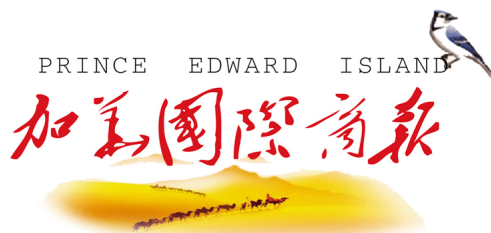


# Canada & China International Business




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The term ‘newcomer’ in the broadest sense is used to represent anyone who is new to a particular country. This includes people applying for permanent residence, international students, and those motivated to migrate due to employment prospects. One group of newcomers recently receiving more attention in the Canadian media are temporary foreign workers (TFWs). PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada (PEI ANC) currently has a Settlement Worker—Bobby Cameron—assisting TFWs and international students.

Prince Edward Island is Canada’s smallest province and has a population of 145,000. It has seen a huge increase in immigration over the past 10 years. Among those coming to the province are temporary foreign workers. According to Citizenship and Immigration Canada there were 805 TFWs who came to Prince Edward Island in 2012. In particular the agricultural and seafood industries have sought to hire TFWs to fill labour shortages. Although all newcomers share common experiences, temporary foreign workers encounter unique challenges on Prince Edward Island due to their particular immigration statuses—this was noted in a series of public forums held across PEI in the fall of 2013.

## Public Forums on Temporary Foreign Workers on PEI

Throughout November and December of 2013 Bobby Cameron of the PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada (PEI ANC) and Josie Baker of the Cooper Institute held three public forums to discuss TFWs on PEI. Approximately 70 people participated in these forums where great ideas and discussions between community members occurred.

The communities of Alberton, O’Leary, and Summerside brought together individuals from government, the not-for-profit sector, religious organizations, business people, and TFWs to discuss issues, challenges, and best practices in regards to temporary foreign workers on PEI. These forums were designed to give community members information and perspective on the realities of Temporary Foreign Worker Programs, an understanding of the TFWs’ experience, and an introduction to the services available from the PEI ANC for both workers and employers.

Attendees brought forward these thoughts on workers and their experience in rural PEI communities:

- TFWs are good for the local (often rural) economy as many of them shop and spend their money locally

- having TFWs in the community is appreciated given the diversity they add to rural society
- both community members and TFWs are interested in seeing workers become permanent residents of the community.
- many TFWs need assistance in seeking out services and completing applications of various types
- communities could ensure that local grocery stores are informed about TFWs in their area and the types of cultural foods they would buy if the products were available locally
- workplaces and TFWs would benefit from TFWs having access to language training

Although temporary foreign workers may come from what Canadians would consider “urban centres” in their home countries, they are skilled in rural work and appreciate the chance to have employment in rural Canada. However, the routine of simply working and going home with no access to social activities creates loneliness, isolation, and boredom. TFWs and community members alike suggested ways in which workers could have a smoother transition and therefore better adapt. While community members were eager to help temporary foreign workers adapt to life on Prince Edward Island, they were generally unaware of ways in which they could support and contribute to the betterment of workers’ experiences. Many commented that:

- they recognized and appreciated that TFWs wanted to integrate more into their community and travel in the province to fully experience Island culture
- they would like to see more cultural events and inclusion happen in their community
- they were pleased to make direct contact with PEI ANC settlement staff and understand the services available across PEI
- there is a disconnect between members of the community and TFWs—many locals are not aware of what life is like for TFWs on PEI, but they are eager to connect with workers to learn more about their experience and to assist in some way

Through these forums PEI ANC settlement services were introduced to rural communities that may not have been aware of them. These services assist TFWs, employers, and the community with short and long-term settlement needs of TFWs (if applicable or available) such as:

- PEI ANC’s comprehensive online [Guide for Newcomers to Prince Edward Island, Canada](#) available in eight languages including Spanish
- assistance for employers and TFWs in extending work permits and applying for labour market opinions (LMOs)
- applying for provincial health cards
- assistance with employment and tax processes such as the GST/HST Credit and Employment Insurance (EI)
- liaison services for TFWs, their landlords, and employers
- connections to, and creation of, social and multicultural events on PEI
- assistance with permanent residency applications
- general guidance and support, and liaison with other agencies and government services

These Public Forums brought TFWs, employers, and community members together to participate in solutions-oriented discussions around topics that can impact jurisdictions across PEI in positive ways. This fost

ered a growing sense of community among two typically divided groups, and has begun to pave the way for future collaborations, projects, and initiatives with regards to temporary foreign workers.

For more information on PEI ANC services for TFWs and international students, please contact:  
PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada- [www.peienc.com](http://www.peienc.com)  
Settlement Worker, Bobby Thomas Cameron- [bobby@peianc.com](mailto:bobby@peianc.com)

This article was gleaned from public consultations organized by Cooper Institute-[www.cooperinstitute.ca](http://www.cooperinstitute.ca)-  
Coordinator, Josie Baker-[baker.josie@gmail.com](mailto:baker.josie@gmail.com), and Bobby Cameron at PEI ANC.

