


350 Canada <350canada@350.org>

to justin.trudeau, sean.fraser, info 

August 4, 2022

Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau

Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A2
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Hon. Sean Fraser

Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship
Confederation Building, Suite 110
House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6
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Cc: Migrant Rights Network - info@migrantrights.ca

RE: Climate Justice Means Permanent Residence for All

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Fraser,

I am writing to you on behalf of 350 Canada to express our strongest possible support for the regularization of all undocumented people without exception and for permanent residency for all migrants, particularly those working in low-wage jobs.

350 Canada is the Canadian arm of [350.org](https://www.350.org), a global climate justice organization that is standing up to the fossil fuel industry and building a clean energy future for all. In Canada, we reach over 50,000 people from coast-to-coast and regularly mobilize thousands across the country, in rural communities and city centers.

We believe that a climate-safe future is one that protects and upholds the rights of all migrant workers, including the right to stay, the right to move, and the right to return.

In May, a unanimous Parliamentary motion called for a plan to allow workers of all skill levels to access permanent residency. Providing permanent resident status to all migrants is a critical first step to ensuring that all workers in Canada are able to speak out without fear of reprisal, and build a safe and stable future here for themselves and their families.

We call on you to extend permanent residence to 1.7 million migrants, including 500,000 undocumented migrants, without exception. We support [the Migrant Rights Network's recommendations](#) to develop a broad program with a simple and clear application process, no exclusions or inadmissibility, and no detentions or deportations, to be promoted through a comprehensive communications strategy.

The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed both how essential the labour of migrants is to our society, and how precarious and vulnerable these workers are. Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, migrants have cared for the elderly, staffed hospitals, cleaned public spaces, and grew and delivered food. All the while, they have been heavily exploited by their employers and, in too many cases, have died due to inadequate care and unsafe working conditions.

COVID-19 must be a wake-up call for this government and Canadian society at-large that we are only as safe and healthy as our most marginalized. Providing permanent residency for all migrants is an essential first step in ensuring that we can respond to future crises in a more just and equitable way.

Climate change, like the global pandemic, will continue to exacerbate systemic inequalities. As one of the world's largest emitters of greenhouse gasses by population, Canada has a moral obligation to welcome migrants with open arms and implement climate solutions that leave no one behind.

Fortunately, paying off our global climate debt, protecting workers, and tackling the climate crisis go hand-in-hand. Migrant workers are already disproportionately employed in the low-carbon sectors of our economy that we must support and expand in order to tackle the climate crisis: nursing, child and eldercare, and domestic labour.

This current government faces a historic opportunity to stand on the right side of history by granting permanent residency to all migrants. 350 Canada urges you to seize this opportunity with courage and conviction.

Sincerely,
350 Canada