Vietnamese Canadian Federation*

*October 21, 2008*

*www.vietfederation.ca*

**Two stateless Vietnamese families from the Philippines  
arriving in Ottawa:**

**Tran Quang Bao (Oct. 17), Ngo Van Son (Oct. 20, 2008)**

