

FACT sheet

Alberta Temporary Foreign Worker Pilot – Open Work Permits for Spouses/Common Law Partners of Long Haul Truck Drivers

August 2009

Background

The Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) Annex is an addition to the *Agreement for Canada-Alberta Cooperation on Immigration*. The Annex includes an agreement to implement a number of innovative pilot projects.

One of those pilot projects allows for the spouses and common law partners of long-haul truck drivers operating out of Alberta be eligible to receive open work permits.

Eligibility

The spouse or common law partner of a person holding a work permit authorizing them to work in Alberta as a long haul truck driver is eligible to apply. For the principal applicant to be considered as a long distance truck driver, this occupation must be identified under NOC code 7411 Truck Drivers. In addition, the principal applicant must provide proof from an employer that he/she is in fact considered a long haul truck driver.

Eligible spouses and common law partners may be required to meet all other applicable federal criteria including the likelihood they will voluntarily leave Canada at the end of the period authorized for their stay. They must also continue to meet all admissibility criteria in order to obtain status as a temporary resident in Canada.

Application

Eligible spouses and common law partners may apply for a work permit along with the

principal applicant's application either overseas or, if applicable at a port of entry into Canada. Or, spouses and common law partners who have accompanied the principal applicant into Canada can apply for an open work permit through federal government offices in Vegreville.

If applying from inside Canada, here are links to the application form and additional information on where to send the completed form.

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/MM1249E.PDF>

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/offices/canada/vegreville.asp>

If applying from outside Canada, go to:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/MM1295B.PDF>.

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/menu-outside.asp>

An application fee will apply.

Duration

The spouse or common law partner of the long haul truck driver may be issued a work permit for a period that ends no later than the work permit of the principal applicant. The pilot has been extended to August 2012.

To read the Annex, visit:

www.employment.alberta.ca. Click on publications under the Immigration tab.

For more information, call the toll-free Alberta Temporary Foreign Worker helpline at 1-877-944-9955.

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