



23 November 2017

Jayson Myers
Senior Vice President, Policy
420-360 Albert Street
Ottawa, ON K1R 7X7

Dear Mr Myers:

Re: Clarification of Fredericton Chamber of Commerce's 2017 Policy Resolution, "Attracting and Retaining International Students Through Canadian Work Experience"

When our policy resolution titled "Attracting and Retaining International Students Through Canadian Work Experience" was passed by the delegates of the 2017 Canadian chamber conference in September 2017, we were unaware that the federal government does not consider graduates of some private institutions as eligible for post-graduation work permits. It was our intention that all public and private institutions would be covered by the language in our resolution that states "...any recognized Canadian academic institution..."

We have since been informed that the federal government would likely not interpret this language as covering private institutions, given that they are not currently eligible for post-graduation work permits. This letter is to clarify this point and request that any advocacy undertaken on this matter reflect our original intention that private institutions be included in the recommendations regarding post-graduation work permits.

To be clear, the recommendations should be understood to read:

5. Change the length of time for which a post-graduation work permit can be valid to five years (from the current three years), regardless of the program of study, so long as it was at a recognized Canadian academic institution, *including registered private institutions in all provinces that are registered on the Designated Institution list.*

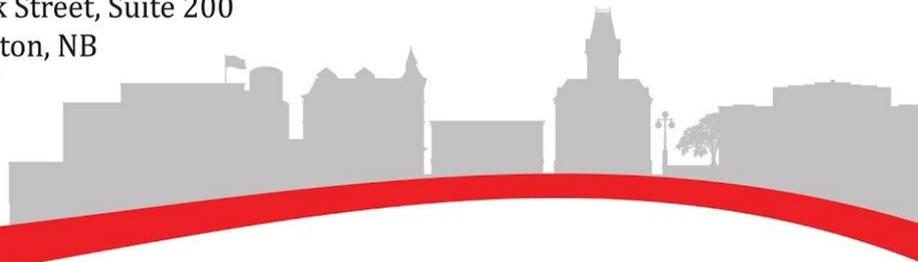
6. Expedite the process for international students to receive visas as well as the processing times for the permanent residency applications so long as they graduated from a recognized Canadian institution, *including registered private institutions in all provinces that are registered on the Designated Institution list.*



**FREDERICTON
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The situation is further convoluted as not all employees of the federal government apply this policy consistently - some graduates of private institutions have mistakenly been granted work permits due to the confusingly worded government policy, making it all the more important that the chamber is clear on its advocacy in this area.

Please feel free to reach out to me at anytime should you have questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

Krista Ross, CEO
Fredericton Chamber of Commerce

cc: Patrick Snider, Director, Skills and Immigration Policy, Canadian Chamber of Commerce

cc: Brenda Johnson, CEO, Spruce Grove & District Chamber of Commerce

cc: Penny Walsh McGuire, Executive Director, Charlottetown Chamber of Commerce

cc: Samuel Titus, Acting Executive Director, New Brunswick Student Alliance

cc: Stuart Bentley, President, Eastern College and triOS College