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DISCLAIMER

The information and recommendations of this Guide and our web site must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depends only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.

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For the last 20 years or more, Canada has topped the list of the most attractive countries for people from all over the world who wish to relocate themselves in a modern country with a high life standard level.

Canada is well known across the world as a developed prosper nation, with a sound social and economical stability and powerful democratic institutions. With a great extension, it is the second largest country in the world, has a relatively low population rate, and it is rich in natural resources.

This is true not only because Canada offers one of the highest life standards in the world, or because Canada is a synthesis of the best of Europe and the USA. The core reason is that it is one of the few nations in the world offering an independent immigrant program that is also the most generous among all similar programs.

In fact Canada, was founded and built by immigrants, and its present-day population is formed by a diversity of cultures and nationalities. According to the census in 2001 by Statistics Canada, results show that the country is making honour to its reputation as a place where diversity is welcome and not discriminated or blemished. Four million of people from visible minorities, people from almost all the countries on Earth, 13.4% of total population settled down in Canada between 1990 and 1999, compared with 1.1 million or 4.7% in 1981, as showed by statistics.

The census showed that 5.4 million people were reported as born abroad, which comprises 17.5% of the total Canadian population, the highest average from 1931. Only Australia holds a greater average of residents who were born abroad, a 22%. In 2000, 11% of USA residents were born in other countries.

Tolerance and social harmony are the bases of the Canadian society. The basic principle of the Canadian is the respect for others in all aspects. Every people have the freedom to keep and celebrate his/her own cultural and ethnic heritage, while assuming his or her role in the Canadian economy and integrating in a positive way with the system.

Apart from having one of the highest life standards in the world, Canada offers the following advantages to citizens:
- Safe cities and towns, clean and with a good administration

- Tolerance and social harmony, where every people have the freedom to keep and enjoy his/her ethnic and cultural heritage, in an open-minded society, democratic and progressive.

- A high quality public educational system with schools supported by the government. More 95% of children and young Canadians attend to public schools and only 5% go to private schools

- Bilingual education English-French is available many Provinces.

- An excellent health care system for everyone, with free medical care for both citizens and residents.

- A best life standard and opportunities for personal and family development, in a country with a prosperous economy.

### IMMIGRANT POPULATION ACCORDING TO PLACE OF BIRTH

#### In Canada and in the Provinces Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba

(Total amount of inhabitants in Canada 31,280,333)

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<td>- Oceania and other countries</td>
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<td>1,640</td>
<td>12,300</td>
<td>52,525</td>
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</table>


- 17.46 % of Canadian Population was born abroad
- 7.33 % of Canadian population was born in Europe
- 0.97 % of Canadian population come from Central and South America

More than 250.00 people with a resident visa arrive in Canada per year. However, for many people who don’t count on relatives or friends in Canada to guide and advice them, getting a Canadian visa may be a difficult discouraging ordeal, which may seem almost impossible. This book will help you compensate that lack of support and will give you the knowledge and tools for you to achieve the goal and be a part of that big group of new Canadians who settle down in Canada everyday for a brand new start in their lives.

### 1.2 GEOGRAPHY

Canada is in the Northern area of the American continent. It is the forth country in the world in extension (after Russia, China and the USA). It borders on the South with USA, with which shares a land border of 6,415 km, with a the Atlantic Ocean on the East, the Pacific Ocean on the West and the Arctic Ocean and the state of Alaska on the West - North. On the East, the Canadian coast of the continent is quite irregular, with broad bays and a number of large isles, being Terranova, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton as Anticosti Island worthy of mention.

Canada is one of the countries with the greatest amount of lakes and inner waters in the world. More than the 60%
of fresh water in the world is in Canada. The Great Lakes (Huron, Erie, Ontario, Superior) are in the country apart from 31 lakes of more than 1,300 km². Canada is a country with a low population density, less than 3 inhabitants per square Km. However people say as a joke that real super population in Canada is in most rivers and lakes, because of the abundant fish banks.

There are 10 provinces and 3 territories in Canada, located in 5 geographical areas. Each province has its own political and administrative capital city.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Province/Territory</th>
<th>Capital</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Region</td>
<td>Newfoundland and Labrador</td>
<td>St. John’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prince Edward Island</td>
<td>Charlottetown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nova Scotia</td>
<td>Halifax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Brunswick</td>
<td>Fredericton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Canada</td>
<td>Quebec</td>
<td>Quebec</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
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<td>Winnipeg</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saskatchewan</td>
<td>Regina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>Edmonton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Coast</td>
<td>British Columbia</td>
<td>Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>Nunavut</td>
<td>Iqaluit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northwest Territories</td>
<td>Yellowknife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yukon Territory</td>
<td>Whitehorse</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Atlantic Region of Canada is formed one by the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland and Farning. These provinces base their economy on he fishing, agriculture, forest industry, mining industry and tourism.

The Central Region is composed by the provinces of Quebec and Ontario. The valley of St. Lawrence river is a densely populated area in the Province of Quebec, and the cities of Montreal and Quebec Cities are on the margins of that river. In the area of the lake Ontario we find the most populated area in Canada, with the outstanding city of Toronto and its metropolitan area. The 75% of Canadian of products are manufactured in this area.

On the west of Ontario, the wide and extensive Canadian Prairies are found, that comprise the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and which extend to the Rocky Mountains. The latter being great chain that states the border of the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia.

The West Coast, among the Rocky Mountains and up to the Atlantic Ocean, is the land of the British Columbia, famous for its mountains and forests. The capital is Vancouver, with a mild climate with milder winters than in the rest of the country. It is important for its wood industry (role, wood, etc,) as for its fruits, fishing and tourism as well.

The territories of Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut form the North Region of Canada. These territories with a population of less than 300,000 inhabitants on the whole, occupy more than a third part of the Canadian land and its temperatures are low, most of the year. Its important resources are mining industry, gold, oil, natural gas.

The political capital of Canada is Ottawa, situated in Ontario and on the border with the province of Quebec.

1.3 WEATHER
Canada has four different well-defined seasons. Temperatures and the weather in every season can vary a little from a region to another, given the large extension of the country. These are the most important aspects of each season:

**Spring:** Spring is a cool season and at times very rainy in Canada. Temperatures usually range between 5 and 15 °C, being the highest during the day, and the lowest at night. Daylight varies between 12 and 14 hours per day. The daily average temperature is 12 °C in March, April and half May.

