



Statement by CAPIC on Winnipeg Lawyer Under Investigation

CAPIC denounces the actions of Winnipeg immigration lawyer Paul Hesse, who misled his clients and abused their trust for personal gain, according to a [CBC report](#).

Mr. Hesse has since been let go by firm Pitblado Law and is under investigation by the Law Society of Manitoba.

CAPIC urges members of the public to scrutinize any authorized representative they choose to hire, including lawyers. Many authorized immigration consultants, who help potential newcomers navigate the Canadian immigration system at an affordable cost, can be contacted directly on [MyConsultant.ca](#).

The Government of Canada's proposed College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants will allow the self-regulator under federal statute to pursue and discipline unauthorized representatives, a power it previously lacked. This power could be extended to cover other types of representatives for greater disciplinary efficiency.

CAPIC believes that Australia's Office of the Migration Agents Registration Authority is a suitable model for the regulation of all representatives equally; the Authority regulates "registered migration agents," an umbrella term that includes immigration consultants and lawyers.

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