

INFO-25-75

Town of Whitby
575 Rossland Road East,
Whitby, ON L1N 2M8
905.430.4300
whitby.ca



March 27, 2025

Via Email:

The Honourable Rachel Bendayan
Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
Rachel.Bendayan@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Nolan Quinn
Minster of Colleges and Universities
Minister.MCU@ontario.ca

Re: Impacts of International Student Program Changes to Local Post Secondary Programs

Please be advised that at its meeting held on March 24, 2025, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 60-25:

Whereas the Town of Whitby recognizes the significant contributions of Durham College to our local economy and community through its diverse range of programs and skilled graduates; and,

Whereas the recent changes to the International Student Program (ISP) by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) have negatively impacted post-secondary institutions in Ontario, including Durham College, by reducing international student study permits and limiting eligibility for Post Graduation Work Permits (PGWP) to programs in fields of study identified as having national labour market shortages, irrespective of local labour market needs; and,

Whereas the Blue Ribbon Panel report commissioned by the provincial government highlighted the need for long-term, sustainable funding for the postsecondary sector, noting that Ontario's colleges are funded at 44% of the national average, with tuition revenue first cut by 10% in 2019 and then frozen for the past six years; and,

Whereas the financial sustainability challenges faced by Ontario's post-secondary institutions have been exacerbated by significant wage and cost inflation, as well as the growing reliance on international enrolment; and,

Whereas Durham College has compiled a short list 34 programs not currently PGWP eligible to the IRCC list of fields of study (Attachment #1) which provide skilled graduates who are vital to growing our local economy, and in some cases,

the College relies on international student enrolment in these programs to create financially viable cohorts for domestic students;

Now Therefore be it Resolved:

1. That Whitby Council calls on the federal government to add the 34 programs listed in Attachment #1 and offered at Durham College to the IRCC list of fields of study;
2. That Whitby Council calls on the provincial government to enact the recommendation in the Blue Ribbon Panel report to provide long term, sustainable funding for the post-secondary sector; and,
3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable Rachel Bendayan, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, the Honourable Nolan Quinn, Minister of Colleges and Universities; Durham Region MPPs; and all Durham Region municipalities.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 905-430-4300.



Kevin Narraway
Sr. Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk
clerk@whitby.ca

Encl: List of Durham College Programs for Addition to the IRCC List of Fields Study

Copy: C. Harris, Town Clerk

L. Coe, MPP, Whitby - lorne.coe@pc.ola.org
J. French, MPP, Oshawa - jfrench-co@ndp.on.ca
The Honourable P. Bethlenfalvy, MPP, Pickering-Uxbridge -
peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org
The Honourable T. J. McCarthy, MPP, Durham - todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org
R. Cerjanec, MPP, Ajax - rcerjanec.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org
L. Scott, MPP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock - laurie.scott@pc.ola.org
J. Grossi, Municipal Clerk, Town of Ajax - clerks@ajax.ca
F. Lamanna, Clerk/Deputy CAO, Township of Brock -
fernando.lamanna@brock.ca
J. Gallagher, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of Clarington - clerks@clarington.net
M. Mederios, City Clerk, City of Oshawa - clerks@oshawa.ca
S. Cassel, City Clerk, City of Pickering - clerks@pickering.ca

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B. Labelle, Director of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk – blabelle@scugog.ca
D. Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge – dleroux@uxbridge.ca

Of the 86 programs/CIPs MCU requested IRCC to consider, **34 are offered by DC.**

Major Code	Program Name	Credential	CIP
OFHS	Office Administration - Health Services	Ontario College Diploma	51.0705
DAII	Dental Assisting (levels I And II)	Ontario College Certificate	51.0601
DENT	Dental Hygiene	Ontario College Advanced Diploma	51.0602
DOFA	Dental Office Administration	Ontario College Certificate	51.0705
CMGT	Culinary Management	Ontario College Diploma	12.0504
CSK	Culinary Skills	Ontario College Certificate	12.0503
EVPN	Event Planning	Ontario College Diploma	52.0907
HROM	Hospitality - Hotel and Resort Operations	Ontario College Diploma	52.0901
HSKL	Hospitality Skills	Ontario College Certificate	52.0901
TDMK	Tourism - Destination Marketing	Ontario College Diploma	52.0903
IDCR	Interior Decorating	Ontario College Diploma	19.0605
ARHY	Architectural Technology	Ontario College Advanced Diploma	04.0901
BMTY	Biomedical Engineering Technology	Ontario College Advanced Diploma	15.0401
CETC	Civil Engineering Technician	Ontario College Diploma	15.0201
CETY	Civil Engineering Technology	Ontario College Advanced Diploma	15.0201
CHEM	Chemical Engineering Technology	Ontario College Advanced Diploma	15.0615
CLBT	Chemical Laboratory Technician	Ontario College Diploma	41.0301
ELTC	Electronics Engineering Technician	Ontario College Diploma	15.0303
ELTY	Electronics Engineering Technology	Ontario College Advanced Diploma	15.0303
EMTY	Electromechanical Engineering Technology	Ontario College Advanced Diploma	15.0403
ENVT	Environmental Technology	Ontario College Advanced Diploma	15.0507
EVTN	Environmental Technician	Ontario College Diploma	15.0507
HBCM	Honours Bachelor of Construction Management	Baccalaureate Degree	52.2001
HCTM	Honours Bachelor of Health Care Technology Management	Baccalaureate Degree	51.0701
METC	Mechanical Engineering Technician	Ontario College Diploma	15.0805
METY	Mechanical Engineering Technology	Ontario College Advanced Diploma	15.0805
NDE	Mechanical Engineering Technician (non Destructive Evaluation)	Ontario College Diploma	15.0805
CYCA	Child and Youth Care	Ontario College Advanced Diploma	44.0702
FPTY	Fire Prevention and Technology	Ontario College Advanced Diploma	43.0201
CORC	Construction and Hoisting Techniques	Ontario College Certificate	49.0206
EDVT	Electric Drive Vehicle Technician	Ontario College Diploma	47.0614
EETN	Electrical Engineering Technician	Ontario College Diploma	15.0303
MPTN	Motive Power Technician - Service And Management	Ontario College Diploma	47.0604
PETN	Power Engineering Techniques - Fourth Class	Ontario College Certificate	15.1702