

CITIZENS FOR
PUBLIC JUSTICE



CITOYENS POUR
UNE POLITIQUE JUSTE

Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A2
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Hon. Sean Fraser
Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship
Confederation Building, Suite 110
House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6
sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca

RE: We Support Permanent Residence for All

Dear Right Honourable Prime Minister Trudeau and Honourable Minister Fraser,

Citizens for Public Justice is a national, progressive organization of dedicated members from across Canada, including advocates and members of churches who are inspired by faith to act for social and environmental justice in Canadian public policy. Through robust policy analysis, high-quality research, and public education activities, we advocate for public justice-based policies in Canada around issues of poverty, climate justice and refugee and migrant rights. We also engage with parliamentarians, government staff, and other civil society organizations to work together towards public justice and human rights across the country.

The CJL Foundation
operating as CPJ

Charitable registration
89438 3512 RR0001

334 MacLaren Street
Suite 200
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0M6
Unceded Algonquin Territory

1-800-667-8046
613-232-0275
cpj@cpj.ca
www.cpj.ca

As an organization that advocates for the rights of refugees and migrants in Canada, we are encouraged by the efforts to create a broad regularization program for undocumented migrants, migrant workers, students, families, and refugees. We call on you to fulfill Canadian commitments to human rights, and appeal that it not be a small exclusionary program that grants rights to a few and denies them to most. Aligned with thousands of advocates across the country, we are requesting a broad regularization program that extends permanent residence to 1.7 million migrants. A program that leaves no one behind.

Citizens for Public Justice endorses the [proposals established by the Migrant Rights Network](#) to guide the development of a regularization program. It is crucial

that programs and policies are informed by the individuals and groups that are most impacted. We ask that you take into account these proposals developed through migrant organizing, which reflect the needs and demands of migrants across the country.

The Trudeau government has committed itself to the values of equality and anti-racism, and to welcoming migrants and refugees. We therefore invite you to use this opportunity to fulfill such commitments with action by redressing the historic injustice of excluding thousands of migrants from equal status through a comprehensive regularization program that leaves no one behind.

Tragically, Canada has a history and legacy of exclusionary immigration policies that counter the values and image we claim to hold and portray. Many people who play integral parts in Canadian society have been left out of pathways to permanent residency. We have seen the devastating effects that the lack of permanent status has had on many migrants in Canada, such as poor health outcomes, high poverty levels, and separated families. Many are stuck in exploitative, low-wage jobs with precarious status while providing essential services. They lack equal rights at work, school, and limited access to healthcare and other basic services.

The implementation of a broad regularization program gives the opportunity to uphold the values of equality and justice, and move towards what Canada aims to be: a nation that provides a fulsome welcome to migrants and refugees from around the world.

We urge you to consider the proposals referenced above and implement a comprehensive program that allows migrants to participate more fully in our communities, and grants them access to fundamental human rights in Canada.

Sincerely,

Willard Metzger

Executive Director