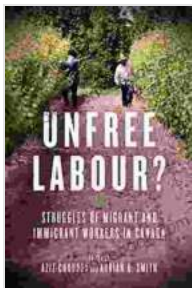


# The Plight of Migrant and Immigrant Workers in Canada

Migrant and immigrant workers play a vital role in the Canadian economy, filling labour shortages in a variety of industries, including agriculture, construction, and healthcare. However, these workers often face significant challenges and vulnerabilities, including low wages, exploitation, and discrimination.



## Unfree Labour?: Struggles of Migrant and Immigrant Workers in Canada by James L. Perry

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1721 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 225 pages



## Low Wages and Economic Exploitation

Migrant and immigrant workers are often paid less than their Canadian-born counterparts, even for the same work. This is due in part to the fact that they may not have the same bargaining power as Canadian workers, and they may be more willing to accept low wages in order to secure employment.

In addition, migrant workers are often forced to pay high fees to recruiters and labour brokers, which can further reduce their earnings. These fees can range from a few hundred dollars to several thousand dollars, and they can be a significant burden for workers who are already struggling financially.

## **Exploitation and Abuse**

Migrant and immigrant workers are also at risk of being exploited and abused by their employers. This can include being forced to work long hours without overtime pay, being subjected to unsafe working conditions, and being denied basic necessities such as food and shelter.

In some cases, migrant workers may be subjected to physical or sexual abuse. This is especially true for workers who are undocumented, as they may be afraid to report abuse to the authorities.

## **Discrimination and Racism**

Migrant and immigrant workers also face discrimination and racism on a regular basis. This can include being denied access to housing, healthcare, and other services; being subjected to verbal and physical harassment; and being treated as second-class citizens.

Discrimination and racism can have a significant impact on the mental and physical health of migrant and immigrant workers. It can also make it difficult for them to integrate into Canadian society and succeed in their new home.

## **What Can Be Done?**

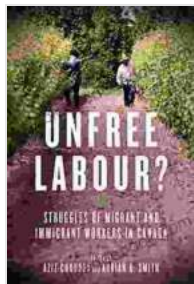
There are a number of things that can be done to address the challenges faced by migrant and immigrant workers in Canada. These include:

- **Increasing wages and working conditions:** The Canadian government should take steps to ensure that migrant and immigrant workers are paid a fair wage and that they have access to safe and healthy working conditions.
- **Regulating recruiters and labour brokers:** The government should also regulate recruiters and labour brokers to ensure that they are not exploiting migrant workers.
- **Providing access to healthcare and other services:** Migrant and immigrant workers should have access to healthcare, housing, and other essential services, regardless of their immigration status.
- **Combating discrimination:** The government should take steps to combat discrimination against migrant and immigrant workers, both in the workplace and in society as a whole.
- **Supporting migrant worker organizations:** The government should support the efforts of migrant worker organizations to organize and advocate for their rights.

By taking these steps, we can help to ensure that migrant and immigrant workers are treated with dignity and respect, and that they have the opportunity to succeed in Canada.

Migrant and immigrant workers are essential to the Canadian economy, but they often face significant challenges and vulnerabilities. These challenges include low wages, exploitation, and discrimination. By taking steps to address these challenges, we can help to ensure that migrant and

immigrant workers are treated with dignity and respect, and that they have the opportunity to succeed in Canada.



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