Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Miller.

We are writing on behalf of the FCJ Refugee Centre, a Toronto-based, grass- roots community organization founded by a refugee couple in 1991. Our staff and volunteers consist of migrants, refugees, international students, people without immigration status and Canadians working together to create a better world for everyone. At FCJ Refugee Centre, migrants are more than just our service users; rather, they are our community members, friends, coworkers, and family.

For over thirty years, the FCJ Refugee Centre has been providing services and support to thousands of precarious migrants, including temporary migrant workers and those without immigration status. Through our work, we have seen firsthand how the lack of permanent resident status deprives people of their fundamental human rights and makes them more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. Temporary migrant workers and international students are often abused by exploitative employers who take advantage of their temporary status, and those without immigration status are unable to access essential support systems such as healthcare.

Additionally, as our nation continues to grapple with the cost-of-living crisis, migrants, most of whom are racialized, are being scapegoated. This has led to an increase in xenophobia, which is dividing our society and placing migrants in a more precarious situation.

Prime minister, we are now at a critical political moment. Your government must now make a crucial choice: either to succumb to the pressure of anti-immigrant xenophobia or to push towards a fair society that upholds equal rights for all people within it.

To achieve a fair and equal society, we urge your government to:

- 1. Immediately create a comprehensive and inclusive <u>regularization</u> <u>program</u> that allows all undocumented people to apply for permanent resident status immediately.
  - § No caps.
  - § No restrictions by industry of work or geography.
  - § No two-step immigration, which only gives temporary work permits.
- 2. End deportation and immigration detention.
- 3. Create an <u>interim program for migrant caregivers</u> in Canada to apply for permanent resident status without educational accreditation and language test score requirements.

4. End migrant exploitation by ending tied work permits and hours of work limits for international students and ensure permanent resident status for all working-class people in Canada today.

We fully endorsed the Migrant Rights Network's proposals on <u>regularization</u> and for care. We have enclosed the detailed briefs outlining the recommendations with this letter.

We trust you to do the right thing. Ensure equal rights for all by regularizing all undocumented people and granting permanent resident status to all migrants. No one should be left behind.

Sincerely,
On behalf of the FCJ Refugee Centre

**Tsering Lhamo** (she/her)

Co-Executive Director FCJ Refugee Centre

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