**Summer:** Summer begins officially on June 21. The hottest period is in July and August when temperatures reach up to 30 °C or more, in a few days. Normally, Summer is always hot enough in Canada. In general temperatures between 20 and 30 °C are expected. Daylight in Summer is between 14 and 16 hours a day. In June and July, daylight begins approximately at 5am and the sunsets 9.00 p.m.

**Autumn:** Autumn, also called fall, starts on September 21st and ends in December. It starts getting cooler and the green Summer vegetation turns to shocking colours when leaves start losing their power until they whither and fall. It is sometimes quite rainy and snow starts falling on regular bases in some areas in November. Average temperatures range from 10 to 12 grades C in the Southern area of the Country.

**Winter:** It goes from the previous week to Christmas to March 20th. Landscapes get full of snow and temperatures may stay below 0C in vast areas of the country. Sometimes it reaches minus 28 grades C, day and night. Take into account that the Northern you live or the higher the mountainous area is, the colder it will get. Towards the Atlantic shore, in British Columbia, temperatures reach below 0 C. Day light hours are fewer and some weeks in December the sun rises around 8 AM and goes down before 5 PM.
1.4 ECONOMY

Saskatchewan

The provinces of the Prairies depend on agriculture and on mineral fuels. From natural resources. The provinces of the Prairies sector of high technology. The Canada is one of 8 principal industrialized nations of the world, having also experienced a notable growth in the sectors of high technology. The majority of its manufacturing industries are located in Ontario and Quebec. The most important sector of this industry is shaped by the production of parts for vehicles that are exported to the United States and vehicles for internal commerce, both for American companies (Ford, General Motor) and Japanese (Sling, Toyota). Other manufacturing important sectors include those of food and drinks, paper and related products, primary metals, processed metals and petrochemical and chemical products.

The economies of the regions of the Atlantic Ocean, of the Prairies and of the Pacific Ocean are principally based on natural resources. The provinces of the Atlantic Ocean focus on fishing, forest resources and mining, whereas the provinces of the Prairies depend on agriculture and on mineral fuels. From the fertile prairies of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, thousands of tons of food and agricultural products are exported to the whole world. The

With the passing of time, the Canadians have adapted rapidly their technology to live comfortable all the time, in any season. For the coldest periods, in general terms, all houses, schools, offices, public transportation and work areas include heating systems (gas, electricity) that maintain the environment warm. On the other hand, snow sports are a usual way to enjoy Winter.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>J</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>O</th>
<th>N</th>
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<td>4.7</td>
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<td>14.3</td>
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</table>
1.5 HISTORY

Diverse wars and battles were fought between 1754 and 1759, leading the defeated France to delivering the control of

Canadian agriculture is one of the modern and industrialised in the world. This level of sophistication allows for a highest agricultural productivity that compensates the little time available per year to cultivate the land, due to the bad weather conditions in the rest of the year. During the agricultural period (May to September) thousands of agricultural workpeople of several parts of the world (specially from Mexico, Jamaica and India) come to Canada to be employed at the sowing, care and compilation of the crops.

**MAIN CANADIAN EXPORTS**
- Industrial Products and Machinery, Automotive parts
- Hi tech products, Telecommunications. Medical equipment.
- Pharmaceutical Products, Medicaments
- Foods, Wheat, Potatoes, Corn, Soy, Meat, Beans, Fruits
- Oil and derived Products, and other sources of energy
- Forest Products, such as paper and wood
- Minerals. Aluminium, Magnesium, Gold, Diamonds

**MAIN IMPORTS INTO CANADA**
- Raw materials, Copper, Steel
- Foods, Tropical fruits, Coffee, Bananas
- Clothing and Textiles
- Industrial Machinery
- Industrial Materials
- Chemical Products
- Vehicles

Canada keeps very good commercial and cultural relationships with many countries in the world. The main trade associates are United States of America, Japan, United Kingdom (England), China, India, Australia and Mexico. Nevertheless, Canadian trade is related to many other countries, included Cuba, country that is an important destination for Canadian tourists in the Caribbean.

1.5 HISTORY

The first inhabitants of Canadian lands arrived approximately 20,000 years ago from Asia, crossing the Bering Strait, which joins both continents and can be crossed over on foot.

It is said that the first European explorers in these lands were the Vikings, who came from Scandinavia. By the year 1000 northerly explorers, supervised by Lief Ericsson, son of Erik the Red came up to the island of Terranova.

Some centuries later, in 1497 the Italian navigator Giovanni Cabot (1450 - 1499) explored the islands and the Atlantic coast under the service of the British crown, taking possession of the island of Terranova as part of the English lands.

The first French explorers came to Quebec in 1534 and it was Jacques Cartier who first tamed the land on behalf of France, founding Old Fort Bay on Lower North Shore. Cartier sailed the river St. Lawrence and founded the first European colony in the area where the City of Quebec is at present, in the lands where the Iroquoians inhabited. Very soon the French named the territory as New France, turning it in a French province.

When the Europeans arrived, they found the Indian Canadian tribes, with multitude of languages, customs, religious beliefs, commercial system, art and craft, laws and government. The groups Algonquian, Iroquoian, and Inuit inhabited the territory of the province of Quebec originally. Seven different nomadic groups of Algonquian were living on fishing, hunting and some crops in the area of the Appalachia mountains. The Iroquoians had settled down in the fertile valley of the river St Lawrence; they grew corn and other vegetables. The Inuits had lived for many years in the cold Northern lands, mostly devoted to fishing, especially of whales and seals. They commercialized furs and food.

The city of Quebec was founded in 1606 by Champlain, turning very soon into an important area of trade with the Algonquian and Huran. Soon, the Frenchmen did alliance with these two groups and, militarily close, they fought against the Iroquois and the English. Quebec was also turned into an important Catholic area, and the starting point from which the exploration of the Northern parts of the continent began, on the part of the French. In 1663 the province of New France turned into a Royal Province, with its own council, under king Louis XIV of France. The population grew rapidly and, by 1760, more than 50,000 persons living there and cultivated the lands in the valley of the river St Lawrence, who begun to be called "Canadiens" or inhabitants.

Diverse wars and battles were fought between 1754 and 1759, leading the defeated France to delivering the control of
the territory to the English, in 1759. They changed the name of New France into that of Province of Quebec.

