

0400-20

June 19, 2025

MP Patrick Weiler

By email:

patrick.weiler@parl.gc.ca

Dear MP Weiler,

On June 18, 2025, the District of Sechelt passed the following resolution by unanimous vote:

WHEREAS Many services provided by government agencies and businesses in Sechelt and the Sunshine Coast are dependent on employing workers who have chosen to move here from overseas; and

WHEREAS Some of these workers came to Canada under immigration programmes and regulations that provided for them to have their spouse and children accompany them along with assurances that the worker could both renew their own work permit and renew the permits for their spouse and children; and

WHEREAS Early in 2025, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada changed their policy whereby the worker's permit can be renewed but those of their spouse and family cannot (except in very specific cases), thereby causing uncertainty to many of the families who are facing the prospect of either staying in Canada and being separated from their families or all leaving Canada to keep their families together; and

WHEREAS Many residents of Sechelt and the Sunshine Coast depend on the services of both these temporary foreign workers and their spouses and if such were to leave Canada, it could impact our quality of life significantly; and

WHEREAS Many employers are gravely concerned about the viability of their businesses without such workers

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) THAT Council provide a letter to MP Patrick Weiler stating this resolution and supporting whereas clause, and confirming that the District of Sechelt Council supports a change in the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada policy for renewal of work permits so

that the families of Temporary Foreign Workers can stay in Canada while the Temporary Foreign Worker's work permit is valid, and asking him to advocate for such a change;

(b) AND THAT a copy of this letter of support be provided to other local governments on the Sunshine Coast encouraging them to also support this initiative.

Council looks forward to receiving your response at council@sechelt.ca.

Sincerely,



Kerianne Poulsen
Corporate Officer

cc: Town of Gibsons
Sunshine Coast Regional District
shíshálh Nation

