

INTERNATIONALLY TRAFFICKED PERSONS: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS



**Roundtable: Building Collaboration
to Combat Human Trafficking in the
City of Toronto**, 28th and 29th
October 2013

FCJ Refugee Centre

VICTIM DEMOGRAPHICS

INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING

○ Sexual exploitation:

- women primarily from Asia and Eastern Europe
- exploited often in brothels and massage parlors.

○ Labour exploitation:

- Foreign workers from Eastern Europe, Asia, Latin America, and Africa;
- Enter Canada legally through one of the immigration programs;
- Ontario, Alberta, and British Columbia main provinces where forced labour occur.



INTERSECTING IDENTITIES INCREASING VULNERABILITY

Internationally trafficked persons often face greater vulnerability compounded by other intersecting aspects of their identities, such as:

Immigration
status

Gender (Identity)

Language Ability

Sexual Identity

Experiences with
violence

Cultural barriers



IMMIGRATION PROGRAMS AS VENUES FOR HT

○ TFWP

- Visa tied to one employer
- No venue for permanent residency
- Remote/rural locations
- TRP is not functional
- No monitoring mechanism to enforce labour standards
- No complaint mechanism

○ Live-in-caregivers

○ International students

○ Volunteer visa



CANADA'S PROTECTION: TRP

- Temporary resident status for 180 days with possibility of renewal
- **Criticism**
 - Must establish they are victims of trafficking
 - Unlikely that a person will be issued subsequent TRPs without their participation in an ongoing criminal investigation.
 - Issued at the discretion of CIC officer
 - No provision to apply for permanent residency
 - Automatic consultation with the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) or the RCMP