With the impulse of the American revolution on the south, the English were afraid that the French-speaking inhabitants of Quebec might rebel and join the rebel forces of Washington. To get ready, they created the Act of Quebec, by which they gave official recognition to both the French language and culture.

The act also allowed the Canadians to support his Roman Catholic religion and the civil French law. Later, with the victory of the American revolution, Quebec had to give in the lands on the South (Northern States of the USA). More than 50,000 defeated "loyalists", loyal to England, emigrated from the United States and settled down in what now it is Ontario and the East area of Quebec, beginning this way the English important presence, earlier only French.

In 1837 the French and English Canadians together raised their weapons against the English, in an attempt to finish their domain in Canada. After some battles and victories, the Canadians wrote their conditions to the British Parliament to continue under its control.

**Canadian Confederation. Origins**

The Confederation was started in 1867. The British states in North America and Canada joined in a confederacy. Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Terranova started to belong to its.

In 1870, the province of Manitoba and the Territories on the Northeast joined. In 1871 British Columbia joins Canada on the condition that a railroad is constructed to connect the East to the West. This project turns into a colossal work, especially for the difficult topography of the Rocky Mountains. Thousands of Asian workers, especially Chinese arrived in Canada in order to develop this important work that would be the spine of the country and would allow the union and communication among the different provinces. In 1885, the railroad is finished. It joins Canada from Halifax, on the Atlantic Ocean, with Vancouver, on the Pacific Ocean.

In 1873 the province of Prince Edward Island joins the Confederacy. In 1898, Yukon is constituted a separated territory, and takes preponderance thanks to the fever of gold and many people go to try their luck in this cold region. In 1905, Alberta and Saskatchewan get to be provinces, separating from the Northeast Territories. Terranova was the last province to join Canada.

In the decade of 1960 movements began to appear in strong Quebec in favour of the separation of this province from the rest of Canada and then form a French independent nation. This fact has triggered several political thunderstorms in the country. In 1977 the province of Quebec imposed French as its official language. Numerous political changes in the constitution and laws have been made with the aim to keep Canada and Quebec together.

In October 1995, with the party Quebecois in the power, a referendum was conducted to vote if Quebec had to get separate or keep joined to Canada. The result was favoured the non-separation party for the smallest margin (56.6 % NOT to 49.4 % YES). The topic regarding the separation of the province of Quebec has not ended yet, and new reforms and discussions are foreseen.

**As result of these clashes and historical debates between the Quebecois of French origin and language and the Englishmen, the province of Quebec differs for having its own norms in topics like taxes, social benefits, immigration, etc. For that reason, Quebec has its own score and chooses its immigrants by a different system from the Federal one in force in the rest of Canada, based on its own needs and criteria.**

### 1.6 SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT

Canada is a federation, ruled by a parliamentary democratic system. This means that there are three levels of government: federal, provincial and territorial or municipal.

**The federal government** takes charge of the biggest responsibilities on the matters that affect the whole Canada. This government is responsible for:

- Defending the country
- Exterior Politics and relationships with other countries
- Banks and economy
- Postal Service
- Crime Laws
- Immigration
- Citizenship

**The Provincial government** is responsible for:

- Education
- Municipal Institutions
- Health Care Services
- Agriculture
- Transportation
Environment

The municipal government is in charge of:

- Police and Fire Brigade
- Water, aqueducts and sewer system
- Local Transportation

To know more on the government in Canada, visit [www.canada.gc.ca/howgoc/glance_e.html](http://www.canada.gc.ca/howgoc/glance_e.html)

There is a Charter of Rights protecting the rights of all the people in Canada. Under this chart, all persons have the same rights to religion, thought, opinion and expression. Also the rights to meeting pacifically and affiliation. Additionally, it protects people from any type of discrimination based on race, ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex or mental or physical disability. These laws make of Canada a pacific country, with a big respect for its inhabitants.

1.7 LANGUAGES

Canada is a country where diverse cultures and religions of all parts of the world coexist. Out of its 33 million inhabitants, about an 18% were born in another country. English and French are the official languages, but more than 150 different languages are spoken in the country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main 10 Languages spoken in Canada</th>
<th>% of Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>58.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese (includes Cantonese and Mandarin)</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjabi</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portuguese</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polish</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Canada Immigration Rates</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>% Distribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canadian-born population</td>
<td>23,991,905</td>
<td>82.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign-born population</td>
<td>5,448,480</td>
<td>17.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrated before 1991</td>
<td>3,617,800</td>
<td>11.26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrated between 1991 and 2001</td>
<td>1,830,680</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>31,200,333</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census

1.8 EDUCATION

Canada counts on public free education from kindergarten up to high school, where most Canadians attend. In all the provinces, excepting Quebec, most schools are in English (Anglophone). Also, there are some francophone schools, whose education is in French. There is also a group of private schools, where students pay for their education.

All schools must follow the same programs and texts of the Ministry of Education. Therefore, in theory, the quality of education is more or less homogeneous. The difference between the public and Catholic schools is only the Catholic orientation and the religious topics that are taught in the above mentioned.

Children are assigned to their corresponding grade in accordance with age. This way for example, if a kid is 6, he will be assigned to grade 1 or, if he is 12, to grade 7. This way, all children of the same age will be in the same course

- KINDERGARDEN - PRE-SCHOOL

This is the first stage in the educational system and its aim is to acquaint the students with his partners and teachers in a school stimulant ambience. It serves to prepare children to begin successfully their elementary education. It is not
Compulsory and it is available for every child in the province. Students attend pre-school in one of the following ways:

• Part Time, for children four year old.
• Full Time, for children five years old.

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Every child of 6 or those who turn 6 before October 1st, must be enrolled on elementary school. It is not a requisite to have attended pre-school. Elementary education in Canada goes from grade 1 to grade 8. Classes begin in the first week of September and finish in the last week of June. In general terms, schools request that parents take part in the education and the school life of their children.

**IMPORTANT:** The students from other countries to Canada can have access to complementary classes of English (ESL) to improve their performance in the language and integrate rapidly into the educational system.

**HIGH SCHOOL**

After the 8 elementary forms, the student will go on his education in high school. Its aim is to prepare the student for the post-secondary education or for a future job.

The student is free to choose some areas of interest. Students also have the alternative of taking one of the different programs that will allow him/her to acquire some knowledge in a specific craft, called vocational training.

