



Canada to Tighten Regulations on the Temporary Foreign Worker Program

Canadian Employment Minister Jason Kenny recently announced further changes stemming from the ongoing review of the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP) to ensure that Canadians are priority to all available jobs.

Canada has introduced legislative amendments to give the federal government the authority to levy monetary fines on employers who break the rules of the TFWP and to help ensure that the TFWP is used as a temporary source of labour as a last resort when Canadians are not available.

The following are the regulatory and administrative changes introduced by the Government in Canada's 2013 Economic Action Plan:

- Provide the government with the authority to conduct inspections to make sure employers are meeting the conditions of the program;
- Allow the government to ban non-compliant employers from the program and immediately add their names to a public list;
- Provide the government with the authority to revoke or suspend Labour Market Opinions (LMOs) process work permits applications, when necessary;
- Require employers to pay temporary workers at the prevailing wage by removing the existing wage flexibility; and
- Introduce fees for employers for the processing of LMOs and increase the fees for work permits so that the taxpayers are no longer subsidizing the costs.

Source: PE- Ottawa
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