



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 20, 2019

### CAPIC Applauds Funding for Public Protection in 2019 Budget

**TORONTO, Mar. 20, 2019** - The Canadian Association of Professional Immigration Consultants (CAPIC) strongly approves of the 2019 Budget's allocation of resources toward strengthening consumer protection against unauthorized immigration practitioners.

As a first step in the right direction, the Budget proposes funding of \$51.9 million over five years starting in 2019-2020, and \$10 million per year ongoing, to support public awareness campaigns and strengthen regulatory enforcement and disciplinary power—both of which are critical to safe and ethical access to justice.

“As the voice of Canada’s professional immigration consultants, CAPIC is committed to working with the Government of Canada in whatever capacity necessary to effect real change on this important issue. We welcome the proposed resources as they will greatly benefit current and future Canadians alike, making their access to services safer,” said Donald Igbokwe, President of CAPIC.

CAPIC supports and represents Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultants (RCICs) through education and advocacy, while reinforcing the industry’s codes of conduct, which are established by the Immigration Consultants of Canada Regulatory Council (ICCRC) and designed to protect consumers. RCICs are put through extensive training and testing to practise and must be insured, and they work under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA) and Citizenship Act.

CAPIC has been working with the Government of Canada to strengthen the regulation of the profession and has advocated for greater disciplinary powers for the regulator, the ICCRC, for the last five years. Under its current mandate, the ICCRC does not have the authority to investigate individuals not authorized to act as immigration consultants in Canada.

#### About CAPIC

Created in December 2004 through the merger of two professional associations dating back to late 1986, the Canadian Association of Professional Immigration Consultants (CAPIC) is the national advocacy group for Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultants (RCICs), founded on the pillars of Education, Information, Lobbying, and Recognition. Its mission is to lead, connect, protect, and develop the profession, serving the best interests of its members.

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