

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I am writing to you because as a Canadian summer camp owner, we are threatened by Service Canada's new ruling concerning temporary work permits for summer camp staff. There are three major problems with the ruling:

- 1) Non-students from outside Canada may not get summer camp work permits.
- 2) There will be no work permits for support staff.
- 3) 3<sup>rd</sup> party organizations can no longer independently help us get summer work permits. They will have to work with Immigration Lawyers which will increase costs.

This matters because:

- 1) Summer camps bring almost **a half a billion dollars** to the Canadian economy annually.
- 2) We cannot operate without some international staff. While we all strongly prefer Canadian staff (easier to hire, cheaper, less red tape) it is impossible to source all our staff at home. In order to operate, we need *some* non-Canadian staff.
- 3) These non-Canadian staff are part of an international community of interest in Canada. They and their families bring much-needed tourist dollars and positive international attention here, both in the short and long term. International staff learn to appreciate and understand Canada.
- 4) It would seem sensible not to lump international camp counsellors with longer term employees for the purpose of work permits. Camp counsellors stay (and work) in Canada for two months. Would it not be sensible to create a far less onerous category for summer camp staff work permits?
- 5) As for the above three points:
  - a. Many mature camp staff have already graduated from university.
  - b. Some international staff are support workers.
  - c. Several 3<sup>rd</sup> party organizations (some Canadian) give camps much-needed support with the complex process of organizing summer staff work permits.

Yours sincerely,