Breakfast with the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada:

Adjudication in a high-volume tribunal

Presentation to the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice

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The Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB)

- The IRB is Canada's largest independent, administrative tribunal.

- Its mission is to resolve immigration and refugee cases efficiently, fairly and in accordance with the law.

- The IRB is comprised of four divisions.
The Four Divisions of the IRB

Refugee Protection Division (RPD)
- Hears and decides claims for refugee protection made in Canada.
- Hears and decides applications to vacate or cease refugee protection.

Refugee Appeal Division (RAD)
- Hears and decides eligible appeals of RPD decisions.

Immigration Division (ID)
- Conducts admissibility hearings for foreign nationals or permanent residents believed to be inadmissible to, or removable from Canada.
- Conducts detention reviews for foreign nationals or permanent residents detained by CBSA.

Immigration Appeal Division (IAD)
- Hears appeals on immigration-related matters.
# IRB CASE VOLUMES

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<th>2022</th>
<th>1st half 2023</th>
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*Detention reviews only*
TOPICS

In a high-volume tribunal:

- Ensuring quality decisions
- Promoting consistency
- Enhancing efficiency
- Responding to world events
ENSURING QUALITY OF DECISIONS

Quality Assurance Framework

- Robust performance management
- Ongoing professional development
- Reasons review by Legal Services
- Third-party review
PROMOTING CONSISTENCY IN DECISION-MAKING

- Guidelines and jurisprudential guides
- National Documentary Packages
- RAD Reasons of Interest
- “Consolidated Bathurst” type discussions
- Jurisprudence updates and ongoing training
EFFICIENCY IN DECISION MAKING

- Appropriate use of templates etc.
- Point-first writing
- Oral reasons
- Training on adequate reasons (Vavilov, Mason)
- Making concise reasons writing a performance objective
RESPONDING TO WORLD EVENTS

- **Ensuring adequate information for decision-making**
  - Enhanced research of country conditions

- **Adapting processes and procedures, for example:**
  - Expedited processing as appropriate
  - Moving operations to where needed
  - Targeted training

- **Some examples from the IRB:**
  - Mass marine arrivals
  - Taliban take-over in Afghanistan
  - Ukraine war
THANK YOU