

From: Boresky Brian <Brian.Boresky@post.mcdonalds.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2026 4:14 PM
To: Lilia Hansen <LHansen@fortstjohn.ca>
Subject: Foreign Worker Program



March 24, 2026

Mayor Lilia Hansen
City of Fort St. John
10631 – 100 Street
Fort St. John, BC V1J 3Z5

Dear Mayor Hansen,

I'm writing to you as a local McDonald's franchisee and employer in Fort St. John. Our restaurants employ residents from the surrounding area and play an important role in supporting the local economy, tourism, and community life.

Like many employers in the hospitality and tourism sector, we are facing persistent challenges in recruiting and retaining staff. In smaller, rural, and tourism-driven communities, the available labour pool is limited, seasonal demand is high, and housing and transportation constraints further complicate hiring.

Despite ongoing efforts to hire locally and invest in training and development, these pressures make it increasingly difficult to maintain consistent hours and service levels that our communities and visitors rely on.

As you may be aware the Government of Canada recently announced targeted measures to help rural employers retain and hire more temporary foreign workers starting as early as April 1, 2026. The federal Minister of Jobs and Families, Patty Hajdu, confirmed that provinces and territories can request these flexibilities for employers in their regions.

Major business organizations across Canada have responded positively to the announcement, signaling broad support from the employer community. The Canadian Chamber of Commerce, representing over 400 chambers of commerce and more than 200,000 businesses across the country, welcomed the regional approach. The Canadian Federation of Independent Business has welcomed the announcement, noting that many small businesses are struggling to keep their doors open amid labour shortages.

I ask that you help us reach out to the Minister of Jobs and Economic Growth, Ravi Kahlon, and Premier David Eby to opt into the federal government's new Temporary Foreign Worker program changes.

