



July 25, 2008

Mr. Les Linklater
Director General
Citizenship and Immigration Canada
Immigration Branch
365 Laurier Ave W
Ottawa, ON K1A 1L1

Dear Mr. Linklater:

The Saint John Board of Trade is greatly concerned with the issue of temporary foreign workers. This year our members listed "Attracting and retaining qualified workforce" as the greatest challenge currently facing the business community of Saint John. Saint John is on the cusp of an economic boom which has several industrial projects slated for construction within the next ten years. During this period, there will be a peak in the demand for various trades and professionals.

Based upon available data, Saint John at the peak of the projected construction will need an estimated 8000 industrial tradespersons, 3400 construction tradespersons, 1100 technology professionals, 400 professional engineers, 300 professional business support services and 100 administrative support services for the Construction industry alone. These numbers do not account for the required increase of doctors, health professionals, legal professionals, transportation professionals (ie Truck Drivers), City support staff to ensure the provision and maintenance of services to the industrial workforce.

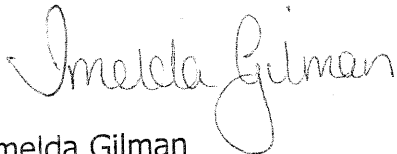
The fast, easy approval and recognition of credentials of Foreign Temporary Workers would be beneficial to our employers in this region, especially during the height of the construction phase. For that reason, the Saint John Board of Trade would like to respectfully recommend that the trades and professionals listed above be considered for the list of occupations that fall under the Ministerial Instructions.

The Saint John Board of Trade is dedicated to fostering an economic climate that enhances growth, prosperity, and an improved quality of life in the community. With more than 1,000 members, representing 600 small, medium, and large businesses and

organization and therefore, the interests of more than 30,000 citizens, the Board is a dynamic advocate and the principal voice for the business community of Greater Saint John. It offers a variety of programs, activities, services, and networking opportunities designed to enhance the business prospects of members and the overall business climate of the area.

Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to highlight the workforce needs of businesses in the Greater Saint John area. We look forward to working with you in the future to help facilitate the process for admitting Temporary Foreign Workers to Canada.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Imelda Gilman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Imelda Gilman
President

CC: Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Citizenship & Immigration
Heather Chase, Executive Director, Workforce Expansion Initiative; Enterprise Saint John
Pat Darrah, Executive Director, Saint John Construction Association Inc