

Canadian Association of Professional Immigration Consultants L'Association Canadienne des Conseillers Professionnels en Immigration

January 7, 2020

Andrea Baillie, Editor-in-Chief, The Canadian Press TORONTO HEAD OFFICE 36 King St. E. Toronto, Ont. M5C 2L9

ERRATUM: "Man charged with encouraging refugee claimants to lie while acting as unauthorized consultant"

Dear Ms. Baillie,

On behalf of the Canadian Association of Professional Immigration Consultants, I am writing regarding The Canadian Press' article from January 6 titled "Man charged with encouraging refugee claimants to lie while acting as unauthorized consultant."

We respectfully request the title be changed to read "unauthorized representative" instead of "unauthorized consultant." The term "authorized representative" includes all regulated and certified immigration consultants, lawyer and notaire du Quebec, who represent clients before the IRCC or IRB. Therefore, to avoid misleading the public, the word "unauthorized representative" should be used.

For reference, the immigration consultant profession is regulated like all professions in Canada. An Act of Parliament received Royal Assent on June 21, 2019 strengthening this regulation. Individuals are not authorized to use the terms "Citizenship Consultant" or "Immigration Consultant" as per the Act, if they are not a member in good standing of the Immigration Consultants of Canada Regulatory Council.

CAPIC condemns the unethical practice of unauthorized representation that is considered an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada. CAPIC continues to support increased competency, ethical conduct and consumer protection in the immigration consulting industry.

CAPIC is the non-profit industry body advocating for the interests of Canadian immigration consultants and consumer protection for the users of our members' services. We would be pleased to be of assistance or provide any clarification in matters related to immigration or citizenship.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

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Dory Jade Chief Executive Office