Petition to the Government of Canada

WHEREAS

- The 2009 CIMM Standing Committee report on Temporary foreign workers and non-status workers recommended that the government discontinue employer-specific work permits;
- The 2016 HUMA Standing Committee report on the Temporary Foreign Worker Program found that employer-specific work permits "place migrant workers in a vulnerable position with negative implications for their physical and mental well-being" and recommended that immediate steps be taken to eliminate employer-specific work permits;
- In 2019 Canada acknowledged that employer-specific work permits create a power imbalance that "favours the employer and can result in a migrant worker enduring situations of misconduct, abuse or other forms of employer retribution" when it implemented the Open work permit for vulnerable workers (OWP-V) policy;
- Numerous regulatory reforms attempting to improve the protection of temporary foreign workers, including the OWP-V policy, have failed to meaningfully counteract the high risk of abuse imposed on workers by employer-specific work permits; and
- A truly just and equitable immigration system provides full and permanent status to all workers coming to Canada and regularization programs for those currently without status. As an interim measure, migrant workers should not be tied to a specific employer or sector.

We, the undersigned, **citizens and residents of Canada**, call upon the **Government of Canada** to eliminate, without delay, the employer-specific work permit and adopt a work authorization regime that permits temporary foreign workers to freely change employers while in the country, regardless of their occupation or national origin.

Signatures (Canadian citizens or residents only) (Please sign your name, do not print)	Addresses (Only Postal Code)