

FRPA REVIEW OFFICE NEWSLETTER

September 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

FRPA Quarterly Meeting

Date: Tuesday, September 28, 2021
Time: 9:00 – 11:00 AM
Location/Media: Zoom Meeting
Topic: International Labour Mobility

Outside Events:

CNAR 2021

DATE: October 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21
LOCATION: Virtual Event over 6 half days
TOPIC: Canadian specific content, relevant across regulatory professions
LINK: [CNAR 2021 Virtual Event: Early Bird Registration Now OPEN! \(cnar-rcor.ca\)](#)

Building Intercultural Competence

DATE: October 13 or November 16 online or September 23 or October 21 in person
LOCATION: Full day interactive workshop. In person location: Suite 2120 – 6960 Mumford Rd. Halifax
TOPIC: Explore settlement and integration issues and develop intercultural relationship building skills for working with new immigrants
LINK: [Building Intercultural Competence Workshop – Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia \(ISANS\)](#)

Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials

A number of organizations in and outside Canada offer comprehensive resources and/or training opportunities for the professional development of academic credentials assessors.
LINK: [Explore other professional-development resources and training opportunities \(cicic.ca\)](#)

Resources

Visit our website [Fair Registration Practices | novascotia.ca](#)

CFTA and Labour Mobility resources <http://workersmobility.ca/>

Explore resources to support your assessment practices and find opportunities to acquire new skills: [Assessor \(cicic.ca\)](#)

Best Practice Checklist of Website Content for Internationally Trained Individuals <http://flmm-fmmt.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Appendix-A-Best-Practice-Checklist-of-Website-Content.pdf>

Contact Us

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A message from the FRPA Review Officer

It's often said that change is the only constant in life. As many of you are already aware, I will be retiring from the provincial government at the beginning of November. My last day as the FRPA Review Officer will be October 28, 2021. My time as the Review Officer has been a fulfilling experience even though most of it has been during a pandemic. Highlights have been learning about the many regulated professions in Nova Scotia and getting to know and work with representatives of the regulating bodies. During this time, we changed not only the FRPA processes (because it was time), but also the way we work together (because we had to). Despite the changes, the work got done and I will carry many memories with me into the next chapter of my life. Thank you for welcoming me and for your adaptability.

The RPL/LM Unit of the newly formed Department of Labour, Skills & Immigration are actively seeking a new FRPA Review Officer and will announce my replacement when a successful candidate has been found. Until the end of October, continue to contact me with FRPA related inquiries. For regulating bodies currently engaged in a FRPA review, I will continue to be the reviewer and provide you with support until my departure. Please continue to meet all deadlines and submit information as per the agreed upon timelines. It is hoped that a new FRPA Review Officer will be appointed prior to my departure so that work can continue in a seamless fashion.

Work over the summer has continued in the FRPA Review Office with four reviews underway and three more launched. Though FRPA reviews continue, we have interrupted the two-year review cycle while waiting confirmation of the way forward. To be accountable in this interim phase we have been reaching out to regulating bodies with outstanding actions from their previous FRPA review to request an update on progress being made. Many regulating bodies have already received an Action Plan Update template and returned the template reporting on the status of their actions. It is good to see that so much progress is being made. This also gives the Review Officer an opportunity to connect with the regulating body and comment on items that may need further attention in preparation for the next FRPA review.

The next FRPA Quarterly Meeting will focus on understanding international labour mobility and regulator responsibilities with regards to international qualification recognition. Representatives from Labour, Skills and Immigration will join us to discuss some of the barriers that immigrants face, and to provide some information to help regulators have a better understanding of the immigration process.

Though it has been noted in more recent feedback from our stakeholders that there is a desire to return to some face-to-face meetings, this meeting will take place in a virtual meeting format and the link will be forwarded to you next week. If you have not already done so, plan to attend the next FRPA Quarterly Meeting on September 28th.

RPL & IQR Information

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Funding Program helps individuals live up to their full potential by decreasing barriers to employment. By working with stakeholders to develop tools and resources that assess what an individual knows and can do, RPL projects can shorten the path to employment. This work contributes to the full use of human capital and the advancement of Nova Scotia's economy.

The RPL Funding Program supports projects that:

- Enhance and support RPL accessibility, availability, knowledge, awareness, and practice through new RPL projects, tools, programs, and services delivered by eligible organizations
- Support eligible organizations to decrease barriers to skills recognition, streamlining learning pathways, and creating a fast track to employment for eligible adult learners
- Promote diversity, equity and inclusion of all Nova Scotians in learning and employment

For more information, contact the RPL Coordinator, Maggie Hope-Simpson, at Maggie.Hope-Simpson@novascotia.ca

Labour Mobility (LM) & International Qualification Recognition (IQR)

International Qualification Recognition (IQR) Funding Program helps Internationally Trained Individuals (ITIs) gain employment in their chosen field by reducing barriers to international qualification recognition.

By working with stakeholders to develop tools, programs, and resources that assess international qualifications, IQR projects can support pathways to qualification recognition and improve the integration of ITIs into the Nova Scotia labour market.

The IQR Funding Program supports projects that:

- Fund eligible organizations to develop and enhance IQR tools, programs, and resources
- Create awareness of program and share information surrounding support services for IQR
- Support eligible organizations to help ITIs navigate pathways for IQR and improve attachment to the NS labour market in their chosen field
- Promote the diversity, equity, and inclusion of all Nova Scotians in the recognition of international qualifications and labour market attachment

For more information, contact the Labour Mobility Coordinator, Irene Vasa, at Irene.Vasa@novascotia.ca.