



IMPORTANT CHANGES TO TEMPORARY FOREIGN WORKER PROGRAM

Effective April 1, 2011, several changes to government Regulations regarding temporary foreign workers and labour market opinions will come into effect. Some of these changes include:

- Service Canada will now have the authority to conduct genuineness assessments of any job offer to a temporary foreign worker;
- Service Canada will have the authority to verify that employers that have previously hired temporary foreign workers have lived up to the employment requirements stipulated in any previous LMO;
- Employers may be asked to submit additional documentation to support their LMO application;
- Failure by the employer to comply with Immigration and Employment Standards may result in the employer being banned from obtaining future work permits for temporary foreign workers for up to two years;
- Employers that face the two year ban will have their name placed on a Citizenship and Immigration Canada webpage;
- Temporary foreign workers who accept job offers from banned employers may face penalties;
- Temporary foreign workers will only be allowed to remain in Canada on successive work permits for up to four years (the temporary foreign worker will not be able to get a new work permit until a further four years have passed).

If you would like to discuss how these changes will effect you or your business, please do not hesitate to contact either Paul Robinson or Matt Sommerfeldt at 403-380-2499.