Courses have three levels of difficulty:

• Basic, focused basically towards employment.
• General, preparing the student for COLLEGE or for employment.
• Advanced, which prepares the student for university education or any special college.

**COLLEGE**

The general program of high school or secondary education allows the student to attend college courses of studies, the first step of higher education. Colleges, both public and private, offer students the following alternatives:

• Two-year pre-university studies as a preparation for a university education.
• Three-year Technical Studies that allow them to get a certificate as Technicians or Technologists

**UNIVERSITIES**

The requirements to start university education change in accordance with the program or career chosen and the educational institution. To enter to a professional program generally it is needed to have the most advanced level and high academic performance. The university courses are organised in several levels. The first professional level is named Undergraduate study, and they grant the professional grades of Bachelor's degree. (The bachelor degree is the equivalent to a university grade in many countries, such as the ones to be a Lawyer, Doctor in Medicine or Mechanical, Chemical, Electrical, Civil Engineer, etc, with regular duration of 10 semesters of full time studies.

The second university level of education is achieved by getting a Master Degree and the third level, by getting a PhD. degree

**IMPORTANT:** The elementary and high school education in Canada is free for residents and are supported by taxes. Nevertheless, the vocational courses in the colleges and the professional ones at Canadian universities must be paid with the family resources of every student. There are no free Universities or Colleges.

1.9 RELIGION EN CANADA

**Big religious Groups**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religions</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christians</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindu</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buddhists</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islamic - Muslims</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>no religion</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>atheist</td>
<td>~9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Religion per Churches**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Denomination</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roman Catholic</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anglican</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative(*)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lutheran/Presbyterian</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Denominational Protestant</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Christian denominations(+)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Christian($)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know/No Response</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MacLean's Religion Poll (April 19, 1998)

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# 1.10 Health in Canada

In Canada all citizens and residents are covered by health plan protecting them in case of needing medical assistance. This plan is run by the government of every province and, in general terms, offers the following services:

- Health Care and services
- Hospitalisation
- Specialized Treatments

**It does not cover the following services:**

- Dentist Services
- Drugs and medicaments
- Cosmetic static surgery

**Family Doctors:** Everyone in Canada may have a free family doctor. To learn more about the health system in Canada and Ontario, visit the following links


http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hcs-sss/index_e.html

---

# 1.11 Social Security and Assistance in Canada

There are various programs by the federal, provincial and municipal government that help the families who need it most, especially to children in Canada. In addition to the completely free elementary and high school education, the family has right to receive economic help and assistance while they find a job. The following ones are the most common benefits:

- Canada Child Tax Benefit
- Universal Child Care Benefit
- Social Assistance - Ontario Welfare Program
- Employment Insurance
- Food Banks

In Canada, there are different government and private organisations with the aim to guarantee that no citizen lacks meals of or the daily basic food for his subsistence. In other words, that there are no persons who have to bear famine, due to the lack of money.
CANADA CHILD TAX BENEFIT - CCTB

In Ontario and in all the provinces, families with younger children under 18 and those who have a low income, can benefit from financial help from the province and from the state, to satisfy their basic needs. As permanent residents in Ontario, immigrant families have the right to receive this help from his arrival. The federal program of help is known as Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) and it is administered by the Canada Revenue Agency. By means of this program the government gives economical assistance to the mothers of kids under age, until these turn 18. The amount per child varies according to the family annual income, the number of children, the age of every child, and the general situation of the family. There is additional help in case of children with physical or mental limitations or handicaps.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Children</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Monthly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st child</td>
<td>$3200</td>
<td>$266.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd child</td>
<td>$2975</td>
<td>$247.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd &amp; each additional child</td>
<td>$2980</td>
<td>$248.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Annual maximum CCTB for the July 2006 to June 2007 benefit year for families with net incomes below $20,435 in 2005.

UNIVERSAL CHILD CARE BENEFIT - UCCB

From July, 2006, the Universal Child Care Benefit was implemented - UCCB - in order to help mothers with children under 6. This help has the aim to recognise the work of upbringing children and to stimulate mothers in this work, by helping economically. The UCCB is a monthly payment of $ 100 for every child under 6.

SUBSIDIZED CHILD-CARE

For families that have children where both parents work, take courses, etc. a child-care centre may be necessary for taking care of their children. If parents cannot afford the cost, they might be eligible to obtain a benefit known as “subsidised child-care”. For more information consult the Ministry of Social Community and Services.

ONTARIO WELFARE PROGRAM - (Welfare)

In Canada, families have the support of the government to guarantee the minimal well being of his citizens, especially of CHILDREN, when parents are unemployed or going through a bad economical situation. There are assistance programs from the Ministry of Community to and Social Services, from the province of Ontario and the city of Toronto for resident families. The program called "Ontario Works" provides economical and job assistance to those who need it temporarily, and the program also provides them with a temporary occupation.

1. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, for food, housing (payment of rent), clothing, formulated medicines, dental care for children, special winter clothes, school tools, glasses and formulated glasses, transportation, etc

2. JOB SEARCH ASSISTANCE, including preparation in the following aspects:

- Technical Training or development of labour skills
- Academic Upgrading
- Independent job searches
- English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL)
- Services in the Employment Resource Centres.

The ultimate goal of the program is to help temporarily to those that, for one reason or the other, find it difficult to get a job by themselves. They are helped as they achieve the goal of integrating themselves to the job market.
EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Employment Insurance (EI) and Regular Benefits
The Employment Insurance (EI) is a temporary for those workers who have paid for this insurance when they worked. This is paid to workers who have lost their jobs for different reasons from their own will, for a lack of job opportunities, for being sick, or for giving birth to a baby. The EI is also applicable if the worker leaves his/her job to attend to any close relative with a terminal disease.

The aim of this insurance is to assist the worker while he/she finds a new job, gets trained or updates his skills in connection with his own craft.

The fee received is around a 55% of the average salary they had in their last job or a maximum amount of $413 per week. The maximum time workers can receive this amount of money is 45 weeks.

For further information on the Employment Insurance, consult the Human Resources and Social Development Canada

FOOD BANKS

In Ontario and in all the provinces of Canada there are Food Banks, whose main aim is to provide food to families of low income that don't owe the money to buy it in the regular supermarkets. These food banks are organisations that are run with the support of the government and receive help from stores and private donations. In general, they are organised by voluntary persons who donate his time to help the others.

