

GENESIS NEWS

Latest Canada Immigration News



Canada Bolsters Border Security and Immigration Integrity with Comprehensive Plan

Ottawa, ON – Canada is reaffirming its commitment to fortifying border security and upholding immigration integrity through a series of robust measures and significant investments. The announcement, made by the Ministers of Public Safety and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, outlines an

extensive strategy designed to enhance national security and streamline immigration processes. At the heart of these efforts is Canada's Border Plan, unveiled in December 2024, which allocates a substantial \$1.3 billion towards bolstering resources. This investment will be directed

towards acquiring advanced technology, deploying sophisticated surveillance equipment, and increasing personnel to strengthen Canada's borders. Key initiatives are being implemented by various federal agencies, including Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC),

Public Safety, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). These measures are strategically designed to: Minimize unnecessary border volumes. Enhance information sharing among agencies. Reduce the entry of non-

genuine visitors. Combat illegal border crossings. Early results indicate the positive impact of these initiatives. The government has reported a notable decrease in asylum claims originating from illegal crossings and a significant drop in claims from Mexican nationals. Additionally, incidents of "flagpoling"—the practice of briefly leaving Canada to re-enter and obtain immigration services—have also seen a reduction. Looking ahead, the plan includes the deployment of enhanced real-time surveillance systems, an increase in drones and surveillance towers along the border, and greater allocation of resources to law enforcement agencies. These efforts aim to effectively manage potential surges in asylum seekers, disrupt organized crime networks, and combat the illicit trafficking of fentanyl. Canada continues to prioritize a secure and orderly border while upholding the integrity of its immigration system.



Canada Introduces New Citizenship by Descent Legislation to Reflect Modern Families

Ottawa, Ontario – The Government of Canada has introduced new legislation aimed at expanding access to Canadian citizenship for individuals born abroad, addressing the limitations of the previous first-generation limit to citizenship by descent. The proposed changes seek to better reflect the realities of modern Canadian families and values. The Honourable Lena Metlege Diab, Minister of

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, unveiled Bill C-3, An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025), which outlines two significant modifications to existing citizenship laws. Firstly, Bill C-3 proposes to automatically grant Canadian citizenship to individuals who would have been citizens today, had it not been for the previous first-generation limit or other outdated provisions in earlier

citizenship legislation. This move aims to rectify historical oversights and ensure that those who were unintentionally excluded can now claim their rightful place as Canadian citizens. Secondly, the legislation establishes a new framework for citizenship by descent, allowing for the transmission of citizenship beyond the first generation. Under this new framework, a Canadian parent seeking to pass on

citizenship to a child born or adopted abroad would need to demonstrate a substantial connection to Canada. This connection would be defined by having accumulated at least 1,095 days (three years) of physical presence in Canada prior to the child's birth or adoption. Minister Metlege Diab emphasized that Canadian citizenship signifies a profound bond with the nation's values, history, and spirit. She highlighted that the requirement for a substantial connection for parents passing citizenship to children born abroad, beyond the first generation, reinforces and honors this important bond. Historically, the initial Canadian Citizenship Act of 1947 contained provisions that inadvertently led to many individuals losing or failing to acquire Canadian citizenship. Subsequent legislative amendments in 2009 and 2015 successfully restored citizenship to the majority of these "Lost Canadians." Furthermore, certain individuals born abroad between February 15,

1977, and April 16, 1981, had their citizenship revoked at the age of 28 under the former section 8 of the Citizenship Act, particularly if they did not retain it before the first-generation limit was implemented in 2009. The impetus for these new legislative changes gained momentum after the Ontario Superior Court of Justice declared key provisions of the first-generation limit unconstitutional on December 19, 2023. The Government of Canada chose not to appeal this ruling, acknowledging that the previous law had created unacceptable consequences for Canadian citizens whose children were born outside the country. Should Bill C-3 successfully pass into law, the government has pledged to swiftly implement the changes and provide comprehensive information to all eligible individuals. For more details on this new legislation, please refer to the official news release from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada here.



The Unseen Clock: Why Spousal Sponsorship Delays Are More Than Just Numbers

Vaughan, ON – For hopeful Canadians and their partners abroad, the promise of a shared life often hinges on a single, agonizing wait: the spousal sponsorship application process. Recent updates suggest an average processing time of 10 to 14 months, with official figures from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) pointing to a 12-month target for new applications. While these numbers provide a cold, hard metric, they fail to capture the immense human toll exacted by each passing month.

