



# ~ IMMINEWS ~

Your source for Immigration  
 News Updates  
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## THIS ISSUE:

### Immigrants Keep Canada's Population Growth Alive

Immigration  
 News  
 Updates

Canada's immigration rates are at record levels. 400,000 Canadians were born between 2001 and 2006 but 1.2 million immigrants settled here in the same number of years. The 2006 census data placed Canada's population at 31.6 million. The data shows that population rates have increased by 5.4% which was the highest among the G8 nations. Immigration is the main reason for Canada's healthy growth.

How to Get a  
 Citizenship  
 Card

"We're heading towards a point where immigration will be the only source of growth in Canada" said Laurent Martel, a Stats Canada analyst. That point will not be reached until another decade when the peak of the baby-boomers will begin to fade away. At that point, the birth rate in Canada will be negative because more people will be dying than being born. Analysts project that immigration will keep the country's population growth at a positive level.

New Brazilian  
 Consulate in  
 Vancouver

Many reports in the media have quoted members of political parties to make public comments about immigrants. For example, a candidate for the ADQ in the Quebec provincial election was dumped by his party for telling a local newspaper that native Quebecers need to "boost their birth rate, otherwise the ethnics will swamp us." Despite these media bloopers, the government of Canada is taking steps to ensure that the immigration population slowly integrates itself into the professional job placements that Canada will require a few years down the road. CIC is investing millions of dollars into the foreign credential recognition program that has been initiated throughout the country.

Consular  
 Updates

Statistic of the  
 Month

Some reports claim that business class immigration levels are beginning to droop in Canada. This could be a side-effect of the shaky economy; however the government must look into this particular matter to make sure that Canada's future is well set.

Letter to the editor:  
[info@immigroup.com](mailto:info@immigroup.com)

## NEXT ISSUE

### Religion Discussion at the Refugee Board

Immigration  
 News Updates

After hearing some of the cases that are heard by the Canada Immigration and Refugee board, one wonders what exactly goes on in there.

How to get a US  
 visa

A 32 year old Chinese woman had applied for refugee status in Canada under the grounds she would be persecuted in China for being baptized in an underground church in China. At her hearing, she was tested by the board adjudicator about her Christianity. According to transcripts of the hearing, the person testing the refugee claimant had little knowledge of Christianity herself. The claimant recited parables, the apostles' names, and the 10 commandments. According to the adjudicator, the claimant missed a commandment – "Thou shalt not lie" (this is not a commandment)

Consular  
 Updates

Statistics of the  
 Month

The board doubted the claimant's Christianity and rejected her application. However, in a federal court ruling, that decision was overturned and a new hearing was ordered.

## HOW TO APPLY FOR CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP

In order to apply for Canadian citizenship, you must show that you have physically been in Canada for 1095 days. The following article will detail on how to apply for citizenship and the process that follows once you submit your application.

### 1. Completing the application:

- Complete the application form.
- Have your photographs taken.
- Make photocopies of your supporting documents: PR Card, Record of Landing, and 2 government IDs.
- Pay your \$200 fee online or through a financial institution.

### 2. Where to mail your application:

When you have finished your application, you must place your form, payment, photos, and supporting documents in an envelope and send it to:

Case Processing Centre -Sydney-Grand Adults  
P.O Box 7000  
Sydney, NS, B1P 6V6

### 3. What happens afterwards?

After you submit your application, you will be receiving a notice from Citizenship and Immigration Canada that your application has been received. You should receive this notice 4-6 weeks after CIC has received your application.

About two months after this first notice, you will receive another notice to attend a citizenship test. The test must be taken by everyone between the ages of 18 and 54.

Persons under 18 and over 54 do not have to write the exam but must be present at the exam room.

If you pass the exam, you will be notified to attend the Oath of Citizenship. At the Oath, you will receive your Canadian citizenship card and you can apply for a Canadian passport afterward.

## FAQs

### 1. Can the process be expedited?

No. The process cannot be expedited.

### 2. What if I don't pass the exam?

You will be called to attend a hearing with a citizenship judge where you can explain why you didn't pass.

### 3. Can I hold dual nationality?

Canadian law allows you to hold other nationalities in addition to your Canadian citizenship. However certain countries will require that you give up your citizenship if you acquire another nationality.

## STATISTICS OF THE MONTH

**19.8%** - percentage of the Canadian population who were born outside of Canada

**114,917** – population increase by number of people, not including immigrants

**90%** - population demographic that is concentrated along the southern border of the country

**251,649** – number of new immigrants that came to Canada in 2006

**10** – number of times Canada has been declared best country to live in

## CONSULATE CORNER

### New Brazil Consulate Office in Vancouver

A new consulate office for Brazil is under construction in Vancouver, B.C. The new consulate will have jurisdiction over the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories.

The consulate general, Fernando Jacques de Magalhaes Pimenta is operating out of the Hyatt Hotel at 655 Burrard Street, in Vancouver B.C.

Issuance of documents such as passports, visas, legalizations and other documents are still being handled by the consulate in Toronto.

The consulate general in Vancouver will be completely operational in the beginning months of 2008.

If you would like to contact the new office, please call:  
(604) 683-1234 ext. 655

### Consular Updates

**US consulate** – US visa fee is now \$131 USD  
[www.amcits.com](http://www.amcits.com)

**Kenyan High Commission** – will no longer accept packages sent by Purolator  
[www.kenyahighcommission.ca](http://www.kenyahighcommission.ca)

**Ukraine Consulate** – new open-to-the-public hours  
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri  
9:30-12:30  
Wed – 2:30 – 4:30  
[www.ukrconsulate.com](http://www.ukrconsulate.com)

### No Documents at the US border? NO Entry!

The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) is a U.S. law that requires all travelers, including Canadians, to carry a passport or other secure documentation when traveling to the United States.

Beginning from January 31, 2008, Canadian citizens entering the United States by land or sea will need to present a government-issued photo ID, such as a driver's licence and a birth certificate or a citizenship card. They could also present a valid Canadian passport, a NEXUS or a Free and Secure Trade (FAST) card, an enhanced driver's licence, an Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) card, or a birth certificate only, for children under 18.

Since January 23, 2007, the WHTI requires Canadian citizens entering the United States by air to present A valid Canadian passport; or A NEXUS card when used at a NEXUS kiosk .This requirement applies to all Canadian citizens, regardless of age, including children. Canadians should obtain the appropriate required documentation before leaving Canada, keep this documentation up to date and carry it with them when traveling.

The Government of Canada continues to recommend that Canadians carry a valid Canadian passport when visiting all destinations abroad, including the United States. A passport is the only universally accepted identification document, and it proves that you have a right to return to Canada. Canadians are not required to have Machine Readable Passports to enter the U.S., even if the passport was issued abroad. Canada is not a participant in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program.

Canadians who are permanent residents of the United States, must comply with special entry requirements. For more information, see the U.S. Department of State Web site.

Source: U.S. Homeland Security