Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada

s.21(1)(b)

Deputy Minister

Sous-ministre

Ottawa K1A 1L1

F-1259423

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MEMORANDUM TO THE MINISTER

2023 REGIONAL ECONOMIC IMMIGRATION PROGRAMS ALLOCATIONS

FOR APPROVAL

SUMMARY

• The purpose of this memorandum is to seek your approval of the proposed 2023 allocations for the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP), the Atlantic Immigration Program (AIP), and the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) (see Annex A). This year the Department will also be implementing a multi-allocation plan.

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We recommend that you approve the proposed allocations by checking the "I concur" box, signing this memorandum and signing the enclosed letters to be sent to your counterparts in the provinces and territories communicating their respective allocations by December 2, 2022. RNIP communities will be informed of their 2023 and 2024 allocations separately.

BACKGROUND:

 Each year following the announcement of the immigration levels plan, you set allocations of nominations for the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP), the Atlantic Immigration Program (AIP), and the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP).



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- The PNP allocations are separated into two categories: 1) enhanced nominations of high-skilled candidates through the Express Entry System and, 2) base nominations for candidates at all skill levels, administered outside of Express Entry.
- This is the first year that the Department is proposing providing provinces and territories (PTs) with a multi-year allocation plan for the PNP and AIP, which you committed to at the Forum for Ministers Responsible for Immigration meeting this past summer. This will provide PTs with notional allocations for 2024 and 2025.
- Following the recent extension of the RNIP, communities will be able to recommend candidates until February 29, 2024. As such, allocations for 2024 should also be granted giving the communities sufficient time to fully utilize these spaces.

CURRENT STATUS:

Provincial	Nominee	Program	(PNP)
			•

• While PTs will welcome this growth,

This is primarily due to PT demand outweighing PNP growth in the levels plan. The Department considered providing provinces and territories their entire 2023 allocations requests. However, providing growth beyond levels space leads to the accumulation of inventory waiting for admissions space, and would have significant negative impacts on processing times, which would negatively impact clients and counteract many of the measures currently being pursued to improve service delivery.

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• As part of the commitment to develop a multi-year allocation plan for the PNP, the Department is also proposing to inform provinces and territories of notional allocations for 2024 and 2025.

Atlantic Immigration Program (AIP)

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- The allocations would be distributed amongst the Atlantic provinces using the guiding principles (see Annex C) with respect to past usage, capacity and provincial request for additional allocations.
- Similar to the PNP, this will be the first year the AIP has put forward a multi-year allocation plan.

Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP)

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- The Department also intends on providing RNIP communities with their 2024 allocation as the Pilot will be sun-setting in August 2024, and they will only be able to recommend candidates for the first two months of the year.
- Allocations are based on bilateral consultations with participating RNIP communities held in fall 2022.

Economic Mobility Pathways Project (EMPP)

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CONSULTATIONS:

• The Department engaged provinces and territories, as well as RNIP community partners, throughout fall 2022 to solicit their allocation requests for 2023 (and 2024 and 2025 under the PNP and AIP). PTs were also engaged through the development of the 2023-2025 Levels Plan.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

N/R

COMMUNICATIONS IMPLICATIONS:

• PTs lead on whether or not to disclose allocations of nominations. No proactive communications activities are planned, in keeping with the typical approach.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

We recommend that you approve the proposed allocations by checking the "I concur" box, signing this memorandum and signing the enclosed letters to be sent to your counterparts in the provinces and territories communicating their respective allocations by December 2, 2022.
 RNIP communities will be informed of their 2023 and 2024 allocations separately.

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NEXT STEPS:

- Once you approve the allocations, and sign the letters to your PT colleagues to inform them of their multi-year allocations (see Annex D), we would also informally advise PTs and communities of their allocation at the officials' level.
- RNIP communities will be advised of their allocations separately

DMA e-approved
Scott Harris
Associate Deputy Minister

Arun Thangaraj Associate Deputy Minister

DM e-approved November 28, 2022 Christiane Fox

Deputy Minister

☐ I do not concur

The Hon. Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P.

Annexes (5):

- Λ. Proposed 2023 Allocations for Regional Economic Immigration Programs
- B. Multi-Year Allocation Plan
- C. Background on Provincial Nomince Program and Atlantic Immigration Program Guiding Principles
- D. 2023 Allocation Letters to Provinces and Territories
- E. Proposed Multi-Year Allocation Plan and Expected Provincial and Territorial Reaction

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Annex C: Background on Provincial Nominee Program and Atlantic Immigration Program Guiding Principles

Provincial Nominee Program:

Purpose

In 2020, IRCC introduced new guiding principles to inform the distribution of Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) allocations. 2023 will be the fourth year that these principles are used to inform IRCC's PNP allocations recommendation.