爱德华王子岛的临时外国雇工

“newcomer”特指那些初到一个国家的新人，包括永久居民申请人，国际学生和有移民意愿的就业者。最近，有一个类型的新人得到了加拿大媒体的高度重视，他们就是临时外国雇工

(TFWs)。PEI ANC目前有一位安置职员鲍比·卡梅隆 (Bobby Cameron)，专门帮助临时外国雇工和国际学生。

爱德华王子岛是加拿大最小的小省份，拥有145,000人口。在过去的十年中，人口数量由于移民政策带来增长，其中就包括了临时外国雇工。根据加拿大移民局的统计，2012年有805名临时外国雇工来到 PEI 工作。尤其是农业和渔业，通过雇佣临时外国雇工填补了劳动力的不足。尽管所有新人都有着共同的经历，可是由于其特殊的移民状态，临时外国雇工在爱德华王子岛面临独特的挑战。这一问题在2013年秋季举行的跨 PEI 公众论坛得以重视。

PEI ANC 临时外国雇工公众论坛

2013年11月和12月，PEI ANC 安置职员鲍比·卡梅隆(Bobby Cameron) 和库帕学院的乔西·贝克(Josie Baker)，组织了3场关于爱德华王子岛临时外国雇工的公众论坛。约有70人参与了这些论坛，社区成员们进行了积极而有意义的讨论。

艾伯顿郡，奥利里郡以及萨默塞德市的政府部门，非盈利机构，宗教组织，商人和新人们相聚一堂共同探讨临时外国雇工在爱德华王子岛所面临的问题和挑战，以及最实际的解决方式。论坛的目的在于：第一，向社区提供信息；第二，令临时外国雇工项目变得清晰透明；第三，了解临时外国雇工的经历；第四，将 PEI ANC 的相关服务向雇主及雇工推广。与会者提出了对海外雇工的想法以及他们在 PEI 乡村社区的体验：

- 临时外国雇工有利于本地 (大多为乡村) 的经济，因为他们中的大部分人会在本地消费
- 临时外国雇工的存在为乡村社区注入了多元文化元素
- 社区成员和临时外国雇工同样期望外国雇工成为社区永久居民
- 许多临时外国雇工在寻找服务和填写申请表的时候需要帮助
- 在条件允许的情况下，超市会根据当地临时外国雇工的居住情况提供民族食品
- 工作场所和 临时外国雇工都将从多语言环境中受益

尽管临时外国雇工多来自被加拿大人认为是“乡下”的小地方，但是他们具有在加拿大乡村工作的技能并对获得工作机会心怀感激。遗憾的是，单一的工作，远离社交圈令他们产生无聊和孤独感，与世隔离。临时外国雇工和社区成员提出各种建议以便他们顺利过渡，尽快适应。在社区成员都渴望帮助临时外国雇工适应爱岛生活的同时，他们通常不知道使用何种方法。以下是一些建议：

- 他们认识到临时外国雇工希望通过旅行来了解爱岛文化，以便更加融入社会
- 他们期待在自己的社区里出现更多的文化交流活动
- 他们很乐意同 PEI ANC 的安置服务职员直接接触，了解岛上的各种服务
- 社区和临时外国雇工之间存在断层 — 很多本地人无法体会外国临时雇工在PEI的生活，尽管他们很迫切地想要了解并帮助这些人

通过这些论坛，PEI ANC 的安置服务已经被广泛推介到乡村社区。这些服务包括：通过长期或者短期的服务帮助外国临时雇工，雇主和社区：

**PEI ANC** 的全方位在线服务 加拿大爱德华王子岛新移民手册 ， 已经被翻译成包括西班牙语在内的**8**种语言

- 协助雇主及外国临时雇工获取工作签证， 申请劳动市场评估 (**LMOs**)
- 申请本省健康卡
- 协助就业和税务流程， 如 **GST/HST** 退税， 就业保险 (**EI**)
- 代表临时外国雇工同雇主及房东交涉
- 连接、建立、社交和多元文化活动
- 协助申请永久居民权
- 常规性指导， 支持， 推介其他机构和政府服务

公众论坛将外国临时雇工， 雇主和社区成员紧密联系在一起， 以积极的方式提出有影响力的建议。 这为未来的合作， 开展新项目及外国临时雇工的能动性铺平了道路。

寻求更多关于 **PEI ANC** 为外国雇工和国际学生提供的服务项目， 请联络：

爱德华王子岛加拿大新移民协会 (**PEI ANC**) - [www.peianc.com](http://www.peianc.com)

安置服务职员鲍比·托马斯·卡梅隆 (**Bobby Thomas Cameron**) - [bobby@peianc.com](mailto:bobby@peianc.com)

这篇文章由库珀学院公众咨询采集-[www.cooperinstitute.ca](http://www.cooperinstitute.ca)-协调员乔西·贝克

(**Josie Baker**) -[baker.josie@gmail.com](mailto:baker.josie@gmail.com)， **PEI ANC** 职员鲍比·卡梅隆。

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