

***Agenda Item 4(e)(ii)  
July 26/22 EOC Meeting***

**From:** Travel Health Insurance Association <info@thiaonline.com>  
**Sent:** July-04-22 5:10 AM  
**Subject:** THIA to Launch Task Force on Changes to Super Visa Program

On May 18, the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration invited the Travel Health Insurance Association of Canada to appear before the Committee, as part of a panel in view of its study of *Bill C-242 - An Act to amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. However, due to short notice, THIA was unable to appear before the Committee.

Nevertheless, your Board of Directors has decided to create a Task Force that will solicit input from our members (Insurers, Distributors and other interested stakeholders) to prepare a submission expressing our concerns and point of view.

As many of you know, on June 7, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) announced enhancements to the Super Visa Parent and Grandparent Program. The enhancements can be summarized as follows:

- maximum possible length of stay increased to 5 years, plus people with a Super Visa already in Canada can request to extend their stay by up to 2 more years. This means a possible stay of up to 7 consecutive years.
- at some future date, IRCC will be posting an approved list of designated medical insurance companies located outside of Canada whose insurance they will accept with a Super Visa application. We assume foreign insurers will need to be vetted by IRCC for quality of coverage and suitable coverage limits before they will make the approved list.

Those of you who attended our AGM on June 15th, 2022 will know that this issue was raised by one of our long-time members during the Q&A session. These changes are significant to THIA members who are active in the Visitor to Canada space.

The first point above presents a growth opportunity, but the plan to accept foreign insurers threatens what has developed into a significant market in Canada since the launch of the Super Visa in late 2011.

Accordingly, a new THIA Task Force has been established to pre-emptively review some of the foreign products available in the countries from which the majority of Super Visa visitors originate. The objective will be to critique these products relative to what is available in Canada and to highlight what Canadian Emergency Medical insurance providers can offer to a visitor to Canada that a non-domestic insurer might not be able to provide in the shorter term (if ever). A submission will be made to IRCC, hopefully before they complete their vetting process and issue their approved list of foreign insurers.

Jeff Pudwell, the previous chair of the Visitor to Canada Committee, has agreed to head this task force.

**\*\*CALL FOR TASK FORCE MEMBERS \*\***

THIA Members who wish to participate in the task force are asked to email [Jeff@21stcenturytravelins.com](mailto:Jeff@21stcenturytravelins.com), [president@thiaonline.com](mailto:president@thiaonline.com) and [vicepresident@thialone.com](mailto:vicepresident@thialone.com) by no later than July 18, 2022. Work will commence on July 25th and members will be expected to bring sample non-domestic policies to the table for review. In addition to underwriting companies and selling agents/distributors with an interest in this Task Force, members from assistance companies are needed to assist with the description of networking advantages and strengths THIA members in Canada can offer to visitors to Canada.

We will target September 1st, 2022 for our submission to IRCC on behalf of THIA.

On behalf of THIA, I want to thank you for your support on this very important issue.

Michael Camacho  
THIA President

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**From:** Travel Health Insurance Association <info@thiaonline.com>  
**Sent:** July-19-22 12:10 PM  
**To:** Brendan Wycks <brendan.wycks@cafii.com>  
**Subject:** Bill C-242 Task Force Launches Today

On July 4th, 2022, THIA announced the creation of a Task Force to review Bill C-242 - An Act to Amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act in order to submit a brief to the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration. Jeff Pudwell, the previous chair of THIA's Visitors to Canada Committee, agreed to head this Task Force.

The first meeting takes place today, July 19, 2022, and it is hoped that the brief will be completed before Labour Day.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the following THIA members who have agreed to participate on the Task Force. As you see, it represents a good cross-section of our Association.

Member Name	Member Organization
Jeff Pudwell, Task Force Chair	21st Century Travel Insurance Ltd.
Annelaure Masson	TuGo
Ryan Beaulieu	Travel Guardian / AwayCare
Markus Mueller	The Destination: Travel Group Inc.
Nancy Mitchell	Starr Insurance Companies
Iqbal Siddiqi	Reliance Innovative Marketing Inc.

Isaac Sananes  
Cassandra Timms  
Jeff Jachymek  
Elliott Draga, Vice President, THIA  
Jennifer Waver  
Marie Blair  
Johnson Fu  
Jennifer Savage  
Umesh Manani  
Léa Dufresne  
Martin Plante  
Pierre-Olivier Cyr  
Michael Camacho, President, THIA  
Teresa Quattromini

Reliance Innovative Marketing Inc.  
Old Republic Canada  
Old Republic Canada  
NIS  
Manulife Financial  
Manulife Financial  
JF Insurance Agency Group Inc.  
Group Medical Services  
Global Excel Management / Active Care Management  
Desjardins Assurances  
Desjardins Assurances  
Desjardins Assurances  
CSI Brokers Inc.  
Allianz Global Assistance

Sincerely,

Michael Camacho, THIA President