The objectives of the PNP guiding principles are to:

- 1) establish a systematic, evidence-based framework to determine PNP allocations year over year;
- 2) introduce greater operational predictability through allocations that reflect past usage and trends, including a more accurate split between base and enhanced spaces; and
- 3) support more transparency with provinces and territories (PTs) by informing them of the considerations Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) uses to inform the allocation recommendation to the Minister, and working with them on actions to improve predictable usage of allocations (such as introducing limits on the size of reallocation and redistribution requests).

Systematic Framework

The guiding principles are categorized into quantitative and qualitative factors, which reflect a range of policy and data-driven considerations, and inform IRCC's recommendation through evidence-based analysis. By applying the guiding principles each year, more rigor and consistency will be incorporated into how the Department arrives at its distribution recommendation each year.

Greater Operational Predictability

In order to introduce greater operational predictability and, in the longer term, improve processing times for PNP base applications, IRCC is aiming to provide more accurate allocations to PTs at the start of the year. This should minimize the need for PTs to request changes in their allocation through reallocation or redistribution, which tend to have significant impacts on processing times. To arrive at accurate allocations, IRCC will examine past usage of allocations, and take into account PTs' requests for changes in their allocation (i.e. increase, decrease, no change), including their preferred base and enhanced split. It is expected that this approach will result in allocations that PTs' can maximize from the start of the year, and decrease the need for significant reallocations and redistributions. The Department is also aiming to work with PTs in the medium term on a broader set of complementary improvements, which will also support the goal of managing base processing times.

<u>Transparency and Openness with PTs</u>

In order to ensure transparency about the new guiding principles, and in response to PTs' requests for better understanding how IRCC makes its PNP allocation recommendation, the guiding principles were presented to PTs multilaterally in February 2020.

Applying the Guiding Principles

The guiding principles will be applied by balancing quantitative considerations with qualitative considerations. The quantitative considerations largely reflect the objectives and desired outcomes of regional immigration programming, such as: past use of allocations, share of all economic immigrants compared to share of the population, and retention rates per PT. These considerations are scored and used to determine whether the jurisdiction might receive a small, medium, large allocation increase, or

maintain their current allocation. Once the size of the allocation increase is determined, the qualitative considerations are used to adjust the allocation size if appropriate, with emphasis on supporting effective relationships with PTs through taking into account PTs' requests for changes in allocations, and considering all allocations each PT receives to support regional needs (i.e. through the PNP, Atlantic Immigration Pilot, and Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot).

Atlantic Immigration Program:

Similar to the Provincial Nominee Program, the Atlantic Immigration Program takes multiple quantitative and qualitative factors into consideration in determining the allocation distribution. In its first year (2017), the Council of Atlantic Premiers (CAP) agreed to use a proportion of population model, based on each province's percentage of the overall Atlantic population in setting the initial 2,000 AIP allocations. The Department continues to apply this model for the first 2,000 AIP allocations as a baseline; for all program growth beyond the 2,000, IRCC factors in the proportion of population as well as the province's past allocation usage, provincial immigration growth strategies, and share of total economic immigration spaces (i.e. spaces under the PNP, and Express Entry).

Guiding Principles

Quantitative Considerations:



Share of Economic Immigrants: IRCC will consider the overall share of economic immigrants that a PT receives, including through federal programs.

• A primary objective of the Provincial Nominee Program is to **distribute the benefits of economic immigration** across Canada.



Past Use of Allocations: Identify trends regarding the use of previous allocations.

• As allocations usage varies widely across PTs, this consideration will help maximize allocations and minimize the demand for in-year reallocations and the need for re-distribution of returned spaces by PTs in the fall.



Key Performance Indicators for Regional Immigration:

- Economic independence
- Retention in nominating jurisdiction
- Supporting regional economic development



Alignment of Nominations and PNP Levels Space: IRCC will consider the number of allocations distributed and PNP levels space to support ongoing departmental efforts to achieve admissions and processing time objectives.

Qualitative Considerations:



PT Input: IRCC will consider the strategic priorities shared by PTs

- To support strategic priorities of the PTs, e.g. supporting growth sectors, addressing targeted economic or labour needs, population growth.
- Will consider requests for increases or changes to a PT's allocation, including as part of annual levels consultations.