The Canadian Association of Food Banks
http://www.dailybread.ca/
http://www.northyorkharvestfoodbank.com/

”In every region, food banks report that inadequate minimum wage and social assistance rates, followed closely by high rents, are among the primary reasons for the growing demand for emergency food assistance. The information below is taken from HungerCount 2004”

WORKER’S COMPENSATION

It is an insurance that paid to workers in case of having an accident at work. Besides, it is paid if an illness derived from that job is suffered. In addition to the economical benefit, the worker receives therapies and medical treatments that allow him to go back to his/her job life. There is an office of the Workers’ Compensation Board in every province, where it is decided if a worker qualifies or not for this compensation, based on medical reports and laboratory tests on the accident or related illness.

CANADA PENSION PLAN - CPP - Pension of Retirement

The CPP is a monthly benefit received by people who during their labour stage have regularly contributed to Canada Pension Plan. In 2006, the monthly contribution of a worker for the CPP was of approximately the 4.9% of his total wage if he/she is an employee, and 9.9% if he is self-employed or independent. This pension is designed to cover around a 25% of the earnings on which the contributions of the worker were based. In order to qualify for the retiree’s pension CPP, the worker must be 65 years old and they also must have made the necessary contributions by law. It is also possible to start receiving the pension when the worker turns 60 years old, but in this case a 30% less than the amount corresponding to a worker of 65 years old will be received. There is also the option to begin to get it at 70 years old, in which case a 30% extra will be received. In order to obtain more information, please consult the Canada Pension Plan.

To learn more, please look the website Canada Pension Plan

1.12 HIMN OF CANADA

"O Canada"

The current English version:

O Canada! Our home and native land!
True patriot love in all thy sons command.
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
The true North, strong and free!
From far and wide, O Canada,
We stand on guard for thee.

God keep our land glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee!

De me’moire:
O Canada! Terre de nos aînés,
Ton front est ceint de fleurons glorieux.
Ton bras sait porter l’épée,
Il sait porter la croix.
Ton histoire est une épopée,
des plus brillants exploits.
Et ta valeur, de foi trempe'e,
prote'gera nos foyers et nos droits,
prote'gera nos foyers et nos droits.

(2e couplet, peu utilise)
Sous l'oeil de Dieu pres du fleuve ge'ant
Le canadien grandit en espe'rant
Il est ne' d'une race fie`re
Be'ni fut son berceau
Le ciel a marque' sa carrie`re
Dans ce monde nouveau.

Toujours guide' par sa lumie`re,
Il gardera l'honneur de son drapeau,
Il gardera l'honneur de son drapeau.

(Il y a aussi un troisie`me couplet, mais je ne m'en souviens plus)

(French version provided by Denis Fortin)

The remaining words are seldom sung.

English verses continue...

O Canada! Where pines and maples grow,
Great prairies spread and lordly rivers flow.
How dear to us they vast domain,
From East to Western sea,
Thou land of hope for all who toil,
Thou true North, strong and free!

O Canada! Beneath thy shining skies
May stalwart sons and gentle maidens rise;
To keep thee steadfast through the years
From East to Western sea,
Our Father land, our Motherland!
Our true North strong and free!

Ruler Supreme, Who hearest humble prayer,
Hold our dominions in Thy loving care.
Help use to find, O God, in Thee,
A lasting, rich reward,
As waiting for the better day
We ever stand on guard.

In French

De son patron, pre'curseur du vrai Dieu,
Il porte au font l'aure'ole de feu.
Ennemi de la tyrannie,
Mais plein de loyaute',
Il veut garder dans l'harmonie
Sa fiere' liberte';

Et par l'effort de son ge'nie,
Sur notre sol asseoir la ve'rite'.
Sur notre sol asseoir la ve'rite'.

Amour sacre' du tro^ne de l'autel,
Remplis nos cours de ton souffle immortel!
Parmi les races entrange`res,
Notre guide est la loi:
Sachons e^tre un peuple de fre`res
Sous le joug de la foi.

Et re'pe'tons, comme nos pe`res,
Le cri vainqueur "Pour le Christ et le Roi!"
Le cri vainqueur "Pour le Christ et le Roi!"

Music by Calixa Lavallee / Words by Judge Adolphe-Basile Routhier.

1.13 SPECIAL DAYS IN THE CANADIAN CALENDAR
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Holiday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 1</td>
<td>New Year's Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Family Day (3rd Monday in February)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Good Friday (2 days before Easter Sunday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 3</td>
<td>Easter Sunday (March or late April)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>Mother's Day (2nd Sunday in May)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Victoria Day (Monday after the 17th)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Father's Day (3rd Sunday in June)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>St. Jean de Baptiste in Quebec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>Canada Day (foundation of Canada)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Civic Holiday (1st Monday in August,)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Labour Day (1st Monday in September)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Day (2nd Monday in October)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 11</td>
<td>Remembrance Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 25</td>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 26</td>
<td>Boxing Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Holidays

**DISCLAIMER**

The information and all the recommendations of this Guide and on our web site, must just be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience (skilled workers) in their immigration to Canada. For the final presentation of the necessary documents, you will have to follow the instructions given by the Official of Visa of the Embassy of Canada, in the form and order that they should request. The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and in public information of Citizenship and Immigration Canada CIC, which, nevertheless, can change at any moment.

The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will obtain the Permanent Resident Visa, since this achievement depends only on the proper characteristics of the applicant and the evaluation and decision by the embassy. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.
IMMIGRATION TO CANADA

2.1 PERMANENT RESIDENT VISA

To live and work in Canada indefinitely, it is necessary to go through a legal process of immigration, consisting on asking the Canadian government a Permanent Resident Visa (Permanent Visa or Landed Immigrant of Canada). If you and your family get that status, you will also get the rights and duties of a resident:

● RIGHTS
    - Live, work and study for an indefinite time, as you keep your visa.
    - Access to most social benefits for Canadian citizens (for example, economical support for children under age, free health care, free elementary and high school education, etc.)
    - Ask for citizenship and right to use a Canadian passport after a period of a 3-year residence in Canada.
    - Enter and leave the country at your own will, travel all over Canada with no restrictions

● DUTIES
    - Pay taxes as every Canadian citizen (federal, provincial and municipal)
    - Abide by the Canadian law.
    - Arriving in Canada before the visa expiration date

● LIMITATIONS
    - Not allowed to vote in Canadian elections
    - Certain job positions related the national security or government administration (they require a security clearance).
    - If you or your family commit a severe crime, may be deported and lose your status as residents.

