

## CIC Extends Alberta Pilot Project For Spouses and Common-Law Partners of Long-Haul Truck Drivers

by Henry J. Chang

Originally published in *Blaneys on Immigration Law* (August 2010) - [Read the entire newsletter](#)



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On June 28, 2010, CIC released Operational Bulletin 146, which extended the Alberta Pilot Project for Spouses and Common-Law Partners of Long-Haul Truck Drivers until July 30, 2012. This pilot program is extended from August 17th, 2010 to July 30, 2012 inclusive; these dates refer only to the period in which qualifying work permits can be issued, not to the duration of the work permits. The pilot program will apply only to qualifying foreign nationals destined to work in the Province of Alberta.

Applicants for the open work permit must meet all of the following criteria to be eligible:

- (a) They must be the spouse or common-law partner of the principal applicant; and
- (b) The principal applicant must hold a work permit authorizing them to work in Alberta as a truck driver (NOC 7411), for which he/she possesses a letter of offer confirming their employment as a long-haul truck driver.

The LMO exemption code is T13 in conjunction with R204(c). The duration of the work permit issued to the spouse/common-law partner cannot exceed the expiry date of the work permit of the principal applicant. ■