At face value, a year-long wait might seem manageable in the grand scheme of a lifelong commitment. But for those caught in the bureaucratic limbo, it's a year fraught with anxiety, uncertainty, and profound emotional strain. Imagine postponing wedding plans, delaying career opportunities, or missing crucial family milestones – all because a file is moving through a system designed, ostensibly, to unite families, not separate them. Outland applications, often involving partners residing in different countries, face

slightly varied timelines. Inland applications, for those already in Canada seeking permanent residency through their spouse, similarly carry their own unique set of challenges, often involving a precarious legal status during the waiting period. Regardless of the stream, the core issue remains: these aren't just processing times; they are chapters of lives on hold. IRCC, to its credit, has made efforts to streamline processes and has often reiterated its commitment to family reunification.

The target of 12 months, if consistently met and ideally improved upon, is a step in the right direction. However, the sheer volume of applications, coupled with the meticulous nature of background checks and eligibility assessments, creates an inherent pressure on the system. What often gets lost in the statistics is the qualitative impact. Financial burdens mount as families maintain two households or navigate complex travel restrictions. Mental health suffers as couples cope with prolonged separation, the inability to

plan for the future, and the constant fear of a misstep in the application process. Children, too, feel the absence of a parent, their formative years shaped by a distant, digital presence rather than daily interaction. It's time we look beyond mere processing times and acknowledge the profound human narrative behind each application. We need greater transparency, not just in reporting average times, but in explaining the factors that lead to delays and outlining concrete steps for continuous improvement. While efficiency is crucial, it must not come at the expense of empathy. Thereunificationoffamiliesis not merely an administrative task; it is a fundamental pillar of a compassionate society. As Canada continues to welcome newcomers, it must ensure that the path to family unity is not paved with avoidable delays and undue hardship. For every couple waiting, every parent yearning for their child, and every individual hoping to build a life with their loved one, the clock is not just ticking – it's weighing heavily on their very existence. It's an unseen clock, and its chime echoes far louder than any published statistic.



Canada Expands Pathways for Global Talent with LMIA-Exempt Work Permits

Ottawa, ON – Canada is actively leveraging its network of international trade agreements to streamline the process for skilled foreign nationals seeking to work in the country, offering a significant advantage through Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA)-exempt work permits. This policy not only simplifies entry for

qualified professionals but also underscores Canada's commitment to fostering economic growth and cultural exchange through global talent. The LMIA exemption removes a significant hurdle for both employers and foreign workers. Traditionally, Canadian employers must obtain an

LMIA, a rigorous assessment demonstrating that no Canadian or permanent resident is available to fill a position, before hiring a foreign national. By waiving this requirement for eligible individuals, Canada aims to attract specialized talent more efficiently, address labor shortages, and boost key sectors of its economy.

Citizens from over 40 countries benefit from these expedited pathways, primarily through Canada's comprehensive free trade agreements: CPTPP (Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership): Includes Australia, Brunei, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam. CETA (Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement): Covers a wide range of European Union member states such as Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Spain, and Sweden, among others. CUSMA (Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement): Facilitates mobility for professionals from Mexico and the United States. CCFTA (Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement): Provides specific provisions for Chilean citizens. CCoFTA (Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement): Offers similar benefits for Colombian nationals. The advantages of LMIA-exempt work permits are manifold. For foreign workers, it means faster processing times, a simplified

application procedure, and greater flexibility in exploring job opportunities across Canada. Many of these pathways can also serve as a stepping stone towards permanent residency, offering a long-term future in Canada. For Canadian employers, the exemptions mean quicker access to international talent and a reduction in administrative burden, allowing them to fill critical roles and support business growth more effectively. This strategic approach highlights Canada's proactive stance in global talent acquisition, ensuring its workforce remains dynamic and competitive on the international stage. Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) continues to emphasize the importance of these agreements in strengthening bilateral ties and enriching Canada's diverse social and economic landscape. Prospective applicants are encouraged to consult the official Canada.ca website for detailed eligibility criteria and application processes under these crucial programs.

Mid-Year Immigration Policy Review: Significant Shifts in Canada's Landscape



Ottawa, ON – The first half of 2025 has seen a series of substantial changes to Canada's immigration landscape, as Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) implements new policies impacting permanent and temporary residents, provincial programs, and international students. One of the most significant shifts came with the Immigration Levels Plan

for 2025-2027, announced in October 2024. This plan not only reduced permanent resident admissions targets but, for the first time, introduced explicit targets for temporary resident admissions, signalling a more controlled approach to overall population growth through immigration. Provinces have felt the immediate impact of these federal adjustments. The Provincial Nominee

