

**NOTICE OF EXCEPTION TO LABOUR MOBILITY  
TO MEET A LEGITIMATE OBJECTIVE UNDER CHAPTER 7 OF  
THE AGREEMENT ON INTERNAL TRADE**

**APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

**Occupation:**

Social Workers

**Province(s)/Territory(ies) whose workers are affected:**

Alberta and Saskatchewan

**Under which legitimate objective(s) is the exception being filed:**

Protection of human health and consumer protection

**Rationale/Justification:**

The minimum academic standard, of a Bachelor of Social Work degree, for social work certification in Newfoundland and Labrador is consistent with the standard established by most provinces and territories. The minimum academic standard for individuals certified in Alberta and Saskatchewan is graduation from a two year diploma or certificate program.

Although there is overlap in the curricula of diploma/certificate social work programs and a Bachelor of Social Work degree, four significant differences between the programs have been identified: intensity, breadth, theory and research.

There are material differences in the scope of practice of social workers in Newfoundland and Labrador and those in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Graduation from an accredited social work degree program (*i.e.*, a four-year university program) provides assurance that the graduate has the necessary skills, knowledge and abilities required to undertake the Newfoundland and Labrador scope of practice.

**Additional Requirement(s):**

Individually assess the academic qualifications of applicants certified in Alberta and Saskatchewan to determine if they have the knowledge and skills equivalent to the Newfoundland and Labrador certification for a social worker

**Duration of the additional requirement(s):**

Indefinite

**Date:**

10/09/08  
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