Stakeholder Input: IRCC will consider the strategic priorities shared by stakeholders

• Consider input and feedback received from stakeholders including industry associations, employers, communities, settlement provider organizations, academia, etc.



Balanced and Equitable Distribution: Consider a balanced and equitable distribution across jurisdictions

- This would largely apply to jurisdictions of similar size or profile.
- Distribute nominations to optimize each jurisdiction's economic and social prosperity, contributing to Canada's overall wellbeing.



Governmental and Departmental Priorities: Allocations to accomplish specific federal, provincial/territorial, or stakeholder-driven priorities

- Consider PT participation in federal initiatives (e.g. Atlantic Immigration Pilot, NOC C initiative and Francophone Immigration).
- Consider objectives and priorities relating to the Multi-Year Levels Plan (i.e., meeting levels targets and processing times standards).

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Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship



Ministre de l'Immigration, des Réfugiés et de la Citoyenneté

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Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

The Honourable Rajan Sawhney, M.L.A. Minister of Trade, Immigration and Multiculturalism Government of Alberta TIM.Minister@gov.ab.ca

Dear Minister:

I am writing to inform you of Alberta's allocations for the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) for 2023. I am pleased to inform you that this will be the first year that Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has developed a multi-year allocation plan under the PNP, which will provide your jurisdiction with your allocation for 2023 along with two notional allocations for 2024 and 2025. I am confident that this will help improve predictability under the program and ensure that jurisdictions will be able to operationally plan for the coming years. I would, however, note that like the multi-year levels plan, future years are notional and subject to adjustment if circumstances change.

On November 1, 2022, I tabled the 2023-2025 Immigration Levels Plan. This plan was developed in consultation with provinces and territories and builds on the success of the previous multi-year plans by continuing to increase annual permanent resident admissions to Canada, with a target of 465,000 in 2023. The new multi-year levels plan maintains the objectives of the previous plan through targeted growth to support economic recovery and fuel economic and demographic growth, while also working to reunite family members with their loved ones and fulfill Canada's humanitarian commitments.

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	The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P.	
	Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship	

Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship



Ministre de l'Immigration, des Réfugiés et de la Citoyenneté

Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

The Honourable Anne Kang, M.L.A. Minister of Municipal Affairs Government of British Columbia MUNI, Minister @gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister:

I am writing to inform you of British Columbia's allocations for the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) for 2023.

I am pleased to inform you that this will be the first year that Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has developed a multi-year allocation plan under the PNP, which will provide your jurisdiction with your allocation for 2023 along with two notional allocations for 2024 and 2025. I am confident that this will help improve predictability under the program and ensure that jurisdictions will be able to operationally plan for the coming years. I would, however, note that like the multi-year levels plan, future years are notional and subject to adjustment if circumstances change.

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I appreciate the ongoing collaboration and strong partnership with you on immigration and refugee issues.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P. Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

Minister of Immigration. Refugees and Citizenship



Ministre de l'Immigration, des Réfugiés et de la Citoyenneté

Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

The Honourable Jon Reyes, M.L.A. Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration Government of Manitoba minacsi@lcg.gov.mb.ca

Dear Minister:

I am writing to inform you of Manitoba's allocations for the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) for 2023. I am pleased to inform you that this will be the first year that Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has developed a multi-year allocation plan under the PNP, which will provide your jurisdiction with your allocation for 2023 along with two notional allocations for 2024 and 2025. I am confident that this will help improve predictability under the program and ensure that jurisdictions will be able to operationally plan for the coming years. I would, however, note that like the multi-year levels plan, future years are notional and subject to adjustment if circumstances change.

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	Yours sincerely,	

The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P.

Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

Minister of Immigration. Refugees and Citizenship



Ministre de l'Immigration, des Réfugiés et de la Citoyenneté

and Gilizonship Canado — et Giloyonnoló Canada

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Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

The Honourable Arlene Dunn, M.L.A. Minister Responsible for Economic Development and Small Business Minister Responsible for Opportunities NB Minister Responsible for Immigration Minister of Aboriginal Affairs Government of New Brunswick Arlene.Dunn@gnb.ca

Dear Minister:

I am writing to inform you of New Brunswick's allocations for the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) and Atlantic Immigration Program (AIP) for 2023. I am pleased to inform you that this will be the first year that Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has developed a multi-year allocation plan under the PNP and the AIP, which will provide your jurisdiction with your allocation for 2023 along with two notional allocations for 2024 and 2025. I am confident that this will help improve predictability under the programs and ensure that jurisdictions will be able to operationally plan for the coming years. I would, however, note that like the multi-year levels plan, future years are notional and subject to adjustment if circumstances change.

