

## IMPROVING THE PROGRAM

There is clear evidence that, as with many new programs, design and operational problems partially obscured and impaired both the benefits and potential of the Program.

Changes to the Program are essential to accomplish the following purposes:

1. To maintain Canada's position as the pre-eminent jurisdiction for investment-related immigration programs.
2. To ensure proper treatment of prospective immigrant investors, including demonstration of normal business courtesy, cultural sensitivity, timeliness in response to inquiries, respect, recognition and appreciation of economic contribution.
3.
  - a) To enhance enforcement and compliance with federal and provincial investment guidelines as well as the spirit and letter of the Act and Regulations; and
  - b) to minimize opportunities for the misappropriation or misapplication of immigrant investor funds.
4. To ensure that investments are utilized to create or expand business ventures or to create employment, wealth or an expanded tax base and not utilized to reduce risk through artificial schemes.
5. To ensure each permitted investment provides an economic benefit to the host province.
6. To enhance the ability of small and medium-sized businesses to access financing sources under the Program.
7. To ensure the tier levels of immigrant investor investment direct an appropriate proportion of investments to each province.
8. Subject to 7 above, to ensure that all provinces have a fair chance to attract Immigrant Investor Program investment by the creation of national minimum standards regarding the type and manner of investments.
9. To provide for:
  - a) the timely issuance of immigrant investor visas (six months); and
  - b) the efficient and timely approval of immigrant investor offering memoranda.