NOTE: A person with a Permanent Resident Visa cannot live out of Canada for the total added time of three years in a consecutive period of 5 years:
Once an immigrant and his/her family arrive in Canada, this card will be obtained as part of the registration process in Immigration. This card will serve as identification and it will be the valid document to go back to Canada, if the applicant goes out of the country. Permanent Resident Cards will be sent to the immigrant's address in a short time, and they are valid until he gets the Canadian citizenship and passport - 3 years after living in Canada.

2.2 IMMIGRATION CLASSES

Applications for immigration to any Canadian province (federal program) are processed in different classes, every of which demands certain specific requirements.

2.2.1 INDEPENDENT CLASS - SKILLED WORKERS
(Professionals - Qualified Technicians)

These are immigrants who apply for a permanent residence by their own profession, experience, and merit. Professionals, technicians and technical experts belong to this class, and they qualify according to the Canadian local needs, after fulfilling the necessary requirements.

Applications for Permanent Residence as a Skilled Worker are assessed upon different aspects related with their working capacity and adaptation. Canada uses a score system to select those applicants who want to be accepted. You must get a minimal score of 67 out of 100 to qualify as Permanent Resident.

There are more than 300 professions and technical trades within the eligible occupations, based on the Canadian work market at present.

NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY AS A SKILLED WORKER

- PROFESSION AND JOB EXPERIENCE

For a Permanent Resident Visa application could be assessed, you must have a minimum of a one-year experience in you specialisation, fulfill the minimal requirement of working full time, with at least 37.5 hours per week and having been paid for your work. This work experience must have been acquired in the previous 10 years, and the occupation must be an occupation listed in the Nations Occupations Classification (NOC) of Canada (see Chapter #3).
To be eligible, you need a minimal score of 67 points over a maximum of 100 possible, in an applicant assessment set by the CIC (Canada Immigration and Citizenship). Basically, this assessment is made on the following applicant's areas:

- Education
- Experience
- Idioma (inglés y/o francés)
- Job Ofert
- Age
- Adaptability (family ties)

(See chapters #3, #4 y #6 for further information on Scoring)

- ECONOMIC SUPPORT

You must prove the Canadian embassy you and your family have enough funds to go by for at least the six first months after your arrival in Canada. The Canadian Government will not provide you with money to settle down and requires that you arrive in the country with enough funds to support you and your family. The amount of money will depend on the number of people in the family that will settle down in Canada. (More information in Chapter #6)

- POLICE CERTIFICATION

You must present a state institution document (Police or similar) certifying that you have no criminal record.

- MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

You and all the members of your family applying for the visa must pass a health examination performed by a physician authorised by the Canadian embassy and assessed by the Health Care System in Canada.

**IMPORTANT**

If you apply for a Permanent Resident Visa in Canada as Skilled Worker, one of the requirements is to show that you have enough funds to support you and your family for 6 months, as you get a job and stabilise your financial situation. After that period you can ask for economical support to settle down. There are different programs in Canada, both state and private, with the aim to guarantee that no citizen is in the need of food and other basic resource to survive. In other words, they ensure that no citizens starve because of a lack of funds. That help is basically for the immigrant to establish himself in the job market, in the following way:

1. **ECONOMICAL SUPPORT**. for foods, housing (rent), clothing, prescription medicines, dental care for children, special clothes for winter, school materials, prescribed glasses and lenses, transportation, etc.

2. **HELP FOR JOB SEARCHES**. Including preparation in the following areas:
   - Training or skill development
   - Academic upgrading
   - Independent job searches
   - English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL)
   - Services in the local Employment Resource Centres.

For more information on this subject, see Chapter #11 - Social Protection in Canada

**2.2.2 OTHER CLASSES OF IMMIGRATION**

Other classes of immigration to Canada are:

- **FAMILY CLASS**.
If immigrants are sponsored by any Canadian resident who is a close relative. Thus, for example, those who have a Permanent Resident Visa have the right to eventually ask a visa for their parents, grandparents or children under 18 years old. These relatives are accepted with a family class, which allows them to live in Canada as permanent residents.

- **REFUGEES**

Immigrants who were accepted for humanitarian reasons. Canada houses people from all countries in the world that are endangered, especially in countries or areas in war or extreme violence.

- **INDEPENDENT CLASS - INVESTORS.**

Applicants who have enough funds to invest in Canada. To get this type of visa the applicant must proof the possession of a share capital of around $800,000 (depending on the province). These applicants have a priority because they don’t require a job and create job positions by their investments. According to the Canadian province where they want to establish, they must invest a minimal amount of money (from US$400,000) in projects approved by the federal and provincial government. Those funds will be kept for 5 years after which they are refunded. All invested funds are guaranteed by the Canadian government in a way that there is no possibility to any percentage of loss. This category of investors have excellent possibilities to get a permanent residence in Canada for them and their families, without any conditions demanded.

- **INDEPENDENT CLASS - ENTREPRENEURS**
Applicants who have the experience and resources to settle down, purchase or start a company or business and running it successfully. These applicants have a priority, as they don't need a job. Moreover, they create job positions thanks to their investments. According to the Canadian province where they want to establish, they must invest a minimal amount of money (from US$300,000) in projects approved by the federal and provincial government. The Canadian government allows these investors to keep their visas as long as they generate their own income and create job positions.

- **INDEPENDENT CLASS - SELF EMPLOYED**

Those applicants who can certify their experience and success in an independent economical activity and have the intention and the resources to start a business or a similar activity that contributes in a significant way to the economical, cultural or artistic life in Canada. Eligible applicants as self employed will be people who can proof being able to support themselves on the bases of their skills and talents. They are usually farmers, land owners, businessmen in specific successful areas, athletes, artists, musicians or writers.

**NOTA:** Take into account that some economical activities are not accepted by the Canadian government, as they may not contribute to the Canadian economy in a substantial way. For example, restaurants, real estate, sales, some investments in real estate, and others.

### 2.3 IMMIGRATION PROGRAMS IN CANADA

To apply for a Permanent Resident visa in Canada it is possible to follow one of the two programs available: Federal Program and or Province Nomination Program.

