

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Miller,

We at the Mining injustice Solidarity Network are writing in strong support of regularization for undocumented people and permanent status for all migrants.

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. Migrant Rights Network has created proposals on [regularization](#) and for [migrant careworkers](#).

Ensure equal rights for all by:

- 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.

Climate change has caused a [25 per cent](#) increase in economic inequality between the richest countries and the poorest. Canada is one of the world’s largest [greenhouse gas emitters by population](#). In 2015, it was estimated that Canada’s debt to poorer countries for its role in causing climate change was [at roughly \\$400 billion](#). This enormous share of responsibility in causing the climate crisis constitutes a moral obligation to welcome migrants with open arms, and implement climate solutions that get at the root of the crisis and leave no one behind. This obligation is further reinforced by Canada’s position as a leader in mining devastation - [75% of the planet’s mining exploration and exploitation companies had their headquarters in Canada in 2012](#). The mass degradation of natural resources, ecology, and species extinction connected to development projects led by Canadian companies has led to destruction of land-based ways of life, and mass impoverishment of people in the Global South, shrinking economic opportunities

for everyone and creating the conditions for migration to Canada. Many migrants, on work, tourist or study permits, refugees and undocumented people, are here because of climate displacement, not just those from mass weather events. Giving equal rights to migrants is part of paying off Canada's climate debt.

A green economy that serves climate, workers and community must be founded on the equality of all residents. By ensuring equal status for all migrants, we would remove a significant barrier to equality. Migrants, including refugees and non-status people, have always worked here — raising our kids, caring for our parents, and picking our food. These are some of the most insecure and exploitative jobs in Canada. But they're precisely the parts of our economy that we need to support and expand: nursing, child- and elder-care, farming, and domestic labor. They are low-carbon, too. We all need to pull together to change our economy and society to avert climate disaster and that requires bringing in those who are currently excluded by immigration laws.

Mining Injustice Solidarity Network

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