

National Immigration Centre.



Canada needs global talent more than ever before. Due to its rapidly aging population, low birth rate, and dynamic economy, Canada's 21st-century prosperity relies upon its ability to effectively recruit human, social, and financial capital to its shores. The National Immigration Centre is designed to help. It is a forum for governments, employers, the business community, lawyers and consultants, regulatory bodies, service provider organizations, researchers, and other stakeholders with an interest in global talent to work together to enhance Canada's immigration system.





Purpose of the National Immigration Centre

Canada's embrace of global talent is one of our country's competitive advantages. As other countries are becoming less inclusive, we are doubling down on our efforts to welcome immigrants, refugees, international students, and high-skilled workers. However, while our immigration system is admired by many around the world and is viewed as an exemplar on how to effectively select and integrate newcomers, we know that we can do better. Now is our time to act.

We must work together to identify solutions to our most pressing issues and challenges. These include ensuring that our immigration system is dynamic and responsive to the needs of employers, striking a balance between federal and provincial/territorial immigration objectives, identifying the "right" level, pace, and mix of immigration, and improving the labour market outcomes of immigrants.

We must also identify how we can harness the human, social, and financial capital of global talent more effectively to enhance Canada's economic competitiveness—in vital areas such as innovation, entrepreneurship, investment attraction, international trade, and productivity.

The Conference Board of Canada is leading a participatory approach toward enhancing the immigration system. Success means engaging a broad range of stakeholders as we work toward our common goal: **Ensuring that Canada effectively attracts and integrates global talent to support a stronger economy and society.**

Goals of the National Immigration Centre

- Build a strong empirical base and foster dialogue among stakeholders to generate common understanding, shared purpose, and collaborative action
- Raise public awareness of the nature and importance of immigration to Canada
- Track and report on the immigration system's performance in achieving Canada's goals
- Provide evidence-based, independent, and non-partisan analysis
- Determine how the immigration system can be more dynamic and responsive to employer needs
- Offer solutions on how Canada can better harness the skills of global talent to enhance its economic competitiveness (e.g., innovation, entrepreneurship, investment attraction, international trade, productivity)



Our Research Expertise

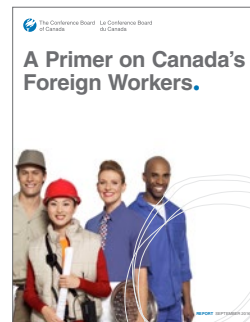
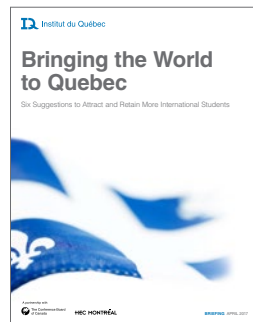
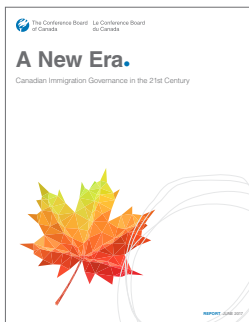
Our Economics Division has over 50 economists and researchers who possess a broad set of expertise and qualitative and quantitative research skills to tackle the demographic, economic, and labour market dimensions of immigration. Our applied research is practical, with a view to providing actionable suggestions to help guide improvements.

We have over 20 years of experience in producing research on immigration and related knowledge areas. Our reports cover various issues including:

- Immigration governance and intergovernmental relations
- Provincial immigration issues, challenges, and best practices (our reports have covered immigration issues in Atlantic Canada, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia)
- Demographic, labour market, occupational, and sectoral projections and analysis
- Temporary foreign workers
- International students
- Immigration's role in supporting economic competitiveness including boosting innovation, entrepreneurship, investment attraction, and international trade
- Recognition of the skills and qualifications of immigrants
- Immigrant-friendly communities and businesses
- Immigration levels and the economic impact of immigration

A full list of our recent and forthcoming reports can be found here:

<http://www.conferenceboard.ca/nic>.





