

September 26, 2022

By E-MAIL

The Right Honorable Justin Trudeau Prime Minister of Canada Office of the Prime Minister 80 Wellington Street OTTAWA, ON K1A 0A2 justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

-and

The Honourable Sean Fraser
Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship
Confederation Building, Suite 110
House of Commons,
OTTAWA, ON K1A 0A6
sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca

Re: Support for Regularization and Permanent Resident Status for Undocumented Migrants and Temporary Migrant Workers

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Fraser:

As President and CEO of the Canadian Initiative on Workplace Violence (Canadian Initiative), I am writing in support for regulation and permanent resident status for undocumented migrants and temporary migrant workers. Established in 1999, The Canadian Initiative is a private sector consultancy which researches and monitors patterns of workplace abuses in Canadian workplaces.

In our 23 years of operation, we have grown increasingly concerned about vulnerable and marginalized workers, who are disproportionally the target of workplace abuse and unfair work practices. As a destination of choice for many, Canada has a responsibility to protect all workers, particularly those who have sacrificed so much.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, migrant workers have cared for our elderly, staffed our hospitals, cleaned our public spaces, and grown our food despite these jobs being some of the most insecure and exploitative in Canada. The pandemic exposed how essential the labour of migrant workers is to our society, and how precarious and vulnerable these workers are.

We welcomed the mandate letter asking the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship to create a "regularization program" for undocumented migrants, and the unanimous parliamentary motion supporting a plan to provide access to permanent residency status. Ensuring vulnerable and precarious workers, of all skill-levels, can continue to live, work, and make a meaningful contribution to their communities is impactful beyond measure.

Providing a safe work environment for migrant workers contributes to our collective safety, at a time when the future is uncertain. We now have time to act, and I encourage the Government of Canada to do so.

Sincerely,

Glenn French, MSW, RSW (C) OAMHP

President & CEO

Glenn French

GF/dk