#### 2.3.1 FEDERAL PROGRAM

This is the general program applied by the government to issue a Resident Visa in every Canadian province and it is the one described above in this chapter. It is based on the norms and regulations set by the CITIZEN AND IMMIGRATION CANADA (CIC).

- **Skilled Worker Class Immigration:**

  Canada needs and encourages the settlement of foreign experienced Professionals, Technical experts, and Skilled Workers who want to live in this country and integrate themselves to the development of Canada.

- **Business Class Immigration:**

  Canada needs investors and entrepreneurs who owe the funds and the experience in the creation and management of companies. Canada offers a sound economy and a first class life style in return

- **Family Class Immigration:**

  Permanent Residents in Canada have the right to eventually ask a permanent resident visa for their parents, grandparents or children under 18 years old.

- **International Adoption:**

  Relatives of Permanent Residents, both immigrants and citizens, can be invited to live and integrate with their families by this class of immigration.
2.3.2 PROVINCIAL NOMINATIONS

Several Canadian provinces have special programs to encourage the arrival of the families and the skilled workers they need. They are also on the lookout for investors and entrepreneurs who will start industries and companies for the benefit and development of the country thanks to their funds and experience.

Every province has an agreement with the Canadian government that allows them to select and nominate as candidates as the province needs, according to its own requirements. Some provinces accept investors or entrepreneurs owning less funds than the amount demanded by the federal program. In case of skilled workers, it may be easier to immigrate to some provinces requiring workers in their area and they usually have support programs (housing, incentives, loans, etc.) to help them settle down in that province. The Canadian government, by the CITIZEN AND IMMIGRATION CANADA (CIC) processes and administers the selection of these nominated candidates.

To apply for the resident visa under the Province Nomination Program, the process should be started by contacting the corresponding bureau of the institution in the province first, and then sending the documents they may require. In general terms, investors or skilled workers who apart from meeting the requirements have the genuine intention to live in that province are needed in specific areas.

After the approval by the provincial government, they will send a document or nomination letter, which must be presented at the Canadian Embassy along with the rest of the necessary documents. Thus, the Resident Visa is achieved.

For further details on immigration nominations and opportunities in the different provinces, visit the following sites:

- Alberta
- Manitoba
- Newfoundland and Labrador
- Prince Edward Island
- Yukon
- Nova Scotia
- British Columbia
- New Brunswick
- Saskatchewan

2.4 PROVINCE OF QUEBEC - Nomination Program

The province of Quebec offers its own program to select skilled workers and professionals who want to live there. This Province Immigration Program is based on a maximum score of 60 points, different from the Federal Program of Canada, and has the following mean features:

- The professions or occupations accepted are ones needed in the province of Quebec (see Chapter #18.6 Occupations Accepted by Quebec)
- The required language is French, and the accepted level is not necessarily too high. The score for that language is not as preponderant (8/60 points) as in the Federal Canada Program (25/67 points).
- The selection process gives the highest score to the applicant between 23 and 30 years old.
The province of Quebec takes into account some family aspects such as number of children and the wife’s education.

The interview with the applicant plays an essential role in the approval, as the officer will assess and set a score for an "ADAPTABILITY" factor, based in some aspects such as personal characteristics of the applicant, motivation, personal knowledge on the province, or having relatives or friends in Quebec.

**IMPORTANT**

After the approval of the provincial government, they will send a document or nomination letter, which must be presented at the Canadian Embassy along with the rest of the necessary documents. Thus, the Resident Visa is achieved.

**NOTE: After being nominated by a province, the process should be followed by applying as a Permanent Resident at the CITIZEN AND IMMIGRATION CANADA (CIC) or your country’s embassy. Based on the immigration regulations in Canada, an official will assess your application.**

**DISCLAIMER**

The information and recommendations of this Guide and our web site must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depend only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.

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3.1 WHAT IS A SKILLED WORKER

The term "skilled worker" is applied to people with a profession, technical education or specific training in certain qualified job or craft. They have the possibility to be a Permanent Resident in Canada, based on their skills to settle down and adapt to the Canadian job market. In other words, "skilled workers" are those who have a specific education or training and a sound work experience that allows for a success in a qualified job in Canada. This class of immigration includes professionals, engineers, technicians and technical experts who qualify according to the needs in Canada, provided they meet the necessary requirements.

3.2 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.

For a Permanent Resident Visa application to be assessed in Canada, the applicant must have at least a one (1) year job experience in his/her specialisation, having worked full time, with at least 37.5 hours per week and having been paid for the job. This work experience must:

- Have occurred in the last 10 years.
- Be a Qualified Occupation Skill type 0, Skill level A or B, according with the National Occupations Classification (NOC) of Canada (See 2.5)

3.3 OCCUPATIONS CLASSIFICATION

The National Occupation Classification (NOC) is the system used in Canada to classify the different professions and jobs. This system describes and classifies the typical duties, abilities, skills and job profiles in the Canadian job market.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skill Type 0</td>
<td>Management Occupation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skill Level A</td>
<td>Professional and Related occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skill Level B</td>
<td>Technical, skilled trades and paraprofessional occupations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Skill Level C

Occupations of intermediate level, clerical or supportive functions

Skill Level D

Elemental sales or service and primary labour occupations

Note: To be considered as a Skilled Worker, the applicant must prove that his / her skill or profession belongs to Skill Type O, Level A or Level B. That is to say, it must be proved that his / her educational level allows for managerial, professional or qualified job positions. Assistant or intermediate skilled workers won't be taken into account.

The list of professions and occupations accepted by Canada for immigration as Skilled Worker, (Skill Type O, Level A or Level B) is shown in Sección 2.5

3.4 HOW TO KNOW WHETHER A SKILLED WORKER WILL BE ACCEPTED?

The Canadian federal system of assessment for this class of applicant is, in general terms, very simple. Canada uses a score system to choose those applicants who will be accepted. To be eligible, it is necessary a minimal score of 67 points over a maximum of 100, set by the CIC (Canada Immigration and Citizenship). Basically, the assessment is performed according to these aspects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Max.</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Education</td>
<td>25 Points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Languages:</td>
<td>24 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Inglés (16 points)</td>
<td>Max.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Francés (8 points)</td>
<td>Max.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Experience</td>
<td>21 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Job Ofert</td>
<td>10 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Age</td>
<td>10 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Adaptability</td>
<td>10 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minimun Score

67 points

* Points updated in September 2002
**SELECTION CRITERIA**

If an applicant meets the minimum requirements to apply for a permanent resident visa (profession and minimum 1-year experience) his / her application form will be assessed on the base of two criteria:

1. Meeting the minimal present score (67 points). This score system is explained in detail in chapter 4.

2. The possibility to proof that the applicant owes the minimum funds required to travel and settle down in Canada. (see chapter 5)

Apart from these two requirements, the applicant must pass the medical examinations and proof not having criminal record.

