

**ON.16.02      Equal Access for Permanent Residence, an Amendment to the Immigration Act**  
**Community Life**

- 1    **Whereas,**      foreign workers listed as low-skilled workers in the National Occupational Code  
2                      (C and D) are precluded under the Canadian Immigration Act from being eligible  
3                      to apply for permanent resident status at any time; and
- 4    **Whereas,**      long standing foreign workers are forced to exit Canada causing disruption to  
5                      their lives, families, and to Canadian businesses and the economy; and
- 6    **Whereas,**      the lack of opportunity for permanent residency increases vulnerability to  
7                      exploitation, therefore be it
- 8    **Resolved,**      that the Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women’s League of Canada  
9                      in 69<sup>th</sup> annual convention assembled request that national council of The Catholic  
10                     Women’s League of Canada urge the federal government to provide equal access  
11                     for all categories of foreign workers to be eligible to apply for permanent  
12                     residence regardless of occupational classification; and be it further
- 13 **Resolved,**      that this resolution be forwarded to national council of The Catholic Women’s  
14                     League of Canada for consideration at 96<sup>th</sup> annual convention assembled August  
15                     2016.



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**ACTION PLAN**

- 1 1. Contact your MP and share the contents of this resolution and brief. Ask that your MP  
2 support action to reform the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations, to permit  
3 all categories of foreign workers to be eligible to apply for permanent residence,  
4 regardless of occupational classification.  
5
- 6 2. Write to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration requesting  
7 that the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations be amended to permit access to  
8 all classes of foreign workers, including those in NOC C & D, to be eligible for  
9 permanent residence.  
10
- 11 3. Contact a group that assist migrant workers and determine if there is any way in which  
12 you can help. In the Essex County area, you can contact the Migrant Workers  
13 Community Program, Lorraine Gibson, Chair and Program supervisor (email:  
14 [lorrynemwcp@mdirect.net](mailto:lorrynemwcp@mdirect.net)) 519-325-0876. Website <http://www.mwcp.xbuild.com/>. In  
15 the Diocese of London, contact Marie Carter, Migrant Ministry Specialist (email:  
16 [mcarter@dolc.a](mailto:mcarter@dolc.a))  
17
- 18 4. Strengthen existing or consider starting a parish based outreach program to meet the needs  
19 of migrant workers. Consider sending CWL members to annual conferences, such as the  
20 Migrant Workers Ministry Conference, “Sharing Faith and Life with Migrant Workers  
21 II”, which was recently held on June 19-0 21, 2015. For more information see:  
22 <http://wp.dol.ca/webportal/diocese/content/1/7/Migrant%20Workers/97>  
23 Or call 519-433-3479 ext 4312  
24
- 25 5. December 18 is International Migrant Rights Day. In your church, remember God’s  
26 special concern for migrants with a message in your newsletter.  
27
- 28 6. Invite a guest speaker involved in advocacy on behalf of Migrant Workers to speak at a  
29 meeting of the CWL.