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March 7, 2017

The Honourable Ahmed D. Hussen, MP
Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship
365 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 1L1

Dear Minister Hussen,

Re: Private Members Bill C-255 An Act to amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (appeal process for temporary resident visa applicants)

I am writing this letter in support of Bill C-255 introduced by my colleague Don Davies, MP (Vancouver-Kingsway). As you are aware, this enactment establishes an appeal process for foreign nationals who apply for temporary resident visas under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act. It extends the jurisdiction of the Immigration Appeal Division of the Immigration and Refugee Board for that purpose, by expanding its mandate to include appeals from foreign nationals who have been refused a temporary resident visa or an extension of an authorization to remain in Canada.

Visitor visas are very often rejected, and there is no appeal of that decision. From the numerous times I have helped constituents with this particular issue, I know how difficult this can be to families who are trying to have a friend or loved one come to Canada for a short visit. By providing an appeal process for visitors, this would allow any mistakes or inadvertently undisclosed information to be corrected in a timely manner instead of having to reapply for a new visa in a whole new process.

I would appreciate learning of your intentions, as the Minister of Immigration, Citizenship and Refugees, with respect to Bill C-255.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Alistair MacGregor
Member of Parliament
Cowichan-Malahat-Langford

AM/dh
UFCW232

Cc: Constituents Cc: Don Davies, MP (Vancouver-Kingsway)