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I appreciate the ongoing collaboration and strong partnership with you on immigration and refugee issues.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P. Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship



Ministre de l'Immigration, des Réfugiés et de la Citoyenneté

Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

The Honourable Gerry Byrne Ministry of Immigration, Population Growth and Skills Government of Newfoundland and Labrador gerrybyrne@gov.nl.ca

Dear Minister:

I am writing to inform you of Newfoundland and Labrador's allocations for the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) and Atlantic Immigration Program (AIP) for 2023. I am pleased to inform you that this will be the first year that Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has developed a multi-year allocation plan under the PNP and the AIP, which will provide your jurisdiction with your allocation for 2023 along with two notional allocations for 2024 and 2025. I am confident that this will help improve predictability under the programs and ensure that jurisdictions will be able to operationally plan for the coming years. I would, however, note that like the multi-year levels plan, future years are notional and subject to adjustment if circumstances change.

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21(1)(a), 21(1)(b), 14(a)

I appreciate the ongoing collaboration and strong partnership with you on immigration and refugee issues.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Scan Fraser, P.C., M.P. Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

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Minister of Immigration. Refugees and Citizenship



Ministre de l'Immigration, des Réfugiés et de la Citoyenneté

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Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

The Honourable Jill Balser, M.L. Λ . Minister of Labour, Skills and Immigration Government of Nova Scotia MIN LAE@novascotia.ca

Dear Minister:

I am writing to inform you of Nova Scotia's allocations for the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) and Atlantic Immigration Program (AIP) for 2023. I am pleased to inform you that this will be the first year that Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has developed a multi-year allocation plan under the PNP and the AIP. which will provide your jurisdiction with your allocation for 2023 along with two notional allocations for 2024 and 2025. I am confident that this will help improve predictability under the programs and ensure that jurisdictions will be able to operationally plan for the coming years. I would, however, note that like the multi-year levels plan, future years are notional and subject to adjustment if circumstances change.

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I appreciate the ongoing collaboration and strong partnership with you on immigration and refugee issues.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Scan Fraser, P.C., M.P. Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

Ministre de l'Immigration, des Réfugiés et de la Citoyenneté

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Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

The Honourable RJ Simpson, M.L.A. Minister of Education, Culture and Employment Minister of Justice Government of Northwest Territories RJ_simpson@gov.nt.ca

Minister

of Immigration.

Refugees and Citizenship

Dear Minister Simpson:

I am writing to inform you of Northwest Territories' allocations for the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) and for 2023. I am pleased to inform you that this will be the first year that Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has developed a multi-year allocation plan under the PNP, which will provide your jurisdiction with your allocation for 2023 along with two notional allocations for 2024 and 2025. I am confident that this will help improve predictability under the program and ensure that jurisdictions will be able to operationally plan for the coming years. I would, however, note that like the multi-year levels plan, future years are notional and subject to adjustment if circumstances change.

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	Yours sincerely,		
	TI H 11 O D DOMB		
	The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P.		
	Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship		

Minister of Immigration. Refugees and Citizenship



Ministre de l'Immigration, des Réfugiés et de la Citoyenneté

Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

The Honourable Monte McNaughton, M.L.A. Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development Province of Ontario monte.mcnaughton@nc.ola.org

Dear Minister McNaughton:

I am writing to inform you of Ontario's allocations for the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) for 2023. I am pleased to inform you that this will be the first year that Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has developed a multi-year allocation plan under the PNP, which will provide your jurisdiction with your allocation for 2023 along with two notional allocations for 2024 and 2025. I am confident that this will help improve predictability under the program and ensure that jurisdictions will be able to operationally plan for the coming years. I would, however, note that like the multi-year levels plan, future years are notional and subject to adjustment if circumstances change.

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	I appreciate the ongoing collaboration and strong partnership with you on immigration and refugee issues.		
	Yours sincerely,		

The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P. Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship



Ministre de l'Immigration, des Réfugiés et de la Citoyenneté

Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

The Honourable Bloyce Thompson, M.L.A.

