



~ IMMINEWS ~

Your source for Immigration News Updates

1180 Danforth Ave. Toronto ON, M4J 1M3
www.immigroup.com
416 962 2623

INSIDE

How to get a PR card

Interesting
Statistics

Consulate Corner

Consulate Updates

Debate of the
Month: Refugee
Law in Canada

Embassy/consulate
directory

Letters to the editor
moderator@immigroup.com

NEXT ISSUE

Immigration
news updates

How to apply
for citizenship

Interesting
Statistics

Consulate
Corner

Consulate
Updates

Embassy/consu
late directory

New Immigration Class Introduced

A new way of immigrating to Canada has been announced. As of 2008, people will be allowed to file for immigration under the Canadian Experience Class. This stream of permanent residency will mostly be available to certain temporary foreign workers and international students with Canadian degrees and work experience. The Canadian Experience Class is intended to help address Canada's labor shortage. Canada's current international student pool has the potential to add up to 30,000 skilled immigrants every year. The thousands of Temporary Foreign Workers currently in Canada are also great immigration candidates, having already settled into Canadian society. Under this new category of immigration, persons in these two groups can apply for permanent residency from within Canada.

Details are expected early in the new year. Citizenship and Immigration Canada's goal for 2008 is to admit between 10,000 and 12,000 new immigrants under the new Canadian Experience category of immigration.

Get Your Foreign Credentials Recognized

Canadian provinces are increasing efforts to integrate new immigrants into the professional workforce. Alberta, British Columbia, and Ontario have increased funding for provincial foreign credential recognition services in order to promote the placement of foreign trained immigrants in the Canadian workforce.

Under the current Canadian immigration requirements for education and work experience, recent groups of immigrants are more skilled than previous generations.

As they arrive in Canada in search of employment, government policy for regulated occupations requires that many of these newcomers first have their education and work credentials tested and recognized. Provincial governments are scrambling to help newcomers become accredited so that they can fill the work force shortages around the country and so that their skills can contribute to economic growth. British Columbia has announced \$500,000 for foreign credential recognition within the past month. Ontario has introduced in-person services across the province and Alberta announced \$740,000 to support the Immigrant Access Fund (IAF) program.

"These people coming over have done all their homework, but they need help with the range of registrations, certification and education to work here," said Iris Evans, the Immigration Minister of Alberta.

Now, 75 Service Canada centers in Ontario will be giving in-person foreign credential information and referral services to newcomers. Canadian Immigration Minister Diane Finley also announced that by early next year, Foreign Credential Referral Office (FCRO) services will be available all across the country with 320 Service Canada centers.

Immigration Minister Finley stated that "Helping immigrants get their credentials assessed and recognized more quickly will go a long way towards getting them working in their chosen field, help their chances for success and help us build a stronger Canada."

1. Obtain a PR Card kit. You can get one online or by calling Citizenship and Immigration Canada at 1-888-242-2100. Once you receive the kit, you must:

- Complete all five pages of the PR application
- Get your PR Card photos taken. Take the PR Card photo specifications sheet to a local photographer.
- Take your PR Card application and photos to your Guarantor to have them signed. A guarantor can be your family doctor or lawyer in Canada but make sure you have known him or her for at least two years. If you do not have someone who qualifies as a guarantor, you must go to a Notary Public to fill out the "Declaration in Lieu of a Guarantor".

2. You need to sign the Supplementary Identification [IMM 5455]. This form cannot be downloaded. To obtain this, contact Citizenship and Immigration Canada by phone or online and order it. This will take around 2 weeks.

3. Before you mail your application, you must pay the \$50 application fee. You can pay online at the Citizenship and Immigration website with a credit card. Just log on to their website and click on the "Pay a Processing Fee" button. If you do not have a credit card then call CIC and order a PR kit, in it will be a bank slip that you can take in a bank and pay in cash. This document cannot be downloaded.

4. Make photocopies of the documents you will have to include to your application.

- I.D. pages of your valid passport
- Landing document
- Front and back of your driver's license and/or health card.

If you don't have any one of these documents, you must get them replaced before applying for your PR Card.

5. Before mailing your application, make sure you include:

- Completed PR Card application
- Signed Supplementary Identification form
- PR photos signed and dated by your guarantor
- Copies of your Passport, driver's license and landing document.

6. There are two ways to mail your application:

By regular mail (Canada Post):
 PR Card Processing Centre
 P.O. 10020
 Sydney, Nova Scotia
 B1P 7C1.

