

March 20, 2024

Right Hon. Justin Trudeau

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

Hon. Marc Miller

Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship
House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6
Marc.Miller@parl.gc.ca, Minister@cic.gc.ca

Cc: Migrant Rights Network - info@migrantrights.ca

Re: Regularize all undocumented people and ensure permanent resident status for all migrants

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Miller,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Future Ground Network to express our support for the regularization of all undocumented people and to urge you to take action toward ensuring permanent residence for all migrants living in Canada.

The [Future Ground Network](#), supported by the [David Suzuki Foundation](#), works with partners and allies to build socially and environmentally just communities by supporting and connecting local groups and grassroots initiatives to realize their own goals, build power and be part of a growing movement.

As the climate crisis forces more and more people from their homes through drought, famine, loss of livelihood, shrinking economic opportunities and mass impoverishment, ensuring equal rights for migrants is a fundamental component of social *and* climate justice.

In December 2021, a [mandate letter](#) to the immigration minister urged the creation of a “regularization program” for undocumented migrants. This commitment has been reiterated numerous times, with the most recent assurance from the minister to present a proposal to cabinet in spring 2024.

This is long overdue. The migrant care worker program is set to expire on June 17, potentially leaving thousands of migrant women without legal status. Many of these care workers are already unable to pursue permanent residency due to daunting and inaccessible language proficiency and educational credential requirements.

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Meanwhile, escalating rent prices set by landlords, coupled with grocery monopolies tightening their grip on essential goods, are exacerbating financial strains. Furthermore, lobbyist-influenced governance is leading to privatization of health care and education.

You stand at the axis of a political choice: continue to fan the flames of anti-immigration xenophobia or build a fair society with equal rights for all, which is only possible when everyone has the same immigration rights.

We call on you to ensure equal rights for all by implementing the following measures:

- **Establish a comprehensive and inclusive [regularization program](#) enabling immediate application for permanent resident status by all undocumented individuals, without caps or limitations based on industry or geographic location. Avoid two-step immigration processes that only offer temporary work permits.**
- **Introduce an [interim program for migrant caregivers](#) in Canada to pursue permanent resident status without the need for educational accreditation or language test scores.**
- **Eliminate migrant exploitation by discontinuing tied work permits and restrictions on hours of work for international students. Ensure that all working-class people in Canada can attain permanent resident status.**

We endorse the Migrant Rights Network proposals on [regularization](#) and [migrant care workers](#).

Canada owes much of its vitality to the invaluable contributions of migrants. From cultivating our crops to caring for the sick, migrants play an indispensable role in sustaining our economy and enriching our communities. [You've even said it yourself](#). Yet, they are shouldering an unequal burden. Without permanent resident status, migrants and undocumented individuals are devoid of basic human rights and protections.

The **Future Ground Network** aims to support and build socially and environmentally just communities through connecting local groups and grassroots initiatives. One of the mechanisms we employ to connect and unify groups through the environmental movement is by building power through coordinated and large-scale mobilization. Migrant rights are an intersectional issue and when we build solidarity between struggles, we strengthen all of them. On September 17, 2023, the Migrant Rights Network organized demonstrations in 15 cities in Canada, which were endorsed by more than 200 organizations. Almost every major civil society, labour, health and environmental organization has joined the Migrant Rights Network's call for full and permanent immigration for all. Don't turn away from the power that is being built on this issue.

We and our 82 active member groups know that to solve the interconnected social and environmental crises, we must achieve justice and equality **for all**.

We urge you to immediately address these injustices and advance solutions that will ensure permanent residence for all undocumented and migrant people. No one should be left behind.

Sincerely,
Future Ground Network