**More Residency Positions for Canadians.**

Hello everyone,

**This is important so please read and act on this.**

We need more residency positions. **More residency positions can be created if we press the federal government to replace foreigners with Canadian citizens and permanent residents by enforcing the provisions of the Immigration Act which requires Canadians to come first.** If we stop allowing foreigners to use up our training resources and taking our training jobs, residency positions will have to be filled by Canadians.

In 2010, the federal government exempted foreigners applying for a visa to work in a residency position from having to prove through a Labour Market Impact Analysis (LMIA) that (a) there is no Canadian able to fill the position and (b) that allowing a foreigner fill the position is not hurting Canadians interests. This exemption is called Bulletin 230.

SOCASMA filed an application for the revocation of this which allows foreigners to take residency training jobs that should go to Canadians. There are currently about 310 residency positions in Canada filled by foreigners. Currently there are only 346 residency positions in the IMG Stream.

This is important to all Canadians. You can help make this happen. Write or even better, go see:

1. your federal Member of Parliament and ask him or her to talk to the Ministers responsible (To find your minister by postal code to <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Members/en>; AND
2. Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion Carla.Qualtrough@parl.gc.ca;

 Phone: 613-992-2957 (Ottawa)
 Mail: The Honourable Carla Qualtrough (Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion)
 House of Commons
 Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6 AND

1. Marco Mendicino, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Canada Minister@cic.gc.ca

Phone: 613-992-6361 (Ottawa)

 Mail: The Honourable Marco Mendicino, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration

 Confederation Building, Suite 815

 House of Commons

 Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Personalized letters are stronger and have greater influence. If you want help personalizing the letter, email us at moreresidencies@gmail.com and we will help you.

AND get your classmates, family, neighbours, and friends to do the same by sending them the template letter below, giving them the email addresses and asking them to send it out.

We need to know how many letters are written to be able to effectively manage how we deal with our application to reinstate LMIAs for residency training.  Please forward or blind copy us with a copy of your email at moreresidencies@gmail.com.

 **Template Letter**

Dear Minister

I am writing to request that the federal government reinstate mandatory Labour Market Impact Assessments for foreigners seeking medical residency training in Canada.

More than 4.5 million Canadians are without family doctors. As of recent, Nova Scotia has acknowledged that they are in a crisis; physicians are retiring and the province does not do not have enough manpower to keep emergency rooms open. Nova Scotia is not alone. These are just brief examples of the crisis that Canada is in. With such a shortage of primary care physicians, wait lists for specialists are becoming the longest in the developed world. Delayed access to health care hurts people and the economy. Yet we are using our scarce medical training resources to train foreigners instead of training Canadians to address the physician shortage and our long-term health care needs.

In 2019, CaRMS released data that there were 2302 qualified Canadian citizens and permanent residents who had proven substantial equivalency and applied for residency training. Of these, 391 received residency positions, leaving 1911 without residency positions. These Canadians are currently unemployed or underemployed. In 2020, CAPER released its 2019 report which stated that 142 first year residency positions were filled by visa trainees. Approximately 1 in 3 positions for international graduates are filled by foreigners to the detriment of Canadians.

The universities state they cannot train more physicians because they do not have enough training resources. If we train Canadians, they will stay home to meet health care needs of Canadians and help solve our physician shortage. The current policy favours profit and foreign interests over what is best for Canadians.

Even our military cannot get the doctors they seek trained because of training shortages.

The Immigration Act requires that Canadian interests be put first. It requires that Canadian jobs go to Canadians first. It is time to stop training foreigners at the expense of Canadian medical graduates and the public.

It is time to stop exporting intelligent Canadians who studied medicine abroad to serve the physician needs of other countries. It is time to recognize the value of immigrants and allow immigrant physicians to practice medicine rather than driving taxis. It is time to stop giving foreigners visas to take away resources and jobs that are needed for Canadians.

I look forward to hearing from you whether the LMIA exemption for foreigners seeking residency training in Canada will be revoked.

Sincerely yours,

Name

Address

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Template to your family and friends.

Hi….

I want to ask you a favour. Could you send this email to these people?

1. Minister of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship: Marco Mendicino

 Email: Minister@cic.gc.ca

1. Minister of Employment, Workforce Development, and Disability Inclusion: Carla Qualtrough Email: Carla.Qualtrough@parl.gc.ca

I am working to help get better access to health care by working with a group of people to pressure government to put Canadians first. This means stop giving away training opportunities and training jobs to foreigners when Canadians need them to address the doctor shortage.

**More Information**

1. **What is an LMIA?** Under the Immigration Act, the government has an obligation to put the interests of Canadians first: Jobs for Canadians first; training resources for Canadians first. This is accomplished through the Labour Market Impact Analysis (LMIA) which requires employers to prove that (a) there is no Canadian citizen or permanent resident who is able and willing to take the job the employer seeks to fill with a foreigner, and (b) that Canadian interests will not be negatively affected before a visa can be issued to a foreigner.
2. **What is the rationale behind seeking the revocation of the LMIA exemption for foreigners seeking residency training in Canada?** It will probably result in more residency positions for Canadians. Foreigners fill jobs necessary to meet Canadians’ health care needs. If we stop filling them with foreigners, the government will have to fund more residency positions to meet our needs. There will also be training resources to allow other Canadians (municipalities, ethnic communities, large corporations working in remote regions) to fund residency positions. If we train Canadians, they will stay home to meet health care needs of Canadians and help solve our physician shortage. The current policy favours foreign interests over what is best for Canadians.
3. **Want to find out more?** SOCASMA’s submission with supporting facts and arguments is available on the socasma.com website. <https://socasma.com/legal/submission-for-revocation-of-exemption-for-labour-market-investigation-analysis-for-foreigners-seeking-residency-training-in-canada/>

You can also write us at moreresidencies@gmail.com.

 Attached: Backgrounder on the LMIA

 Backgrounder on how the system of access to residency training is unfair