

Minister
of Immigration,
Refugees and Citizenship



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

Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

Allison Keown
Executive Director
TESL Ontario
allison.keown@teslontario.org

2025-01347986

Dear Allison Keown:

Thank you for your correspondence of January 29, 2025, concerning funding reductions to Stage 2 Language Training in the settlement sector.

On October 24, 2024, the Department's Immigration Multi-Year Levels Plan was announced, which provides targets for permanent resident admissions for 2025 and notional commitments for 2026 and 2027. As program funding is linked to the number of past arrivals and future admissions, the overall budget for settlement services has also been readjusted downward.

Many difficult decisions had to be made as part of Call for Proposals 2024, despite the number of high quality and innovative submissions received. The demand for funding far exceeded the funds available, with the total requested amount by all 1,495 applications being over \$13 billion. In the language training space, a renewed focus on core settlement and resettlement programming means ensuring clients have basic language skills that allow them to access services, conduct daily activities, and participate in their children's education.

Limited resources have necessitated a decrease of settlement investments in language training at higher levels, such as Stage 2. This decision is national in scope and applies to all regions across the country outside of Quebec. We are aware that demand still exists, but the current circumstances require that we prioritize and reduce the scope of services that the Department is able to fund at this time.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and curves.

The Honourable Marc Miller, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

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