Program (PNP) allocations were cut by 50% for 2025, prompting several provinces to either pause or suspend certain streams and tighten eligibility criteria for others. This move is expected to significantly alter provincial immigration strategies and the types of candidates they can nominate. In an effort to address specific labour market and demographic

needs, IRCC launched two new job offer-dependent immigration pathways: the Rural Community Immigration Pilot (RCIP) and the Francophone Community Immigration Pilot (FCIP). These pilots aim to attract skilled workers to rural and Francophone communities across Canada, respectively. Changes also extend to the popular Express Entry system. As of March 25, 2025, Express Entry candidates no longer receive Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS) points for arranged employment. This adjustment could significantly alter the competitive landscape for many applicants, placing greater emphasis on other CRS factors such as human capital and language proficiency. The international student program has also

undergone a major overhaul. In January 2025, the federal government announced a cap on study permit applications, directly limiting the number of applications processed and approvals issued for the year. This policy aims to manage the rapid growth in international student numbers and address pressures on housing and services. Adding to the dynamic political context, Mark Carney was sworn in as the 24th Prime Minister of Canada on March 14, 2025, a development that may further shape the direction of immigration policy in the latter half of the year. These mid-year changes underscore a clear trend towards more strategic and controlled immigration, with a renewed focus on specific economic and demographic objectives, and a re-evaluation of the role of temporary residents in Canada's overall population strategy.



Impaired Driving in Canada: A Threat to Immigration Status

A conviction for impaired driving in Canada can have far-reaching consequences, extending beyond the initial penalties to impact one's immigration status. Under Canadian law, impaired driving with a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) of 0.08% or higher is considered "serious criminality," rendering individuals inadmissible to the country.

The Risks of Inadmissibility

For permanent residents, a conviction for impaired driving can lead to loss of status and deportation. This is because impaired driving is considered a serious offense, and the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA) mandates that individuals convicted of such crimes be deemed inadmissible.

Consequences for Temporary

Residents

Temporary residents, including visitors, international students, and temporary foreign workers, may also face severe consequences. A conviction for impaired driving can render them inadmissible, forcing them to leave the country.

Overcoming Inadmissibility

So, what options are available to individuals facing inadmissibility due to impaired driving convictions? In some cases, a Temporary Resident Permit (TRP) may be granted, allowing individuals to enter or remain in Canada for a specific purpose. Alternatively, individuals may be eligible for Criminal Rehabilitation, which requires a 5-year wait after completing all sentences.

The Importance of Seeking Professional Help

Given the complexities of Canadian immigration law, it is essential for individuals facing inadmissibility to seek professional help. An experienced immigration lawyer can help navigate the application process, increasing the chances of a successful outcome.

In Conclusion

Impaired driving convictions can have serious implications for individuals seeking to enter or remain in Canada. Understanding the risks and consequences is crucial, as is seeking professional help when needed. By taking the necessary steps, individuals can mitigate the impact of impaired driving convictions on their immigration status and work towards a successful outcome.

Canada Overhauls Work Permit Eligibility for International Graduates

Vaughan, Ontario – Effective June 25, 2025, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has introduced significant changes to the Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) program, revamping the list of eligible fields of study to better align with Canada's evolving labour market demands.

The updated regulations, implemented by the IRCC, have added 119 new fields of study to the PGWP-eligible list, while simultaneously removing 178 fields. This adjustment brings the total number of eligible fields to 920. The primary objective of these changes is to prioritize occupations facing persistent labour shortages across critical sectors such as Healthcare and social services, Education, and various Trades.

Conversely, fields of study linked to occupations that no longer experience labour shortages have been removed from the eligible list. Notably, all educational programs within the Transport sector have been rendered ineligible, and

only a single program remains eligible in the Agriculture and Agri-food field.

These new rules primarily impact international students enrolled in non-degree programs who applied for their study permits on or after November 1, 2024. Students who applied before June 25, 2025, will be grandfathered under the previous regulations.

This overhaul of the PGWP program mirrors recent adjustments made to Express Entry categories, underscoring the IRCC's strategic focus on addressing Canada's pressing labour market needs for both temporary work permits and pathways to permanent residence.

For more details, you can refer to the original article: [Canada Overhauls Eligible Fields of Study for Work Permits] (<https://www.cicnews.com/2025/06/canada-overhauls-eligible-fields-of-study-for-work-permits-0656955.html#gs.n0ir21>)

