



House of Commons
Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration
Parliament Hill
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A9

February 10, 2021

Re: Canadian Casino Gaming College / Post-Grad-Work-Permit Program Eligibility

Dear Honorable Members of Parliament,

I am the Director of the Canadian Casino Gaming College located in Mississauga, Ontario.

Understandably, the world is now undergoing a “new normal” for the foreseeable future and that is why **I wanted to present this request to your office for our Private Career College Program to have access to the Post-Grad-Work-Permit Program granted to Private Colleges by the Federal Government.**

Many Private Colleges across Canada offer almost the same set of courses for education to students, both domestic and international. Many of these graduating students were finding it difficult to obtain jobs pre-COVID-19; this problem has become even worse for those students.

There is still one vocation within Canada that can fill almost 5000 positions for a single job designation, which is a Casino Games Dealer.

Since 2011, the Ontario Lottery Corporation, along with the province of Ontario has been executing a plan to expand gaming through their “Modernization of Land Based Gaming” initiative. This is also happening in many other provinces across Canada.

By expanding gaming is to introduce live table games, such as blackjack, roulette and craps, into casino facilities across Canada which never had them before. Many municipalities that have granted new gaming licenses to new casino operators have increased the amount of casino games tables in each facility, which as a result, will require new dealers to fill these positions.

In a press release from the OLG in March 2012, states that with expanded gaming now being offered in casinos across Ontario, there is a projection of 2300 table game dealer positions being created.



This number of available positions, to properly skilled and trained workers, is estimated to be close to 5000 across Canada.

The only model to securely fill these positions is to bring in International Students, training them in a Government Approved Program and offer them a Post-Grad-Work-Permit after graduation.

As a registered Private Career College, we do not have access to the PGWP Program. However, we are asking your office for support with tabling our agenda to become eligible for the PGWP Program.

If there was already an abundant shortage of skilled casino employees before COVID-19, now with a world-wide pandemic, this shortage will be even higher.

Granting our program access to the Post-Grad-Work-Permit Program has many strong benefits for municipalities, provinces and our country as a whole.

Here are some highlights:

1) Casino's increase employment.

Casino's already employ thousands of staff members across Canada.

However, casinos across Canada have many gaming tables which cannot be open to potential customers because still they do not have enough staff.

Our Casino Games Dealer Training Program offers education, training and a skill set to candidates whom are willing to invest in their education for a future in the gaming industry.

2) Casino Tax Revenue for municipalities, provinces and the federal government.

Pre-COVID-19, a large portion of revenue for municipalities and provinces was supported by the revenue-sharing model with casino facilities. By allowing our Casino Games Dealer Training Program access to the PGWP it will help speed up the recovery process to get back to solid growth in revenue.

3) The "trickle down" effect from prosperous Casinos.

Casinos help boast local municipalities (large and small) in retail, restaurants, pubs, hotels, gas stations and many more.

With international students coming into Canada specifically to study in our program, these same municipalities will see in an increase in the housing revenue market.



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4) Boosts the economy with Tourism.

This is especially crucial to smaller more rural cities needing this support after their economies have been closed due to COVID-19.

5) Quick turnaround by supporting the Casino industry with a continuous influx of skilled and educated candidates to fill vacant positions.

These positions will help create other positions such as restaurant staff, hotel staff, janitorial, customer service, maintenance, construction and management.

As the Canadian economy begins to reopen, and as a Canadian based business, we want to offer innovative solutions to help solve shortfalls and difficulties any industry within Canada will face. We are hoping that with the summary of the casino industry job vacancies shortcomings, our possible offerings to fill these vacancies, as well as the highlighted benefits for all relevant parties involved if casinos are able to fill these vacant positions. You will help support our request to grant our Casino Games Dealer Training Program, as Private Career College, access to the Post-Grad-Work-Permit Program.

Thanking you in advance.

Sincerely,

Shawn Walia

Shawn Walia

Canadian Casino Gaming College