

December 2, 2021

Via email: <u>Carla.Qualtrough@parl.gc.ca</u>

The Honourable Carla Qualtrough, P.C. M.P. Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion 5064 – 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue Delta, BC V4K 1V8

Dear Minister Qualtrough:

On behalf of the Immigration Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA Section), we congratulate you on your appointment as Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion. We look forward to working with you and your department.

The Canadian Bar Association is a national association of 36,000 members, including lawyers, notaries, academics and students across Canada, with a mandate to seek improvements in the law and the administration of justice. The CBA Section is comprised of over 1,200 lawyers, practicing in all aspects of immigration, refugee and citizenship law and rendering professional advice and representation in the Canadian immigration system to clients in Canada and abroad.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought sweeping changes to Canada's immigration system, many of which have raised serious concerns for our members and the people we represent. We believe there is now a significant opportunity to improve a system that is vital to Canada.

We remain encouraged and hopeful that your government has committed to address many issues of mutual concern. We look forward to working with you and your officials to convey the perspective of the legal profession. We wish to bring to your attention the CBA Section's specific priorities:

- Addressing labour shortages in many industries with reforms to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program to respond to regional needs;
- Advancing transparency and accountability by making policy manuals public;
- Moving forward with a Recognized Employer Initiative.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss these issues and find common solutions.

Yours truly,

(original letter signed by Véronique Morissette for Kyle Hyndman)

Kyle Hyndman Chair, CBA Immigration Law Section