Minister of Economic Development, Tourism and Culture
Government of Prince Edward Island

Minister EGT Calgov, pc. ca

Dear Minister Thompson:

I am writing to inform you of Prince Edward Island's allocations for the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) and Atlantic Immigration Program (AIP) for 2023. I am pleased to inform you that this will be the first year that Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has developed a multi-year allocation plan under the PNP and the AIP, which will provide your jurisdiction with your allocation for 2023 along with two notional allocations for 2024 and 2025. I am confident that this will help improve predictability under the programs and ensure that jurisdictions will be able to operationally plan for the coming years. I would, however, note that like the multi-year levels plan, future years are notional and subject to adjustment if circumstances change.

On November 1, 2023, I tabled the 2023-2025 Immigration Levels Plan. This plan was developed in consultation with provinces and territories and builds on the success of the previous multi-year plans by continuing to increase annual permanent resident admissions to Canada, with a target of 465,000 in 2023. The new multi-year levels plan maintains the objectives of the previous plan through targeted growth to support economic recovery and fuel economic and demographic growth, while also working to reunite family members with their loved ones and fulfill Canada's humanitarian commitments.

With continued growth in the Economic Class, the levels plan responds to calls from employers and from provinces and territories to further leverage immigration to meet labour market and skill needs. The PNP, in particular, will continue to grow 41% over the next three years, with targets of 105,500 admissions in 2023, 110,000 admissions in 2024, and 117,500 in 2025. This increase will lead to more skilled talent to grow Canada's economy and fill labour market needs while spreading the benefits of immigration across the country.



Page 42 is withheld pursuant to sections est retenue en vertu des articles

21(1)(a), 21(1)(b), 14(a)

Page 43 is withheld pursuant to sections est retenue en vertu des articles

21(1)(a), 21(1)(b), 14(a)

I appreciate the ongoing collaboration and strong partnership with you on immigration and refugee issues.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P. Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

Minister of Immigration. Refugees and Citizenship



Ministre de l'Immigration, des Réfugiés et de la Citoyenneté

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et Citoyonnoté Canada

Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

The Honourable Jeremy Harrison, M.L.A. Minister of Trade and Export Development Minister of Immigration and Career Training Minister Responsible for Innovation Saskatchewan Minister Responsible for Tourism Saskatchewan Province of Saskatchewan Minister.TED/@gov.sk.ca

Dear Minister Harrison:

I am writing to inform you of Saskatchewan's allocations for the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) for 2023. I am pleased to inform you that this will be the first year that Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has developed a multi-year allocation plan under the PNP, which will provide your jurisdiction with your allocation for 2023 along with two notional allocations for 2024 and 2025. I am confident that this will help improve predictability under the program and ensure that jurisdictions will be able to operationally plan for the coming years. I would, however, note that like the multi-year levels plan, future years are notional and subject to adjustment if circumstances change.

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21(1)(a), 21(1)(b), 14(a)

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	Yours sincerely,	
	The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P.	
	Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship	

Minister of Immigration. Refugees and Citizenship



Ministre de l'Immigration, des Réfugiés et de la Citoyenneté

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et Citoyonnoté Canada

Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

The Honourable Ranj Pillai, M.L.Λ. Minister of Economic Development Minister of Tourism and Culture Minister responsible for Yukon Housing Corporation Minister responsible for Yukon Liquor Corporation Minister responsible for Yukon Lottery Commission Government of Yukon Ranj.Pillai@vukon.ca

Dear Minister Pillai:

I am writing to inform you of Yukon's allocations for the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) for 2023. I am pleased to inform you that this will be the first year that Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has developed a multi-year allocation plan under the PNP, which will provide your jurisdiction with your allocation for 2023 along with two notional allocations for 2024 and 2025. I am confident that this will help improve predictability under the program and ensure that jurisdictions will be able to operationally plan for the coming years. I would, however, note that like the multi-year levels plan, future years are notional and subject to adjustment if circumstances change.

On November 1, 2022, I tabled the 2023-2025 Immigration Levels Plan. This plan was developed in consultation with provinces and territories and builds on the success of the previous multi-year plans by continuing to increase annual permanent resident admissions to Canada, with a target of 465,000 in 2023. The new multi-year levels plan maintains the objectives of the previous plan through targeted growth to support economic recovery and fuel economic and demographic growth, while also working to reunite family members with their loved ones and fulfill Canada's humanitarian commitments.

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Pages 49 to / à 59 are withheld pursuant to sections sont retenues en vertu des articles

21(1)(a), 21(1)(b), 14(a)

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	I appreciate the ongoing collaboration and strong partnership with you on in and refugee issues.	nmigration
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	Yours sincerely,	
	The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P.	
	Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship	

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21(1)(a), 21(1)(b), 14(a)