By courier (FedEx or Purolator):
 PR Card Processing Centre
 210 George St
 Sydney, Nova Scotia
 B1P 1J3

You will receive your PR Card in approximately two months. If your application is incomplete, the Government officer will send back your application. If you are traveling include your flight booking in the package as this may help you to speed up your PR card processing.

Resource information

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/prcard.asp>

Call CIC to send you a PR package:
 1-888-242-2100

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Can I use my PR card to go to the United States?

No. The PR Card is not a travel document! The PR card is not a replacement for a passport or visa. The PR card is used when coming back from a trip to let the immigration officer know that you have not lost your status as an immigrant. If you are going to the US you will need your Jamaican Passport, PR card and a US visa.

Can my family member pick up my PR on my behalf?

No. You must pick up your PR Card. If you just became a permanent resident of Canada, your card will be .

I lost my PR card. What do I do?

You should contact local police and CIC to report this. To get a new PR Card, you will need to start from the beginning and order a kit.

STATISTICS

Net Migration rates

| Rank | Countries | Amount (top to bottom) | Date |
|-------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| #1 | United States: | 5,800,000 | 2005 ... |
| #2 | Afghanistan: | 2,140,234 | 2005 ... |
| #3 | Spain: | 2,025,000 | 2005 ... |
| #4 | Germany: | 1,100,000 | 2005 ... |
| #5 | Canada: | 1,049,530 | 2005 ... |
| #6 | United Arab Emirates: | 960,000 | 2005 ... |
| #7 | United Kingdom: | 686,400 | 2005 ... |
| #8 | Italy: | 600,000 | 2005 ... |
| #9 | Australia: | 500,000 | 2005 ... |
| #10 | Sierra Leone: | 438,215 | 2005 ... |
| | | | |
| #175 | Sudan: | -519,123 | 2005 ... |
| #176 | Kazakhstan: | -600,000 | 2005 ... |
| #177 | Ukraine: | -700,000 | 2005 ... |
| #178 | Philippines: | -900,000 | 2005 ... |
| #179 | Indonesia: | -1,000,000 | 2005 ... |
| #180 | Iran: | -1,378,713 | 2005 ... |
| #181 | India: | -1,400,000 | 2005 ... |
| #182 | Pakistan: | -1,810,000 | 2005 ... |
| #183 | China: | -1,950,000 | 2005 ... |
| #184 | Mexico: | -2,000,000 | 2005 ... |
| | Total: | 71,068 | |
| | Weighted average: | 386.2 | |

DEFINITION: Net migration is the net total of migrants during the period, that is, the total number of immigrants less the annual number of emigrants, including both citizens and noncitizens. Data are five-year estimates.

SOURCE: [World Development Indicators database](#)

Consulate Corner

Every month, *Imminews* will feature a country and its links in Canada. From interviews with various consulates to valuable travel updates, this section will provide you with insight into the role of various consulates within Canada. Consulate Corner will profile a different country for every issue. Keep up-to-date with the fun facts and new programs that the consulates provide.

You can also read up on immigration news at www.immigroup.com

Consulate Updates

United Kingdom: UK High commission has outsourced its visa application. Applicants must apply through call centre after completing application. Further Info at:

www.britainincanada.com

India: Indian consulates will no longer accept cash for visa application services.

Further info at:

www.cgitoronto.ca

China: Chinese consulates introduced new forms for visa applications. Old forms are no longer accepted for visa applications. Further Info at:

www.toronto.china-consulate.org

The Federal Court Has Ruled the US Unsafe For Refugee Claimants

Using several recent cases as examples, the Canadian federal court has said that the United States is not a safe country for refugees. The court also claims that the Safe Third Country Agreement between the two countries violates Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Canada and the U.S. entered into the Safe Third Country Agreement (STCA) in 2004, saying that asylum-seekers would get the same standard of refugee protection in both countries. Refugees who have first landed in the US are denied the right to seek refugee protection in Canada later. The STCA allows the two countries to share the responsibility for refugee protection and has reduced the number of refugee claimants coming from the United States into Canada.

The Canadian Council for Refugees is challenging the Safe Third Country Agreement on grounds that refugee claimants are not given the same treatment in the United States as they are in Canada. For example, Canada will not deport failed refugee claimants back to Haiti, among other countries where they may be tortured, but the United States will. Mr. Justice Mike Phelan, the federal court judge who heard the allegation, ruled that the United States "does not meet the Refugee Convention requirement nor the [UN] Convention Against Torture prohibition," and that, in entering the STCA, Canada "acted unreasonably" in concluding that it did.

Additionally, STCA unfairly discriminates against method of arrival. It allows Canadian Border Service Agents to automatically send refugee claimants back to the US if they are arriving by land; however, those who arrive by air are not turned back.

