



## RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

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PETITION No.: **421-02856**

BY: **Ms. KWAN (VANCOUVER EAST)**

DATE: **OCTOBER 29, 2018**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **HONOURABLE AHMED HUSSEN**

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Response by the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

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SUBJECT

**Foreign Students**

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**ORIGINAL TEXT**

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**REPLY**

International students contribute over \$15.5 billion annually to Canada's economy and generate innovation and growth in the education sector. Educated and already living in Canada, they are an ideal source of future permanent residents.

Employment through paid-experiential or work-integrated learning programs is not always reflective of a competitive labour market. International students may apply for a post-graduation work permit upon completing their program of study, which enables them to work for anyone, anywhere in Canada.

Skilled work experience obtained after graduation is a strong indicator of the applicant's ability to establish economically. With one year of skilled work experience, they may qualify for permanent residence in the Canadian Experience Class through Express Entry. Since November 2016, international students with a Canadian credential may obtain up to 30 more points in Express Entry, meaning more receive an invitation to apply for permanent residency. Between 2015 and 2017, the share of invitations to apply issued to international students increased from 26% to 36%.

As part of the new multi-year levels plan, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) is targeting 202,300 admissions of economic permanent residents in 2021, up from a target of 177,500 in 2018. With this increase, more international students will become permanent residents.