

Written Submission to review ongoing efforts to reunite families during COVID times

TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
BY CARLOS MIRANDA

Attention: Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration

Sixth Floor, 131 Queen Street
House of Commons
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Canada

Recent announcements from the Federal Government made on October 2020 and published on the Government of Canada's website ¹ indicated that the Canadian Government would allow immediate family members and extended family members to be united with Canadian citizens or permanent residents and it provided steps to follow. However, on these steps it also indicates the person coming into Canada must have a valid travel document. ² (visitor visa or eTA)

We also have been told since the start of this COVID 19 pandemic, that permanent resident applications for immediate family members, among others are not being processed. Which brings some into a difficult situation, we don't know when will the process for our spouses be completed and at the same time anyone from a country requiring a visitor's visa, will most likely be denied under **paragraph 179(b) of the IRPR** ³ based on travel history, purpose of visit, personal assets and financial status.

I would kindly ask the Committee to consider that spouses of individuals whom are of countries that do not require a visa or already have one, are now allowed to enter Canada while spouses of Canadian citizens who require a visa are being denied this option and instead being provided with default denial letters without the right to request additional information, letters with website address that are not functioning, phone numbers that only allow to leave messages and automatic email replies that indicate right away that a follow up will not be provided. ⁴

I, Carlos Miranda, a concerned Canadian citizen, would like to request the Committee to consider the following:

- a. A possible change or amendment that would allow spouses with ongoing sponsorship applications under family class to be given a visitor's visa.
- b. A review of paragraph 179(b) of the IRPR, to consider spouses or immediate family members whose finances, purpose of visit, personal assets and financial status are tied to the spouse already living in Canada, as a Canadian Citizen.

Sincerely,



Carlos A. Miranda

Quoted references:

1. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/coronavirus-covid19/visitors/immediate-family.html>
2. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/coronavirus-covid19/visitors/visa.html#new>
3. <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2002-227/page-37.html#docCont>
4. *If requested and required I can provided samples of this, however they contain personal information, which I was indicated to omit from this document.*