Amnesty International, among other groups, called on the federal government to scrap the STCA after Judge Phelan ruled that it violates the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. "We have a judgment that in clear, stark, detailed ways highlights the multiplicity of human-rights violations and shortcomings in the refugee system that await asylum claimants who are turned away from the Canadian border and forced into the US," stated Alex Neve, secretary-general of Amnesty International.

Source: CIC News

IMMINEWS DIRECTORY

| OTTAWA EMBASSY | TORONTO CONSULATE |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Afghanistan: (613) 563-4223 | (416) 385-1033 |
| Albania: (613) 236-4114 | (416) 236-1879 |
| Algeria: (613) 789-8505 | |
| Angola: (613) 234-1152 | |
| Argentina: (613) 236-2351 | (416) 955-9075 |
| Armenia: (613) 234-3710 | |
| Australia: (613) 236-0841 | (416) 323-1155 |
| Austria: (613) 789-1444 | (416) 967-3348 |
| Azerbaijan: (613) 288-0497 | |
| Bahamas: (613) 232-1724 | (416) 233-6776 |
| Bangladesh: (613) 236-0138 | |
| Barbados: (613) 236-9517 | (416) 214-9805 |
| Belarus: (613) 233-9994 | |
| Belgium: (613) 236-7267 | (416) 944-1422 |
| Benin: (613) 233-4429 | |
| Bolivia: (613) 236-5730 | |
| Bosnia: (613) 236-0028 | |
| Brazil: (613) 237-1090 | (416) 922-2503 |
| Bulgaria: (613) 789-3215 | (416) 696-2420 |
| Burkina Faso: (613) 238-4796 | (416) 867-8669 |
| Burundi: (613) 789-0414 | (416) 947-0455 |
| Cameroon: (613) 236-1522 | |
| Chile: (613) 235-4402 | (416) 924-0106 |
| China: (613) 789-3434 | (416) 964-7260 |
| Colombia: (613) 230-3760 | (416) 977-0098 |
| Congo: (613) 230-6391 | (416) 315-1549 |
| Costa Rica: (613) 562-2855 | (416) 865-3382 |
| Côte d'Ivoire: (613) 236-9919 | (416) 366-8490 |
| Croatia: (613) 562-7820 | |
| Cuba: (613) 563-0141 | (416) 234-8181 |
| Czech: (613) 562-3875 | |
| Denmark: (613) 562-1811 | (416) 962-5661 |
| Dom. Republic: (613) 569-9893 | (416) 369-0403 |
| Ecuador: (613) 563-8206 | (416) 968-2077 |
| Egypt: (613) 234-4931 | |
| El Salvador: (613) 238-2939 | (416) 975-0812 |
| Eritrea: (613) 234-3989 | |
| Estonia: (613) 789-4222 | (416) 461-0764 |
| Ethiopia: (613) 235-6637 | |
| European Union: (613) 238-6464 | |
| Finland: (613) 288-2233 | (416) 964-0066 |
| France: (613) 789-1795 | (416) 847-1900 |
| Gabon: (613) 232-5301 | |
| Germany: (613) 232-1101 | (416) 925-2813 |
| Ghana: (613) 236-0871 | (416) 848-1015 |
| Greece: (613) 238-6271 | (416) 515-0132 |
| Guatemala: (613) 233-7237 | (416) 994-3060 |
| Guinea: (613) 789-8444 | (416) 769-8262 |
| Guyana: (613) 235-7249 | (416) 494-6040 |
| Haiti: (613) 238-1628 | (416) 538-3282 |
| Holy See: (613) 746-4914 | |
| Honduras: (613) 233-8900 | |
| Hungary: (613) 230-2717 | (416) 923-8981 |
| Iceland: (613) 482-1944 | (416) 979-6740 |
| India: (613) 744-3751 | (416) 960-4668 |
| Indonesia: (613) 724-1100 | (416) 360-4020 |
| Iran: (613) 235-4726 | |
| Iraq: (613) 236-9177 | |
| Ireland: (613) 233-6281 | (416) 366-9300 |
| Israel: (613) 567-6450 | (416) 640-8500 |
| Italy: (613) 232-2401 | (416) 977-1566 |
| Jamaica: (613) 233-9311 | (416) 598-3008 |
| Japan: (613) 241-8541 | (416) 363-7038 |
| Jordan: (613) 238-8090 | |
| Kenya: (613) 563-1773 | |
| Korea: (613) 244-5010 | (416) 920-3809 |
| Kuwait: (613) 780-9999 | |
| Latvia: (613) 238-6014 | (416) 932-8725 |
| Lebanon: (613) 236-5825 | (416) 530-2121 |
| Lesotho: (613) 234-0770 | |
| Libya: (613) 230-0919 | |
| Lithuania: (613) 567-5458 | (416) 538-2992 |
| Macedonia: (613) 234-3882 | (416) 322-2196 |
| Madagascar: (613) 567-0505 | |
| Malaysia: (613) 241-5182 | (416) 504-6111 |
| Mali: (613) 232-1501 | (416) 489-4849 |

