



Canadian Association of Professional Immigration Consultants
L'Association Canadienne des Conseillers Professionnels en Immigration

From the Bottom Up

A Newsletter for CSIC members about their issues.

Issue #249

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*Welcome to our Newsletter **From the Bottom Up**. Our articles and postings will cover immigration matters that affect your business and lives.*

In this issue:

Towards a Better Regulator

Part 3 of 3

TOWARDS A BETTER REGULATOR

Part Three:

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?

The Minister and CIC understand what the real problems are here, and they do not believe what the CBA is saying - that consultants cannot handle self-regulation. After C-35 becomes law, the Minister and CIC want a partner in their fight against ghost consultants so that all consumers of immigration consultant services are protected. Nothing they have seen from CSIC so far gives them any confidence that CSIC will change how they are operating. They have judged CSIC and found them "guilty as charged" of all the things we have been complaining about.

So what does that mean? That means that we have to do it all again. We believe that Members will have to step up and be prepared to set up a new national Regulator of consultants, with a governance model that prevents a small group of persons taking control for their own self-interests - in compliance with stringent bid provisions. That means all of us working together, to be truly self-regulated.

In such a case there will be four stages:

1. We will shortly have a proposal from CIC outlining what they think the

criteria should be top select a \new Regulator. That will be followed by a Comment Period - probably 30 days. Then shortly thereafter, CIC will announce the bid criteria, and call for bids. At that time, we will have a very good idea what the new Regulator will look like. The government has already strongly signaled that the current version of CSIC with all of its lack of transparency and no accountability will not survive. The contract will then be awarded after a thorough screening process, and with very explicit instructions.

2.

A transition process will then ensue, possibly with an Interim Regulator such as a panel of senior consultants, while the new regulator is being set up. The new Regulator will likely then arrange to takeover CSIC assets with the full support of a CSIC Board which will finally understand what is best for the profession, and which will have a fiduciary duty to insure that the assets of CSIC are properly protected.

- Migration of all members to the new Regulator. We can all expect to join the new regulatory body without having to pass any entrance exams or other hurdles to overcome. Some effort will be made to bring into the fold, those who are ethical and competent, but who left for various reasons.

- The battle with ghost agents will be joined quickly, to insure that Members of Parliament see a difference in their own constituency offices.
So the choice is not CSIC or the Law Societies.

The choice is to have a new Regulator or losing everything.

The choice is for each and every one of us to participate in setting up a new Regulator using all of our experience, and the energy that should come from the absolute necessity to get it right this time.

Let's get ready!

CAPIC

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245 Fairview Mall Drive, Suite 602

Toronto, ON. M2J 4T1

Phone: 416-483-7044

Fax:

416-309-1985

www.capic.ca

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