



**Labour Community
Services of Peel** 

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Rt. 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 - letters@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 on behalf of Labour Community Services of Peel (LCSP), a nonprofit organization based in the Peel Region of Ontario. LCSP provides free employment law and income supports related services to the community. We are a project of the Peel Regional Labour Council and work with several other nonprofits and community organizations to advocate for primarily racialized newcomers, as they often face incredible barriers in trying to access decent work and income. We support migrant workers in sharing the systemic barriers they face and have had several stories published in major and local news outlets in the last few years.

In December 2021 PM Trudeau made a [mandate letter](#) commitment asking the Immigration Minister to create a “regularization program” for undocumented migrants. That promise has been repeated many times, and most recently the Minister promised to bring a proposal to Cabinet in the [Spring](#) of 2024. The migrant care worker program is expiring on June 17, and unless it is replaced thousands of migrant women will become undocumented. Already, [many of them cannot apply for permanent residency because of impossible-to-achieve language testing and educational accreditation requirements](#). Landlords are raising rents beyond reach, grocery monopolies are making it harder to put food on our tables, lobbyist driven governments are privatizing healthcare and education. But it's im/migrants that are being scapegoated for the affordability crisis as racism is used to divide and distract us. The federal government has capped study permits, students can't be with their families and permanent residency has been capped which means more people than ever will remain on temporary and exploitative permits.

We support migrant workers and demand equal rights for all. We call on the Trudeau government to:



- Immediately create a comprehensive and inclusive [regularization program](#) 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
- Create an [interim program for migrant caregivers](#) in Canada to apply for permanent resident status without educational accreditation and language test score requirements;
- 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.

The Migrant Rights Network has created proposals on [regularization](#) and for [migrant careworkers](#) which have been attached alongside this letter.

Based on the work we do at LCSP, these changes will significantly impact the community members that we serve. Many of community members that come to LCSP for help with labour violations are those with precarious immigration status. These workers are also usually the ones facing the highest amounts of wage theft and having the most difficulty paying for necessities. They also have the most difficult time trying to access justice due to perceived or real fear of the impact that speaking up will have on their immigration status. Employers of migrant workers, international students and undocumented workers threaten them with deportations to stop them from asserting their rights. This abuse results in overall worsening of working conditions in the labour market. Employers often illegally demand tens of thousands of dollars from workers with precarious or no status, and that is usually the only choice those workers have to try and access or maintain immigration status. Employers will then continue to deduct money from pay cheques and pay significantly lower wages to migrant workers compared to their counterparts with permanent resident status or citizenship. Employers often threaten to terminate workers if they cannot continue paying or if they try to speak up. As result, workers only come to us once they have already faced the worst consequences. This common pattern that we see at LCSP is directly a result of poor immigration laws and reform. The proposals by the Migrant Rights Network would significantly reduce the amount of exploitation faced by migrant workers, and also improve labour conditions for all workers. When one group of workers can easily be exploited, it drives down wages and working conditions for all workers.

We significantly hope your government will take these issues seriously and fulfill its promises. We will be watching closely and keeping our community members informed on the choices you make.

Thank you,

Navi Aujla
Service Director
Labour Community Services of Peel