

Minister
of Citizenship
and Immigration



Ministre
de la Citoyenneté
et de l'Immigration

Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

Greetings from the Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism

On behalf of Prime Minister Stephen Harper and the Government of Canada, I am pleased to extend my best wishes to the organizers and attendees of the 2010 Internationally Educated Professionals (IEP) Conference.

Organized by Algonquin College in association with LASI World Skills, La Cité collégiale, Hire Immigrants Ottawa, the City of Ottawa, and Citizenship and Immigration Canada, this conference is to be commended for connecting employers with IEPs from diverse fields and backgrounds in an effort to discuss career opportunities and ways to access meaningful employment.

We all take pride in the cultural diversity of Ontario, a province where nearly one-third of the population was born outside of Canada. Our ability to attract and integrate skilled and dedicated newcomers is essential to our future prosperity and success. It is also part of Canada's competitive advantage because in a global economy, having a global work force just makes sense. But it has also brought challenges, not the least of which is ensuring that newcomers with professional and technical expertise find work in Canada in their fields.

There is still work to be done to accelerate credential recognition. But by introducing a new Pan-Canadian Framework and investing in initiatives such as the Foreign Credentials Referral Office and in events such as this conference, the Government of Canada and its partners are making great progress toward fair and fast foreign credential recognition.

The Government of Canada is committed to helping newcomers find meaningful employment and fully participate in the economy and Canadian society.

As Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism, I'd like to thank the conference organizers for their efforts in promoting employment opportunities, and I wish all the IEPs and employers who are attending every success in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Kenney".

The Honourable Jason Kenney, PC, MP
Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism



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