



June 16, 2009
Ottawa, Ontario

Mr. Terry Cooke
President Skills/Compétences Canada
Colonel Walker Building - 2nd Floor
1301-16 Avenue NW
Calgary, Alberta T2M 0L4

Dear Mr. Cooke:

This is in response to WorldSkills Canada's request that Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) make a determination on whether participants, experts and translators to the 2009 WorldSkills Competition in Calgary qualify for work permit exemptions under the present regulations.

I am pleased to advise you that a decision has been taken by CIC to recognize WorldSkills participants (approximately 883) experts/judges (approximately 839) and technical translators (approximately 206) as members of a 'team'. The technical translators are an integral part of the team as they support competitors during the competition. Regulation 186(h) of the Temporary Foreign Worker Guidelines will apply:

R186(h) - No permit required
A foreign national may work in Canada without a work permit
As a participant in sports activities or events, in Canada, either as an individual participant or as a member of a foreign-based team or Canadian amateur team;

CIC will make this information available to Canadian Missions in all the countries participating in the WorldSkills Competition in Calgary. Internal notifications will be updated to reflect this information.

Should you need any further clarification and have any further questions on this issue, please contact Lori Buck at 613-952-4078 or lori.buck@cic.gc.ca.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Desautels
Director, Temporary Resident Program Delivery