

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.



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. Thereunification of families is 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 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.



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.

