

Immigration

INNER CITY VOTES

2021 FEDERAL ELECTION



What's Happening?

Each year 250,000 new immigrants come to Canada. In 2020, immigration to Canada fell to the lowest level since 1998 as Canada only welcomed 184,370 new permanent residents. Immigration affects Canada socially, economically, and politically.

Why is This Happening?

COVID-19 has reduced the flow of new permanent resident arrivals into Canada. During the pandemic, racialized immigrants, migrant workers, and refugees were highly represented in essential, low-paying, and precarious work. A new immigration approach was recently launched for 90,000 new immigrants to get permanent status this year. Despite this step, the program was seen to be unfair, exploitative, and exclusionary. A survey [report](#) from Migrant Right Network shows that 45.4% of migrant workers and 34.5% of international graduates were excluded from the new programs. Too many seasonal agricultural workers who have toiled and died on Canadian soil to provide us all with food and are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 could not meet the requirements during the application period.

Even before the pandemic, Canada's immigration program, once lauded for its fairness and humanity, had become harsher with more barriers. Newcomers to Canada are only looking to create better lives for themselves, just as the original settlers to Canada had been. Evidence shows time and again that immigration is good for our economy and our society.

Questions to Ask

- What is your party's plan for immigration?
- Will your party support an immigration pathway for 1.6 million migrant and undocumented people across Canada?
- How will your party address the challenges of the immigration program?

Not Sure Who to Vote For Overall? Why not check out [CBC's Vote Compass](#) to take a quick survey to help figure out which party best represents your priorities?