IRCC Unveils Significant Immigration Policy Shifts for 2025-2026Ottawa,

Canada – Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has announced a series of substantial changes outlined in its 2025-2026 Departmental Plan, signaling a strategic evolution in Canada's immigration policies. The new initiatives aim to streamline pathways to permanent residency, address labor market needs, and enhance client services. Among the most impactful changes is the permanent establishment of the Economic Mobility Pathways Pilot (EMPP) by the end of 2025. This move will create a new, permanent pathway to permanent residence for skilled refugees, offering them a stable route to integrate into Canadian society and contribute to the economy. In a bid to address critical labor shortages, particularly in vital sectors, IRCC is actively working towards the creation of a new foreign labor stream and a specialized work permit for the agriculture and fish processing sectors. This initiative is expected to provide much-needed support to these industries and ensure a more consistent supply of workers. Further adjustments include revisions to the eligibility requirements for spousal open work permits, though specific details on these changes were not immediately available. The department also plans to implement new free trade agreements with Indonesia and Ecuador, which could have implications for temporary foreign workers and business visitors from these countries. Finally, in a move to modernize and improve accessibility, IRCC will be rolling out a new online account for all its clients. This digital platform is anticipated to simplify interactions with the department, making it easier for applicants to manage their immigration processes. These changes reflect IRCC's ongoing commitment to adapting its policies to meet Canada's evolving economic and social needs, while also striving to create a more efficient and welcoming immigration system.



Canada Increases Wage Requirements for Temporary Foreign Worker Program

Ottawa, ON – June 27, 2025 – Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) has announced significant increases to the wage thresholds for employers and foreign nationals participating in the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP). These adjustments, effective immediately, are set to impact

the eligibility of foreign nationals and the Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) application process for employers across most Canadian provinces. The updated wage thresholds will determine whether a foreign national falls under the high-wage or low-wage stream of the TFWP. This change is part of ongoing efforts to ensure

the program meets current economic realities and labor market needs. In addition to the wage increases, a moratorium on processing low-wage stream LMIA's remains in effect for regions with an unemployment rate of 6% or higher. This moratorium is slated to continue until at least July 10, 2025. Further restrictions

have also been implemented regarding the proportion of low-wage positions within a workforce. Most workplaces are now subject to a 10% cap on low-wage positions as a percentage of their total workforce, while specific sectors face a slightly higher cap of 20%. These changes underscore the government's commitment to adapting the TFWP to evolving labor market conditions and ensuring fair wages for temporary foreign workers. Employers are advised to review the new requirements carefully to ensure compliance with the updated



Credit Scores: A Key to Success for Newcomers in Canada

Vaughan, Ontario – For many newcomers arriving in Canada, establishing a strong financial footing is paramount, and a good credit score is emerging as a critical factor in achieving this. While immigrants often arrive with credit histories from their home countries, these typically do not transfer to Canada, necessitating a fresh start in building creditworthiness. A credit score, a three-digit number usually ranging from 300 to 900, serves as a snapshot of an individual's financial responsibility. Canadian lenders, landlords, and service providers use this score to assess the risk associated with extending credit, renting property, or even offering certain employment opportunities. A higher score signifies lower risk and can open doors to various essential services and opportunities. Why a Good Credit Score Matters: Housing:

Landlords frequently review credit scores to determine a prospective tenant's reliability in making timely rent payments. A strong score can significantly improve a newcomer's chances of securing an apartment. Loans and Mortgages: Accessing loans for vehicles, education, or even a mortgage to purchase a home becomes considerably easier with a good credit score. It can also lead to more favorable interest rates, reducing the overall cost of borrowing. Credit Cards: Obtaining credit cards, especially those with better limits and rewards, is dependent on a healthy credit history. Responsible credit card use is, in turn, a fundamental way to build that history. Essential Services: Even signing up for phone or internet plans may require a credit check, making a good score beneficial for connecting to vital services. Building Credit from Scratch: Newcomers

often face the challenge of having "no credit" rather than "bad credit." Building a solid credit history takes time and consistent effort. Key strategies include: Secured Credit Cards: These cards require a deposit, acting as collateral, making them easier to obtain for those with no credit history. Responsible use helps build a positive record. Post-paid Phone/Internet Plans: Unlike pre-paid options, post-paid plans often report payment history to credit bureaus, contributing to credit building. Newcomers should confirm if their provider reports this data. Timely Bill Payments: Consistently paying all bills on time, including rent, utilities, and any loans, is the most crucial factor in improving a credit score. Missed payments can severely impact it. Keeping Credit Utilization Low: It's recommended to use less than 30% of available credit. High utilization, even if paid

off, can signal higher risk to lenders. Limiting New Credit Applications: Applying for multiple loans or credit cards in a short period can be viewed as risky and may temporarily lower a score. Monitoring Credit Reports: Regularly checking credit reports for accuracy and understanding one's credit standing is vital. Errors should be corrected promptly. Recent developments, such as Equifax Canada's launch of the Global Consumer Credit File, aim to assist newcomers by leveraging their international credit histories to create a calibrated Canadian score. This initiative, starting with data from India and expanding to other countries, seeks to provide lenders with more comprehensive information, thereby expanding credit access for new immigrants from day one. In essence, understanding and actively managing one's credit score is a fundamental step for newcomers to Canada, paving the way for smoother financial integration and greater opportunities in their new home.