| OTTAWA EMBASSY | TORONTO CONSULATE |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Mexico: (613) 233-8988 | (416) 368-2875 |
| Mongolia: (613) 569-3830 | (416) 643-6924 |
| Morocco: (613) 236-7391 | |
| Myanmar: (613) 232-9990 | |
| Netherlands: (613) 237-5031 | (416) 598-2520 |
| Niger: (613) 232-4291 | |
| Nigeria: (613) 236-0521 | |
| Norway: (613) 238-6571 | (416) 920-5287 |
| Caribbean States: (613) 236-8952 | |
| Pakistan: (613) 238-7881 | |
| Panama: (613) 236-7177 | |
| Paraguay: (613) 567-1283 | |
| Peru: (613) 238-1777 | (416) 963-9696 |
| Philippines: (613) 233-1121 | (416) 922-7181 |
| Poland: (613) 789-0468 | (416) 252-5471 |
| Portugal: (613) 729-0883 | (416) 217-0966 |
| Romania: (613) 789-3709 | (416) 585-5802 |
| Russia: (613) 235-4341 | (416) 962-9911 |
| Rwanda: (613) 569-5420 | |
| Saudi Arabia: (613) 237-4100 | |
| Senegal: (613) 238-6392 | (416) 944-1531 |
| Serbia: (613) 233-6289 | (416) 487-5776 |
| Slovak: (613) 749-4442 | (416) 862-1270 |
| Slovenia: (613) 565-5781 | (416) 201-8307 |
| South Africa: (613) 744-0330 | (416) 944-8825 |
| Spain: (613) 747-2252 | (416) 977-1661 |
| Sri Lanka: (613) 233-8449 | (416) 323-9133 |
| Sudan: (613) 235-4000 | |
| Sweden: (613) 244-8200 | (416) 963-8768 |
| Switzerland: (613) 235-1837 | (416) 593-5371 |
| Syria: (613) 569-5556 | (905) 564-0955 |
| Tanzania: (613) 232-1500 | |
| Thailand: (613) 722-4444 | (416) 367-6750 |
| Togo: (613) 238-5916 | (416) 488-5323 |
| Trinidad Tobago: (613) 232-2418 | (416) 495-9442 |
| Tunisia: (613) 237-0330 | |
| Turkey: (613) 789-4044 | |
| Uganda: (613) 789-7797 | |
| Ukraine: (613) 230-8015 | (416) 763-3114 |
| UAE: (613) 565-7272 | |
| United Kingdom: (613) 237-1530 | (416) 593-1290 |
| U.S.A.: (613) 238-5335 | (416) 595-1700 |
| Uruguay: (613) 234-2727 | (416) 730-1289 |
| Venezuela: (613) 235-5151 | (416) 960-6070 |
| Vietnam: (613) 236-0772 | |
| Yemen: (613) 729-6627 | |
| Zambia: (613) 232-4400 | |
| Zimbabwe: (613) 237-4388 | |

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Immigrating to Canada
Citizenship and Immigration Canada
 1-888-242-2100
www.cic.gc.ca

Canadian Passport
Passport Canada:
 1 800 567-6868 www.passport.gc.ca

Filing Taxes
Canada Revenue Agency:
 1-800-387-1193
www.cra.gc.ca

Refugee Claims
Immigrant and Refugee Board
 416-954-1000
www.irb-cisr.gc.ca

Ontario Driver's License
Ministry of Transportation:
 1-800-268-4686
www.mto.gov.on.ca

Ontario Health Card
Ministry of Health:
 1-800-268-1153
www.health.gov.on.ca

Ontario Birth Certificates
Ministry of Government and Consumer Services:
 416-326-1234
www.mcgs.gov.on.ca

Social Insurance Number
Service Canada
 1 800 206-7218
www.servicecanada.gc.ca

Travel Warnings
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 1800-267-6788
www.voyage.gc.ca

US Visa Appointments
NVARS
 1-900-451-2778
www.nvars.com

Free Legal Assistance
Legal Aid Ontario
 1-800-668-8258
www.legalaid.on.ca

City Services
City of Toronto
 416-338-0338
www.toronto.ca