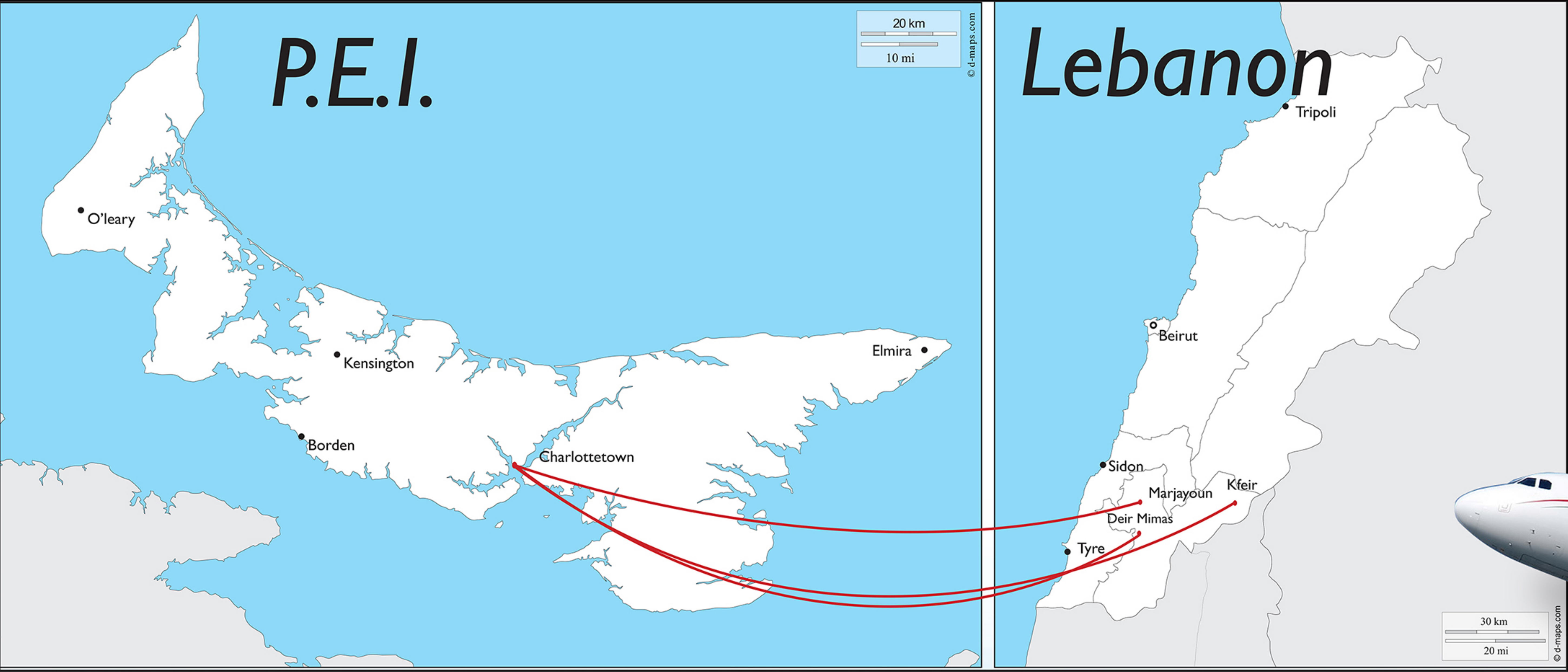


Islanders By Choice

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Methods:

- In order to achieve my goals, I pursued a qualitative methodology.
- Acquisition and review of secondary data about the subject (books and articles) in both English and Arabic.
- I conducted qualitative in-depth interviews. A large portion of the data I collected to fulfill my objectives and answer my hypothesis was obtained through in-depth interviews with Lebanese families to help me understand their own experiences.

Sampling:

- Most of the participants have come to PEI as adults and have lived here for at least 15 years.



Research Idea:

- This research is about the integration process of Lebanese immigrants in Prince Edward Island.

Purpose of study:

- Study the integration process of the Lebanese immigrants on PEI.
- Provide a more informed understanding of why the Lebanese left their homeland, came to a different country, and ended up in this specific part of Canada.
- View the challenges the Lebanese people faced with their arrival to Prince Edward Island through interviewing them to hear their stories.
- Describe what effect PEI had as an island on their Canadian experience.

Theoretical Framework:

•Integration theory:

- integration is not simply about access to labour market and services, or about changing attitudes or civic engagement; it is a two-way process of adaptation by migrant and host society at all of these levels. (Spencer 2003:6)
- In this research three different kinds of integration are discussed: cultural, social and economic.
- Place-identity theory: Place: Does place have any particular effect on a person's identity? If so, what kind of effect? Place and identity are interrelated, thus we are going to discuss them in one concept. When attachment to place grows, we start to identify ourselves with these places, both at a larger scale (nation, city, etc.) and at a smaller scale (neighborhood, workplaces, homes, rooms; Giuliani, 2003).
- In this thesis, we are going to give a general background of the place where the Lebanese immigrants on PEI have originally come from; then discuss how the island as a place affected their integration process.



Statue of the lebanese immigrant all over the world

Relevance of this research to the field of island studies:

- I am a student in the Island Studies Program, thus, I will be talking about PEI as a place/ Island and its role in attracting immigrants to live and stay in it.
- Every immigrant struggles with whether the “new place” is “home” or not; but over time, the concept of PEI as “home” becomes easier for Lebanese immigrants. The basic relevance of my study to the Island Studies field is to examine the nature of the Lebanese integration on the Island on different levels.

