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To: justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca, sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca
Cc: info@migrantrights.ca

Thu, Aug 11, 2022 at 12:05 AM

August 10, 2022

Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau

Prime Minister of [Canada](#)
[80 Wellington Street](#)
[Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A2](#)

Hon. Sean Fraser

Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship
Confederation Building, Suite 110
House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Fraser,

We are [Climate Justice Toronto](#) (CJTO), a grassroots group of young people across the Greater Toronto Area who seek to build an irresistible and powerful movement to stop the climate crisis by confronting its root causes: capitalism, colonialism and white supremacy. We are a young organization (formed in 2019), but already have a large following on [social media](#) of young voters (20,000+ followers).

We were very excited to see Hon. Trudeau's [mandate letter](#) asking the Hon. Fraser to create a "regularization program" for undocumented migrants and the unanimous [parliamentary motion](#) asking the Hon. Fraser to create a plan to give permanent residency to workers of all skill-levels (up to now, most low-waged (so-called low-skilled) workers have been excluded).

We know that there is now a choice between (1) a partial, small and exclusionary program that will give rights to a few and deny them to most or (2) equal rights for all by extending permanent residence to 1.7 million migrants, including 500,000 undocumented migrants.

CJTO, along with thousands of other Canadians know that option (2) is the right decision. **As such, we demand regularizaton of all undocumented people without exception and permanent residence for all migrants, particularly those in low-waged jobs.**

Migrant Rights Network has provided guidance on how to achieve this - they have created a set of proposals to guide the development of a regularization program (attached). CJTO fully endorses this set of proposals.

Trudeau's government has repeatedly committed to upholding liberal values of equality, fighting racism, welcoming immigrants and refugees, and to combating climate change and its devastating global effects, including displacement. We invite the Liberal government to act on this and fix a historic injustice by implementing a comprehensive program instead of a partial or exclusionary one.

This matters to CJTO as climate justice means permanent residence for all. Climate change has caused a [25 per cent](#) increase in economic inequality between the richest countries and the poorest. Canada is one of the world's largest [greenhouse gas emitters by population](#). In 2015, it was estimated that Canada's debt to poorer countries for its role in causing climate change was [at roughly \\$400 billion](#). This enormous share of responsibility in causing the climate crisis

constitutes a moral obligation to welcome migrants with open arms, and implement climate solutions that get at the root of the crisis and leave no one behind. This obligation is further reinforced by Canada's position as a leader in mining devastation - [75% of the planet's mining exploration and exploitation companies had their headquarters in Canada in 2012](#). The mass degradation of natural resources, ecology, and species extinction connected to development projects led by Canadian companies has led to destruction of land-based ways of life, and mass impoverishment of people in the Global South, shrinking economic opportunities for everyone and creating the conditions for migration to Canada. Many migrants, on work, tourist or study permits, refugees and undocumented people, are here because of climate displacement, not just those from mass weather events. Giving equal rights to migrants is part of paying off Canada's climate debt.

Additionally, migrants have climate solutions. Whether it is [caribbean migrant farmworkers bringing their knowledge of Biochar and saving wineries in Niagara](#) or migrants from land-based communities bringing sustainable practices to Canada, migrants bring crucial climate resilience and adaptability knowledge to Canada. Regularizing their status would allow this crucial knowledge and expertise to be shared more widely.

Thank you for your time. We would appreciate a response detailing the government's plan to regularize all undocumented people without exception and provide permanent residence for all migrants, particularly those in low-waged jobs.

Thank you,
CJTO

