



Surrey Leadership Series – Immigration and its Impact on Business

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Immigration and its Impacts on Business

- **Canada's Aging Population:**

- Currently, **1 in 5** Canadians of working age are between 55 and 64 years old, which is a historical high in Canada.
- Canada is a low-fertility country – 1.4 children per woman in 2020.

- **Canada's Immigration Levels Plan for 2023-2025:**

Immigration Class	2023	2024	2025
Economic	266,210	281,135	301,250
Family	106,500	114,000	118,000
Refugee	76,305	76,115	72,750
Humanitarian	15,985	13,750	8,000
Total	465,000	485,000	500,000

Immigration and its Impacts on Business

- **Statistics Canada's Data from 2022:**
 - **800,000** International Students in Canada. This is triple the number ten years ago.
 - **600,000** Foreign Workers in Canada under the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (**TFWP**).
 - **1 million** Foreign Workers in Canada under the International Mobility Program (**IMP**).
- **Impacts:** The rise in the number of permanent and temporary immigrants creates challenges for Canada in housing, infrastructure and transportation, and service delivery to the population.

Immigration Policies to Address Labour Shortage

1. Eligible international students with study permits issued on or before October 7, 2022 may work full time until December 31, 2023.
2. Eligible work permit holders may study without a study permit until the earliest of: (i) the expiry date of their work permit; or (ii) June 27, 2026.
3. Dependent Children of Skilled Workers may apply for an open work permit.
4. Sponsored spouses/common law partners and dependent children of the Family Class sponsorship applications from outside of Canada may apply for an open work permit.
5. PGWP holders with PGWPs expiring by December 31, 2023 may extend their PGWP for up to 18 months.

▼ Pathways for Permanent Residency

1. Express Entry:

- Target of 82,880 for 2023. As of August 15, 2023, IRCC has issued 74,248 invitations to apply under Express Entry.
- The first category-based round of invitations was issued on June 28, 2023.
- For 2023, IRCC has chosen these categories: (i) French-language proficiency; (ii) Healthcare occupations; (iii) Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) occupations; (iv) Trade occupations; (v) transport occupations; and (vi) agriculture and agri-food occupations.
- Prior to June 28, 2023, the minimum scores required to receive an invitation to apply in 2023 were between 481 and 507 points under the general rounds of invitation. Currently, it requires between 496 and 517 points.

▼ Pathways for Permanent Residency

2. BC Provincial Nominee Program:

- For foreign nationals to apply for permanent residency through BC PNP, a full-time and indeterminate job offer from an employer in BC is required. The employer needs to meet specific requirements, including meeting the minimum recruitment requirements and paying the foreign national the prevailing wage for the occupation.
- There is a list of priority occupations for BC PNP; namely:
 - (i) BC PNP tech occupations; (ii) healthcare occupations; (iii) childcare occupations; and (iv) other priority occupations, such as veterinarians and animal health technologists and veterinary technicians.
- The number of BC PNP nominations is expected to increase by 1,000 each year, to 10,000 nominations, by 2025.

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