



August 10, 2017

Dory Jade, C. Dir.  
Chief Executive Officer  
Canadian Association of Professional Immigration Consultants  
407-245 Fairview Mall Dr.  
Toronto, Ontario M2J 2T1

RE: Test d'évaluation de français (TEF)

Dear Mr. Jade,

Thank you for your July 31, 2017, letter to Mike MacDonald regarding French language test accessibility in Canada. You have raised an important issue which Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) is actively working on addressing.

Designated language testing organizations deliver their tests to a variety of clients for multiple purposes, including immigration and citizenship, both within Canada and internationally. The costs of the tests vary between organizations as well as testing locations. Testing organizations have indicated that these differences are due to a number of factors including demand, capital costs, and competition. IRCC is committed to improving the situation and is actively pursuing ways to help testing organizations reduce their fees and increase the availability of French language tests in Canada that could be used by interested individuals to support their economic immigration applications.

IRCC accepts submissions from language testing organizations who wish to be designated for economic immigration purposes on an ongoing basis. The requirements for economic immigration language testing designation are more stringent than those established for other programs as official language proficiency is a strong factor in the successful economic establishment of immigrants in Canada. As such, IRCC reviews these submissions rigorously to ensure that the test results will accurately reflect language proficiency consistently, securely, and objectively. IRCC is currently in discussions with multiple organizations for both English and French tests and I am hopeful that this will lead to additional tests being recognized in the near future. We are also planning to better promote the designation process in order to encourage more language testing organizations to seek designation.

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Thank you for your interest in this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Natasha Kim" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Natasha Kim  
Director General, Immigration Branch

cc: Mike MacDonald