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 highly 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 we can do better. Now is our time to act.

Our purpose is to help ensure that Canada has the world’s best immigration system.

In support of our purpose, we:

- produce evidence-based, independent, and non-partisan immigration research and analysis;
- convene stakeholders to discuss immigration issues, challenges, opportunities, and solutions;
- raise public awareness on the nature and importance of immigration to Canada’s prosperity.

Annual Deliverables

- six to eight research reports
- Canadian Immigration Summit
- spring and fall meetings in rotating locations across Canada
- sponsorship recognition for members in our reports and events
- six to eight live webinars
The Conference Board of Canada Advantage

We have over 20 years of experience producing research on immigration and related knowledge areas. 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 convene hundreds of public and private sector stakeholders from across Canada and around the world to network and identify how to strengthen Canada’s immigration system. For over 10 years, we have hosted meetings across Canada to help executives address pressing immigration issues. Our annual Canadian Immigration Summit is the Conference Board’s largest event of the year, featuring over 300 participants.

In 2016–17, The Conference Board of Canada:

• published 519 research reports and briefings;
• organized 40 conferences;
• engaged Canadian executives in its 36 networks;
• engaged 35,611 followers on Twitter accounts;
• hosted 156 webinars;
• generated 6,369 print and broadcast stories and 11,752 online articles.

Stay up to date on our latest research and events by visiting our website: www.conferenceboard.ca/nic.
Membership Levels and Benefits

The many benefits of joining the National Immigration Centre are listed below. Members are asked to choose one of four membership levels. Renewals of commitment are annual and are entirely contingent on your satisfaction with our performance.

**Champion—$50,000 per year**
- Inform entire direction of our research reports. Review draft reports and receive advance copies of final reports.
- Shape agendas of our Canadian Immigration Summit and spring and fall meetings.
- Logo recognition in all reports, meetings, and the Canadian Immigration Summit.
- Eight complimentary passes to our Canadian Immigration Summit and access to the non-profit rate for additional members of your organization to attend.
- Three complimentary passes to our spring and fall meetings.
- Six to eight complimentary live webinars per year for members of your entire organization to access.

**Gold—$12,500 per year**
- Inform entire direction of our research reports. Review draft reports and receive advance copies of final reports.
- Shape agendas of our Canadian Immigration Summit and spring and fall meetings.
- Logo recognition in all reports and spring and fall meetings.
- One complimentary pass to our Canadian Immigration Summit and access to a discounted rate ($200 off per person) for additional members of your organization to attend.
- One complimentary pass to our spring and fall meetings.
- Six to eight complimentary live webinars per year for members of your entire organization to access.

**Diamond—$25,000 per year**
- Inform entire direction of our research reports. Review draft reports and receive advance copies of final reports.
- Shape agendas of our Canadian Immigration Summit and spring and fall meetings.
- Logo recognition in all reports, meetings, and the Canadian Immigration Summit.
- Three complimentary passes to our Canadian Immigration Summit and access to a discounted rate ($300 off per person) for additional members of your organization to attend.
- Two complimentary passes to our spring and fall meetings.
- Six to eight complimentary live webinars per year for members of your entire organization to access.

**Non-Profit/Small Business—$5,000 per year**
- Participate in research discussions at our spring and fall meetings.
- Receive advance copies of final reports.
- Shape agendas of our Canadian Immigration Summit and spring and fall meetings.
- One complimentary pass to our Canadian Immigration Summit and access to a discounted rate ($200 off per person) for additional members of your organization to attend.
- One complimentary pass to our spring and fall meetings.
- Six to eight complimentary live webinars per year for members of your entire organization to access.
Our Leadership Team

**Pedro Antunes**  
Chief Economist

Pedro Antunes is the Chief Economist at The Conference Board of Canada. Pedro is responsible for managing a team of economists in producing medium and long-term economic forecasts along with other economic indicators and reports. He is a spokesperson for The Conference Board of Canada and delivers presentations on the forecast to clients and the public and is often cited in the media.

**Kareem El-Assal**  
Senior Research Associate II and Senior Network Manager, Immigration

Kareem El-Assal oversees the Conference Board’s immigration practice. This includes managing the National Immigration Centre, custom immigration research, the annual Canadian Immigration Summit, and the Entrepreneur & Investor Immigration Summit. Kareem’s research covers various areas including the economic impact of immigration, immigrant selection and settlement, international students, temporary foreign workers, intergovernmental relations, and business immigration programs.

**Jo-Leen Folz**  
Administrative and Meetings Coordinator, Economics

Jo-Leen is the Administrative and Meetings Coordinator for the National Immigration Centre. Jo-Leen coordinates the Centre’s three annual meetings, acts as a member liaison and provides administrative support for all Centre activities and research. She is a college graduate with over 15 years of work experience in office administration and project coordination.

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**CONTACT**

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