The **Immigration Promotion and Employer Outreach** unit was recently created within the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development to help address critical labour shortages in priority areas such as health, and skilled trades, and to support economic immigration outside of the GTA. While promotion and outreach are key activities, the team is also positioned to directly assist Ontario employers by:

- promoting immigration programs that offer talent solutions
- providing one-on-one services to help employers navigate the complex federal and provincial immigration systems, including opportunities available through the <u>Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program (OINP)</u>, to fill labour shortages and specialized talent needs.
- Employers and companies can enhance their workforce planning strategy by leveraging Ontario's immigration programs.

The IPEO team is also one of the designated referral partners for the Global Skills Strategy. As a GSS <u>referral partner for the dedicated service channel</u>, the team can help eligible companies access benefits of the Global Skills Strategy by providing referrals to the Dedicated Service Channel and Global Talent Stream. Expedited work permit processing may be available to help innovative companies access specialized foreign talent needed to scale up and grow through the Global Talent Stream.