

whether administered by the federal or provincial governments. There may also be opportunities for efficiencies in a standardized system, which could enhance licensure schemes as a revenue source.

Standardized licensing would also satisfy the spirit of section six of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, dealing with mobility rights, which states in part: (2) Every citizen of Canada and every person who has the status of a permanent resident of Canada has the right: (a) to move to and take up residence in any province; and (b) to pursue the gaining of a livelihood in any province. While the federal government, provinces and territories created the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) in 1995, the Council of Federation agreed to work on a plan to fully implement the AIT in 2004, and the First Ministers agreed to amendments in 2009, progress has been sporadic on the labour mobility front for skilled professions. The most progress made on the labour mobility front is with the skilled trades through the red seal program. This initiative has brought standardize regulations and requirements for skilled trades throughout the country. The red seal program may be used as a model for professions to attempt further standardization of credentials to increase mobility, reduce red tape and make Canada a more attractive location for potential immigrants.

Recommendation

That the federal government work with the provinces and territories to fully implement and enforce the provisions and spirit of chapter seven of the *Agreement on Internal Trade* through:

1. Prioritization of professions whose standardized licensure and accreditation would most benefit the Canadian economy in the context of closing the skills gap.
2. Consultation and coordination of discussions between provinces and territories to standardize licensing requirements.