Petition to the Government of Canada

Whereas:

- When Canadian students work and study abroad, they bring back skills and connections that benefit everyone;
- Business leaders recognize that a globally skilled workforce acts as a social and economic equalizer, promoting economic growth, inclusion, boosting productivity, and strengthening the middle class, including Canada's capacity to trade, negotiate and attract investors;
- Research shows that students who work and/or study abroad excel academically and achieve superior employment outcomes and salaries. Underrepresented students benefit the most;
- Global Skills Opportunity (GSO) was Canada's first and only national, federally funded, outbound student mobility program available to post-secondary students. Of the close to 13,000 Canadian student participants, 73% identify as either an Indigenous student, a student with a disability, or a student with low income;
- Participants in a program like GSO are better prepared to transition to the workforce. They gain confidence and develop skills such as problem solving, intercultural communication, adaptability, and critical thinking, that employers cite as being critical for success in the modern workplace;
- In today's globalized world and multi-cultural Canada, investing in essential global skills for the next generation is no longer optional.

We, the undersigned citizens and residents of Canada, call upon the Government of Canada to:

- Return to equipping Canadian students with the essential global skills required to thrive in a rapidly changing labour market by bringing back the Global Skills Opportunity program.

Signature (Sign your own name. Do not print.)	**Address** (Just city and province, OR postal code)

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Guidelines

1. Must have at least 25 original signatures with valid addresses (we recommend 30+ to be safe);
2. Must contain original signatures written directly on the document and not pasted, taped, photocopied or otherwise transferred to it;
3. Must have at least 3 valid signatures and addresses on the first page after the full text of the petition (again, more is better if they can be fit);
4. Must include the prayer line (the request) of the petition on each subsequent page;
5. The text must not be altered or have any text added on any of the pages;
6. Each petitioner must sign, not print, their name directly on the petition;
7. Should contain signatures of residents of Canada only;
8. There is no minimum age requirement for anyone signing a petition;
9. If a petitioner cannot sign because of illness or a disability, this must be noted on the petition and the note signed by a witness. Aside from this exception, you can only sign for yourself;
10. No photocopies, scans, e-mails etc. as petitions are only admissible in hardcopy; and,
11. Petitions can be either double-sided or have a blank back page.

Please return all original signed petitions, postage free, to:

Elizabeth May, M.P.
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A6