

Hunger strikers from Chile refuse water

Montreal

SEVEN of 29 Chilean refugee claimants who went on a hunger strike 10 days ago have decided to stop drinking water.

The 29, who have been without solid food since February 22, are protesting tightened Canadian immigration rules which have stranded 101 relatives and friends in Buenos Aires.

The 101, en route to Canada, were stranded on February 20 when the Canadian government added Chile to its list of 98 countries whose citizens must have visas before being allowed into Canada.

The restrictions are an attempt to force refugee claimants to make their applications from third countries, rather than arriving in Canada where they go on welfare while their claims are processed. (UP)

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