

Exploitation of International Students in Peel

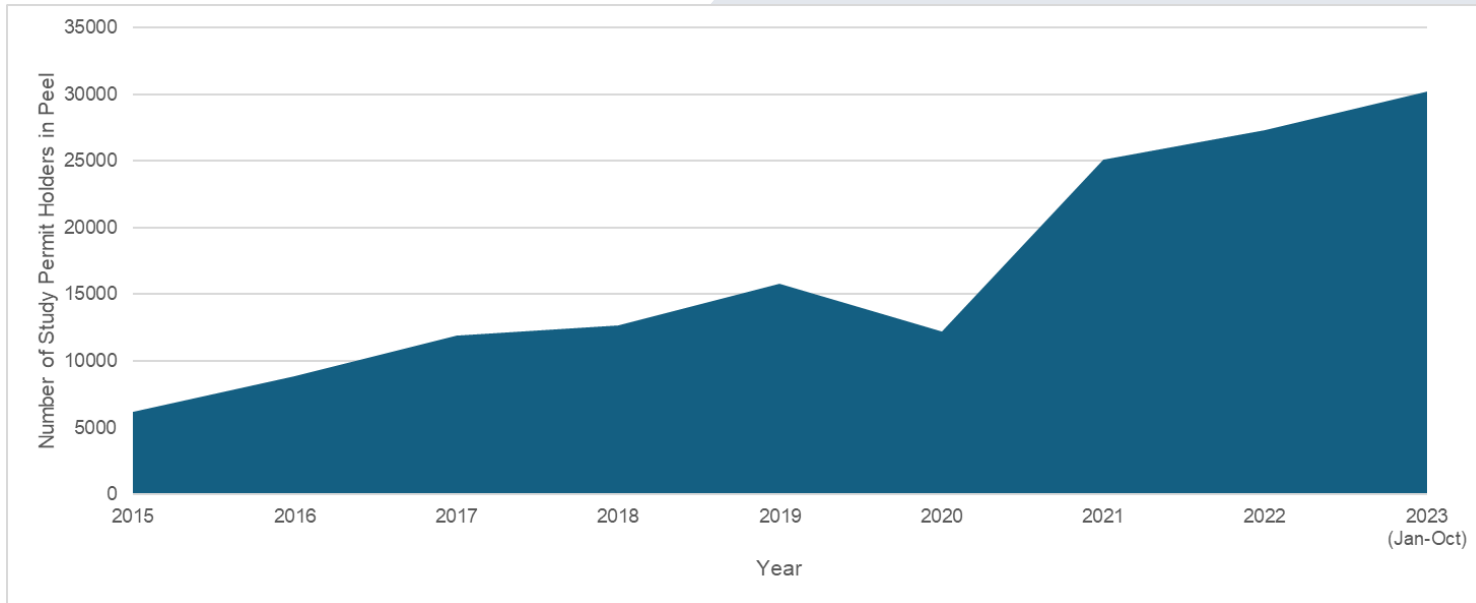
Gurpreet Malhotra

Chief Executive Officer, Indus Community Services



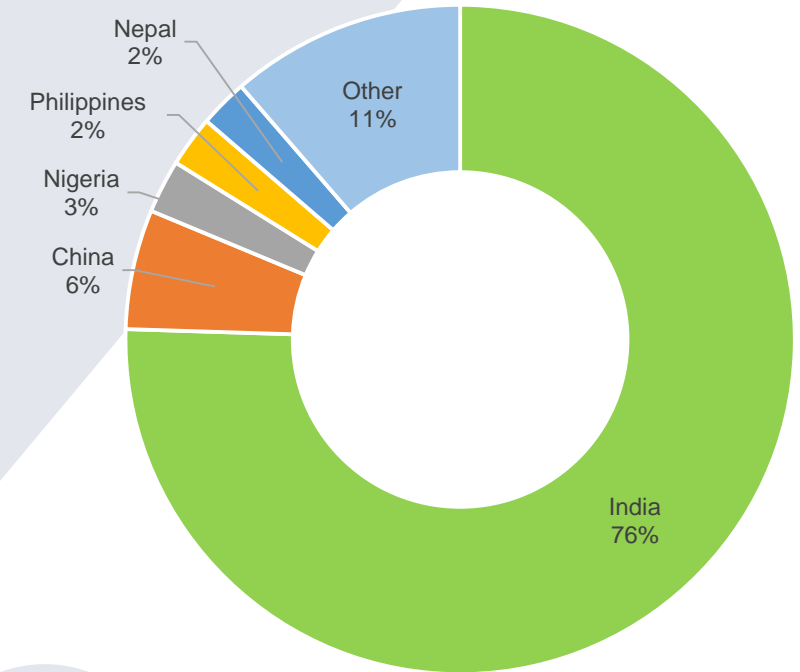
International Students in Peel – Current Trends

Number of Study Permit Holders in Peel from 2015 to October 2023



Source: IRCC Peel Permit Issuance (2015-Oct 2023)

Proportion of Study Permit Holders in Peel, by Country January to October 2023



Source: IRCC Peel Permit Issuance (Jan-Oct 2023)

Please Note: Recent policy changes including the cap on new international student permits, limits on post-graduate work permits, the new verification process for letters of acceptance, increased cost-of-living requirement, and provincial/territorial attestation letter, is likely to significantly impact future trends whose full policy implications remain unknown.