Our Convening Expertise

Each year, we convene hundreds of public and private sector delegates who join us from across Canada and other parts of the world to network and discuss immigration issues, challenges, opportunities, and solutions.

Canadian Immigration Summit



Recently, we hosted the Canadian Immigration Summit 2017 in Ottawa. It featured over 300 delegates, including federal and provincial immigration ministers and business leaders, to celebrate immigration's role in Canada's 150 years as a nation and discuss innovative solutions to strengthen the immigration system.

Video footage of the 2017 Summit is available here: <http://bit.ly/2tq1BDz>.

More details of our 2018 Summit can be found here: www.conferenceboard.ca/conf/immigration.

Entrepreneur & Investor Immigration Summit



In December 2016, we hosted Canada's first ever Entrepreneur & Investor Immigration Summit, which convened some 200 delegates from around the world to discuss how Canada could enhance the economic benefits of business immigration.

Following the Summit, we produced a report compiling delegate suggestions that is available here: <http://www.conferenceboard.ca/e-library/abstract.aspx?did=8782>.



Become Involved in the National Immigration Centre

One of the major benefits of becoming a member is that you are able to pool and leverage your organization’s investment with other members to pursue projects and obtain a greater return than would be possible on your own.

Members are asked to choose one of three annual levels. Annual renewals of commitment are entirely contingent on satisfaction with the Conference Board’s performance. Members are kindly asked to consider making multi-year commitments to help the Conference Board plan the National Immigration Centre’s (NIC) research agenda.

Membership Benefits

- Shape research projects and questions that will help inform the future of Canada’s immigration system
- Review draft reports and provide feedback prior to public release
- Participate in member meetings, as well as teleconferences, consultations, and special events
- Complimentary access to our live immigration webinars
- Complimentary registrations and access to a special discounted rate for summits to share with your network
- First priority to speak at events

Membership Levels

Champion Investors \$50,000

Additional benefits include extra complimentary registrations for summits and first priority sponsorship recognition at summits and in reports.

Diamond Investors \$25,000

Additional benefits include extra complimentary registrations for summits and sponsorship recognition at summits and in reports.

Gold Investors \$12,500

Additional benefits include sponsorship recognition in reports.

Our Leadership Team



Craig Alexander

Senior Vice-President and Chief Economist

Craig Alexander brings over 20 years of experience in the private sector as an economic and financial forecaster to the position of Senior Vice-President and Chief Economist. He oversees the Board's Economics Division, which produces macroeconomic forecasts for the Canadian economy, provinces, territories, municipalities, and industries. He leads the immigration portfolio, and related knowledge areas, including skills and education, and global commerce. Craig has published extensively on immigration and frequently gives presentations and media interviews on the topic. He served on the Government of Ontario's Expert Roundtable on Immigration.



Pedro Antunes

Executive Director, Economic Outlook and Analysis, and Deputy Chief Economist

As the Board's Executive Director, Economic Outlook and Analysis, and Deputy Chief Economist, Pedro Antunes is responsible for managing a team of economists in producing the Conference Board's medium and long-term economic forecasts along with other economic indicators and reports. Pedro produces research, gives presentations, and is a Conference Board spokesperson on a wide range of matters including demographics, immigration, and labour markets.




Kareem El-Assal

Senior Research Associate and Senior Network Manager, Immigration

Kareem manages the Conference Board's immigration research and annual Canadian Immigration Summit. His research covers various areas including permanent resident selection, settlement and integration, temporary foreign worker programs, refugees, international students, intergovernmental relations, and entrepreneur and investor programs. He often shares the Conference Board's research findings with the media.

CONTACT

Kareem El-Assal
Senior Research Associate & Manager
National Immigration Centre
613-526-3090 ext. 289
elassal@conferenceboard.ca

 [@ImmigrationCBoC](https://twitter.com/ImmigrationCBoC)
www.conferenceboard.ca/nic