



September 27, 2022

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

CC: Migrant Rights Network (info@migrantrights.ca)

SENT BY EMAIL

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Fraser,

Re: We support Permanent Residence for All

The HIV Legal Network is an international organization based in Canada that works tirelessly to promote the human rights of people living with HIV or AIDS and other populations disproportionately affected by HIV, punitive laws and policies, and criminalization, in Canada and around the world. We work in partnership with stakeholders in Canada and globally to identify where rights are being denied and mobilize a range of efforts — including legal challenges, public awareness campaigns and media relations — to remove barriers to health and safety created and perpetuated by punitive laws and policies.

In the context of immigration, we see how people without formal resident status, including migrant sex workers, are often placed in vulnerable positions because they are subject to the risk of detention and deportation. This is why we are so heartened to learn of the Immigration Minister's Mandate Letter calling for a "regularization program" for undocumented migrants, as well as a unanimous parliamentary motion asking for the creation of a plan to give permanent residency to workers of all skill levels.

Challenging Wrongs. Advancing Rights. Transforming Lives.
Combattre les injustices. Faire avancer les droits. Transformer des vies.

1240 rue Bay Street, Suite/bureau 600, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5R 2A7
Telephone/Téléphone: +1 416 595-1666 Fax/Télécopieur: +1 416 595-0094
info@HIVLegalNetwork.ca www.HIVLegalNetwork.ca
Charitable Registration/Numéro d'organisme de charité #141110155 RR0001

We strongly encourage this government to move beyond the piecemeal and exclusionary program that currently exists and create an equitable framework that extends permanent residency to 1.7 million migrants, including 500,000 undocumented migrants living in Canada. It is imperative that that we see the immediate implementation of a regularization programme that grants permanent resident status to all undocumented people without exception and permanent residence for all migrants, particularly those in low-waged jobs.

To achieve this goal, we urge the government to adopt the evidence-based principles set out by the Migrant Rights Network in its Regularization in Canada policy submission from July 2022. A simple and clearly communicated program, such as the one laid out by the Migrant Rights Network will reduce the social, economic, and health inequalities that are promoted by our current system.

We have seen this government make commitments to equality and prioritize the righting of historic wrongs, and the desire to take an intersectional, feminist approach to policy issues. This is an opportunity for the Liberal government to live up to the values that it espouses and fix a broken and inequitable system that is actively harming thousands and thousands of people living in Canada. It is time to act without delay.

Yours sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature on the left is 'Janet Butler-McPhee' and the second signature on the right is 'Sandra Ka Hon Chu'. Both are written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janet Butler-McPhee and Sandra Ka Hon Chu
Co-Executive Directors, HIV Legal Network