



KAY ADEBOGUN

—A viable alternative—

2009 Election Platform

*Character is what a man is in
the dark*

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your support in nominating me as a candidate for this election. I am **Kay Adebogun**, an immigration consultant from Western Canada.

I have worked in various capacities in the immigration industry for the past **17 years**. As a member of CSIC from its inception, I am strongly committed to regulation of the industry. We have fought hard to get to this point as Canadian Immigration Consultants, and we must ensure the success of the industry in this nation.

In addition to being a member of CSIC, I am the **current president of CAPIC** (Canadian Association of Professional Immigration Consultants) – Prairie chapter, an active member of the **Regina Chamber of Commerce**, and a member of the **Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership (STEP)**. As a result of my education and commitment to financial transparency, I have earned the prestigious designation of **Fellow of Canadian Securities Institute (FCSI)**. I am an accredited **Financial Management Advisor (FMA)** and hold **two Canadian Masters degrees**. I have presented several seminars locally and abroad on the Canadian immigration system. I have delivered a public presentation to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration (see <http://www2.parl.gc.ca/HousePublications/Publication.aspx?DocId=3382346&Language=E&Mode=1&Parl=39&Ses=2#Int-2392834>). I have also signed countless petitions to both CSIC and the government; the media has even attested to my support for true regulation (see <http://visalawcanada.blogspot.com/2008/06/consultant-body-under-fire.html> and http://embassymag.ca/page/view/.2008.june.18.immigration_consulting).

I also have experience as a financial planner, counselor, an administrator, manager, and socio-cultural consultant.

Why I do I want to be elected as CSIC director?

I believe members should have the right to **free speech**. Opposition is healthy and must not be silenced. The true test of a leader is how he/she handles opposition. A bad leader will not see anything good in criticism and in fact will try to quench all criticism and opposition. Whereas a good leader listens, graciously accept opposing views and act on them as necessary. I will listen and graciously accept opposing views. My goal is to identify immediately the boundary between Board of Directors confidentiality and the right of members to information. **I have served as a director** of other organizations (e.g. CAPIC, AAR, NCCA) and understand clearly this important boundary.

I will vehemently oppose any ideas or policies that attempt to silence members' voices. I plan to oppose the requirement that prevents candidates from running for the CSIC B.O.D. because of unfounded allegations if not already dealt with in court. **I will NOT be silenced** by anyone and I believe I have the boldness to stand up to any pressure or undue negative influence.

There must be an end to any politically motivated complaint. I will work towards opposing any undue influence of the board on the C & D process. I commit to blowing the whistle on any such interference that comes to light.

I am committed to members' regular updates (to be called "Kay and the Electorate") except on issues that are considered highly confidential. I will always remember I am first and foremost a consultant before a director of CSIC.

I will push to redirect CSIC to true regulation and consumer protection and allow other organizations (like CAPIC & CBA) to look after education of consultants. I have supported and will continue to support the recommendation of the standing committee.

I believe in and will work towards Accountability, Commitment, Transparency, and Service (ACTS) to members and the public. I am not in this race for myself or my pocket; I am in it for your service and that of the public.

I envision CSIC as an organization that is committed to:

a) **Financial Transparency** – Members need to know and understand clearly the operations of the organization and its board. **Publishing the minutes of the board meetings, consistency in communication, and publishing details of expenses** are some of the ways the CSIC B.O.D. can demonstrate commitment to transparency. Directors' compensation must be based on accepted recommendation and approved by members at the AGM.

b) **Consultation** – There are several members who have experience in different areas of the industry. It is important to **treat every consultant as an equal partner** and the board must accept input from its members. The current system where members' input has been ignored is not acceptable. Our system of government needs to be that in which **members are free to express their opinion** without fear or intimidation. Constructive and positive criticism must be encouraged. Members must be treated with respect and courtesy. Members' ideas must be welcomed. Members must be called in for their input. Members must be given the free choice of walking into CSIC offices any time should they choose to do so.

Other issues that need to be addressed include:

- a) **Directors' Compensation** should be decided by members and there is need to set a cap on the salary.
- b) **In-person AGM** with option for members to participate electronically. How best can we discuss and resolve some of the issues facing our society without in-person AGM? As a first step in achieving and making the CSIC B.O.D. realize how important an in-person AGM is to members, I encourage you to send a letter to the current B.O.D. asking them to abandon the idea of online AGM only.
- c) It is important to encourage **continuous professional development** (CPD). I believe the role of the regulator is to provide guidelines for CPD and allow members to acquire the required points without making the regulator the organizer of a mandatory session. Several regulators in Canada have similar systems.
- d) **Progress report on discipline** and the efforts of the society in tackling the challenge of phantom consultants must be provided to members regularly. As of now, members are kept in the dark on this important issue.
- e) **New members and mentorship:** I think new members should be given a discounted fee for their first year because of the investments they must make before certification and the challenges of business set up. They and other interested members should also be provided with a mentorship program to support their professional development
- (f) **Phantom Consultants:** This is a great menace in our industry today. CSIC must lobby local and foreign government to clamp down on ghost consultants. It is time the scope of representation is properly defined to include first contact with client and not just submission to CIC or CBSA. We must support the report of the House of Commons standing committee to eliminate ghost consultants and reform the immigration industry in this country and abroad.

If elected, I commit myself to working tirelessly towards these viable and achievable goals in partnership with my other board members.

I am asking for your **support** and your **vote**.

I am available to answer your questions and I am also willing to listen to your suggestions. **Contact me today 1-877-359-8224 or visit my website @**

www.cultureconnectint.com/election2009 where you can read my ideas and also contact me with your question.

Polls will open 12:01AM September 23 – and Close 11:59PM September 25, 2009.

Make your vote count. I encourage you to participate in this historic event towards achieving a more democratic Society which works better for the public and is accountable to its members.

In your service,

Olukayode (Kay) Adebogun CCIC, FCSI, FMA, MA, Mdiv

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