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Hotels Canada Report Highlights Workforce Stability Concerns Across Hotel Industry

New national survey finds workforce pressures are increasingly tied to the loss of international workers and labour shortages in rural and resort regions

(May 21, 2026) OTTAWA, ON – Hotels Canada has released its Spring 2026 Workforce Report, highlighting ongoing workforce shortages and growing concerns about long-term labour access across Canada’s hotel industry.

Based on responses from hotel operators nationwide, the report finds workforce pressures are increasingly shifting toward workforce stability, particularly as hotels lose experienced international workers due to expiring permits and changing immigration pathways.

Key findings include:

- 72% report difficulty attracting local workers
- 58% of hoteliers anticipate workforce shortages over the next 12 months
- 46% of hotels lost Temporary Foreign Workers (TFWs) due to expiring permits in early 2026
- 57% expect the federal government’s 2026–2028 Immigration Levels Plan to negatively impact their business

Rural and resort hotels continue to report the highest workforce pressures.

“Hotels across Canada continue to create opportunities for domestic workers from a wide range of backgrounds, including youth, Indigenous workers, and seniors,” said Beth McMahon, President & CEO of Hotels Canada. “At the same time, many employers are reporting growing concerns about workforce stability and long-term access to international talent, particularly in rural and resort communities.”

The report highlights the important role international workers continue to play in hotel operations, particularly in housekeeping and front desk roles, while identifying growing operational impacts tied to expiring permits and reduced workforce access.

Among resort hotels:

- 70% reported workforce shortages
- 80% expect to lose TFWs due to expiring permits
- 70% cited affordable housing shortages as a workforce challenge



Hotels Canada says the findings reinforce the need for workforce and immigration policies that better reflect the operational realities facing hotels across Canada.

The full Spring 2026 Workforce Report is available at hotelscanada.ca.

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About Hotels Canada

Hotels Canada is the national voice of the Canadian hotel sector, representing more than 8,300 hotels and 320,000 employees operating in every province and territory. The organization advocates for policies that support a competitive and sustainable hotel industry, provides research and insights to strengthen business performance, and works to advance Canada’s visitor economy. Originally founded in 1913, Hotels Canada continues to champion the interests of hotel operators, workers, and the communities they serve.

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