



**Collectif  
Bienvenue**  
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**Welcome  
Collective**

Wednesday September 28, 2022  
Montreal, Quebec

**Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau**  
Prime Minister of Canada  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A2  
[justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca](mailto: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](mailto:sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca)

**Subject: Welcome Collective supports Permanent Residence for All**

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Fraser,

We are writing on behalf of Welcome Collective and the families who we serve: refugee claimants and newcomers with precarious immigration statuses or without status in Canada.

Welcome Collective is a charitable community organization founded in 2017 to support newly arrived refugee claimants with material support in the form of furniture, basic household goods, essential baby items and winter coats, as well as psychosocial support and community building. [[La Presse](#), [CBC News](#)]

We thank both the Prime Minister and Immigration Minister for moving forward to regularize the status of non-status people living and working in Canada. We ask that the regularization programme offer permanent residence to **all** individuals with precarious non-permanent statuses, including individuals and families currently navigating Humanitarian & Compassionate Grounds claims and Pre-Removal Risk Assessments. People in these situations have often been in Canada for years, working and volunteering, with deep familial and community ties.

Families in these situations are overwhelming racialized individuals, contributing to Canada in countless ways as low-wage workers in the agricultural, healthcare, manufacturing, and service industries. They receive support from a robust but over-taxed network of community organizations, and many of the hardships they experience would be resolved or greatly lessened if they had permanent status in Canada.

The Liberal government has repeatedly committed itself to upholding values of equality and anti-racism. This is an historic opportunity to make good on those commitments and improve the lives of thousands of de-facto Canadians with one meaningful action.

This issue is vitally important to Welcome Collective as a community organization that supports and is supported by refugee claimants and non-status people – they are our most reliable and valuable volunteers, showing up again and again to help other families in precarious situations. Please act swiftly and courageously to give permanent status to these families and to the thousands like them across Canada.

Respectfully,

Dina Souleiman, Executive Director  
Welcome Collective

Claire Trottier, President, Board of Directors  
Welcome Collective

Collectif Bienvenue – Welcome Collective  
"Everyone deserves a warm welcome."  
Montréal QC H2N 1P4