**Oct 2020 Messaging- Proposed Amendments to Ontario Regulation 422/17 (General) and Ontario Regulation 421/17 (Approvals under the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program and Other Matters) made under the Ont**

Thank you for taking time to speak to us on the Proposed Amendments to the Ontario Regulations under the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program.

I know our industry folks will cover the specifics surrounding related changes.

My role here is convey to you the general views of the hospitality industry. We have around 12,000 members across Ontario made up of foodservice and hotels. Before COVID 19 came upon us workforce was the number one industry issue irrelevant if you were located in urban, suburban or resort seasonal setting.

The need for positions such as cooks were forcing many to freeze investment growth while bringing others in a dire operation state affecting quality and employee morale.

COVID 19 has continued this issue and has made it more critical as more workers do not want hospitality work.

I would highlight that Ontario is not competitive with other provinces where we see international students obtaining their schooling here  leave us and work in another province because its easier to obtain their permanent status.  This is a huge impediment for industry and those many in the industry that invest time and mentorships in the school system to support their success.

I would also recommend the position of Cooks which is a skilled position be designated as a skill position under the PNP classification.