

Minister David Piccini
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
Email: minister.mlitsd@ontario.ca

November 27, 2024

Re: Respectfully requesting using “immigration representatives” for the intended legislation concerning cracking down on immigration scams

Dear Minister Piccini,

On behalf of the Canadian Association of Professional Immigration Consultants (CAPIC), we would like to bring to your attention the inaccurate use of the words “immigration consultants” in your press conference when announcing the Ontario government’s initiative to crack down on immigration scams.

The intended legislation was accurately reflected in the news release by your Department, “[Ontario Cracking Down on Immigration Scams](#),” on November 20, 2024. In the news release, the term “immigration representatives” was used, which refers to three groups of authorized representatives prescribed by [s.91\(2\)](#) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*, SC 2001, c. 27 (IRPA), namely, members of a Canadian law society, members of Chambre des notaires du Québec, and members of the College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultant (CICC). In the Quick Facts section, the news release explains two types of immigration representatives: immigration consultants and Canadian lawyers.

Although you emphasized in your speech at the press conference that “many of these consultants are diligent and honest,” using “immigration consultant” instead of “immigration representatives” gave the audience a false impression that the legislation targets immigration consultants only because “Immigration and citizenship consultant” and its variations, including “immigration consultants,” are exclusively reserved for licensees of the CICC as per ss. [2](#) and [77\(a\)](#) of the *College of Immigration and Citizenship Act*, SC 2019, c. 29, s. 292 (the College Act).

Being the sole association recognized by the Government of Canada as the voice of immigration consultants, CAPIC is committed to promoting the ethics and competence of our members and protecting the integrity of the profession and the Canadian immigration system. CAPIC firmly supports holding any authorized representatives who knowingly breach the code of professional conduct accountable. While CAPIC acknowledges the existence of bad actors in any profession, including the profession of immigration consultants, we would like to point out that the majority of immigration consultants are ethical, competent, hard-working professionals.



You acknowledged this fact in your speech. The Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration ([CIMM](#)) also recognized that “the vast majority of immigration consultants operate within the high standards of the profession.”

To treat the immigration consultant profession fairly and to avoid confusion and misunderstanding, CAPIC respectfully requests that you and the Department use the term “immigration representatives” instead of “immigration consultants” for communications concerning the legislation and in similar situations.

CAPIC is open to working with you and your team to address issues facing the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program.

Yours Truly,

Dory Jade, C. Dir.
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Prateek Babbar, Chair, Board of Directors, CAPIC