

**Ministry of Citizenship
and Immigration**

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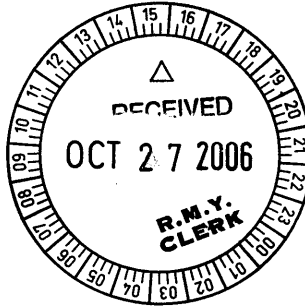
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October 25, 2006

Denis Kelly
Regional Clerk
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket ON L3Y 6Z1



**REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE**

FILE No. *103*

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Thank you for your letter outlining the Council of the Regional Municipality of York's resolution of September 21, 2006, providing support for Bill 124.

As you know, I introduced Bill 124, the Fair Access to Regulated Professions Act, on June 8, 2006, and Second Reading debate began on Oct 3, 2006. This is the first legislation of its kind in Canada, that if passed will ensure that professionals trained overseas are treated fairly when they apply to enter their fields in Ontario. For example, they would have the right to receive complete information about the application process, and an opportunity to request a review or appeal of decisions. Regulatory bodies would also review their respective licensing requirements to make sure that these conditions are necessary for registration and applicant assessment.

Health regulatory bodies in Ontario, including the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, are governed under the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 (RHPA). Bill 124 would amend the RHPA to incorporate those elements of the Fair Access to Regulated Professions Act, 2006 that are not already included in the RHPA.

These new elements would ensure that regulated professions and persons in Ontario seeking entry to them are governed by registration practices that are transparent, objective, impartial and fair.

I thank the Regional Council and the people of the Regional Municipality of York for its support for internationally trained individuals. It is concerned individuals like you who assist our government in identifying and developing effective solutions.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike Colle".

Mike Colle
Minister