Brampton Charter for Improving the International Student Experience

Guiding Principles:

Appreciate, Respect, Recognize, Acknowledge, Define, Respond

Goals & Actions:

1. Upholding ethical recruitment standards and practices.
2. Creating academic and wrap-around supports for learners.
3. Promoting safe and affordable housing and financial stability
4. Providing opportunities for legal and reliable work
5. Championing well-defined and transparent pathways to citizenship for international students

The International Students Collaborative

ISC
Co-Chairs

Liz Estey Noad, Program Director, Health Equity, Partnerships and Innovation
Jane Ngobia, VP of Inclusive Communities, Sheridan College

 **Peel Region**
Sheridan

Core Membership

Provide strategic oversight and direction, and guide planning for the Collaborative's short-term and long-term actions.

Achev
Algoma University
Brilliant Minds Group
Catholic Family Services Peel Dufferin
CITEM
City of Brampton
City of Mississauga
CMHA Peel-Dufferin
COSTI Immigrant Service
Dixie Bloor Neighbourhood Centre
Food Banks Mississauga
Indus Community Services
Newcomer Centre of Peel
North Peel & Dufferin Community Legal Services
Our Place Peel
Peel Children's Aid Society
Peel District School Board
Peel Newcomer Strategy Group
Peel Region – Health and Human Services
Peel Regional Police
Punjabi Community Health Services
Rotary Club of Brampton
Seva Food Bank
Sheridan College
Soch Mental Health
triOS College Business Technology
Healthcare
World Sikh Organization

Associate Membership*

Provide ad hoc, subject-specific support for planning and implementation through sub-groups and working sessions.

Caledon Community Services
Embrave Agency to End Violence
Family Services of Peel
Laadliyan
Malton Neighbourhood Services
Malton Women's Council
Overcomer Community Development Centre
Peel Multicultural Council
The Journey Neighbourhood Centre

**Associate members will continue to evolve as the work progresses*

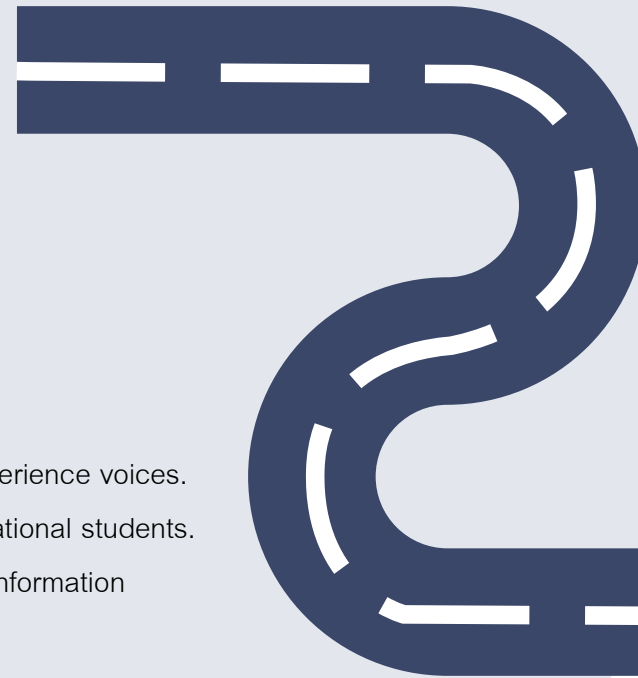
 **Peel's Community Safety**
and **Well-being Plan 2020-2024**

Collaborative Actions



Short-Term Actions

- Developing an approach to integrating lived experience voices.
- Creating a central resource list to support international students.
- Collaboration and co-design of workshops and information sessions.



Long-Term Actions

- Development of a comprehensive action plan and advocacy strategy aligned with the Charter to address complex and systemic challenges impacting international students.



Calls to Action

1. Establish a clear responsibility of post-secondary institutions to provide formal orientation for international students who study in Canada, including increasing awareness of legal, employment, interpersonal violence and housing rights.
2. Provide dedicated funding for a three-year pilot to develop a wrap-around support hub, which is centrally located and culturally-responsive to provide settlement, housing, employment and mental health supports along with human trafficking assessment and referral for international students attending post-secondary institutions.
3. The International Students Collaborative continue their work to better understand the impact of recent policy changes on students by developing a comprehensive Advocacy Strategy in Peel.