---

**3.5 NATIONAL OCCUPATION CLASSIFICATION LIST**


The following occupations are listed as Skill Type 0, Skill Level A or B in the National Occupation Classification List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0632</td>
<td>Accommodation Service Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1111</td>
<td>Accountants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5135</td>
<td>Actors and Comedians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1221</td>
<td>Administrative Officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0114</td>
<td>Administrative Services Managers (other)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0312</td>
<td>Administrators - Post-Secondary Education and Vocational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2146</td>
<td>Aerospace Engineers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2222</td>
<td>Agricultural and Fish Products Inspectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8252</td>
<td>Agricultural and Related Service Contractors and Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2123</td>
<td>Agricultural Representatives, Consultants and Specialists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2271</td>
<td>Air Pilots, Flight Engineers and Flying Instructors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2272</td>
<td>Air Traffic Control and Related Occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2244</td>
<td>Aircraft Instrument, Electrical and Avionics Mechanics, Technicians and Inspectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7315</td>
<td>Aircraft Mechanics and Aircraft Inspectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3234</td>
<td>Ambulance Attendants and Other Paramedical Occupations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5231</td>
<td>Announcers and Other Broadcasters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8257</td>
<td>Aquaculture Operators and Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2151</td>
<td>Architects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2251</td>
<td>Architectural Technologists and Technicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0212</td>
<td>Architecture and Science Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5113</td>
<td>Archivists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5244</td>
<td>Artisans and Craftpersons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1235</td>
<td>Assessors, Valuators and Appraisers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5251</td>
<td>Athletes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5225</td>
<td>Audio and Video Recording Technicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3141</td>
<td>Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Occupation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5121</td>
<td>Authors and Writers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7321</td>
<td>Automotive Service Technicians, Truck Mechanics and Mechanical Repairers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6252</td>
<td>Bakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0122</td>
<td>Banking, Credit and Other Investment Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2221</td>
<td>Biological Technologists and Technicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2121</td>
<td>Biologists and Related Scientists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7266</td>
<td>Blacksmiths and Die Setters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7262</td>
<td>Boilermakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1231</td>
<td>Bookkeepers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7261</td>
<td>Bricklayers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5224</td>
<td>Broadcast Technicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4163</td>
<td>Business Development Officers and Marketing Researchers and Consultants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0123</td>
<td>Business Services Managers (other)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6251</td>
<td>Butchers and Meat Cutters - Retail and Wholesale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7272</td>
<td>Cabinetmakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7247</td>
<td>Cable Television Service and Maintenance Technicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3217</td>
<td>Cardiology Technologists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7271</td>
<td>Carpenters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9231</td>
<td>Central Control and Process Operators, Mineral and Metal Processing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6241</td>
<td>Chefs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2134</td>
<td>Chemical Engineers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2211</td>
<td>Chemical Technologists and Technicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2112</td>
<td>Chemists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3122</td>
<td>Chiropractors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2231</td>
<td>Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians</td>
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<tr>
<td>2131</td>
<td>Civil Engineers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6215</td>
<td>Cleaning Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5252</td>
<td>Coaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4131</td>
<td>College and Other Vocational Instructors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7382</td>
<td>Commercial Divers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0643</td>
<td>Commissioned Officers, Armed Forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0641</td>
<td>Commissioned Police Officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4212</td>
<td>Community and Social Service Workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0213</td>
<td>Computer and Information Systems Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2281</td>
<td>Computer and Network Operators and Web Technicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2147</td>
<td>Computer Engineers (Except Software Engineers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2174</td>
<td>Computer Programmers and Interactive Media Developers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7282</td>
<td>Concrete Finishers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5132</td>
<td>Conductors, Composers and Arrangers</td>
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<tr>
<td>1226</td>
<td>Conference and Event Planners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2224</td>
<td>Conservation and Fishery Officers</td>
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<tr>
<td>5112</td>
<td>Conservators and Curators</td>
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<tr>
<td>2234</td>
<td>Construction Estimators</td>
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<tr>
<td>2264</td>
<td>Construction Inspectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0711</td>
<td>Construction Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7311</td>
<td>Construction Millwrights and Industrial Mechanics (Except Textile)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7215</td>
<td>Contractors and Supervisors, Carpentry Trades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7212</td>
<td>Contractors and Supervisors, Electrical Trades and Telecommunications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7217</td>
<td>Contractors and Supervisors, Heavy Construction Equipment Crews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7216</td>
<td>Contractors and Supervisors, Mechanic Trades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7214</td>
<td>Contractors and Supervisors, Metal Forming, Shaping and Erecting Trades</td>
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<td>7219</td>
<td>Contractors and Supervisors, Other Construction Trades, Installers, Repairers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7213</td>
<td>Contractors and Supervisors, Pipingfitting Trades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6242</td>
<td>Cooks</td>
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<tr>
<td>1227</td>
<td>Court Officers and Justices of the Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1244</td>
<td>Court Recorders and Medical Transcriptionists</td>
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<tr>
<td>7371</td>
<td>Crane Operators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Occupation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1236</td>
<td>Customs, Ship and Other Brokers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5134</td>
<td>Dancers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2172</td>
<td>Database Analysts and Data Administrators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2273</td>
<td>Deck Officers, Water Transport</td>
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<tr>
<td>3222</td>
<td>Dental Hygienists and Dental Therapists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3223</td>
<td>Dental Technologists, Technicians and Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3113</td>
<td>Dentists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3221</td>
<td>Denturists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3132</td>
<td>Dietitians and Nutritionists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2253</td>
<td>Drafting Technologists and Technicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7372</td>
<td>Drillers and Blasters D Surface Mining, Quarrying and Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6214</td>
<td>Dry Cleaning and Laundry Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4214</td>
<td>Early Childhood Educators and Assistants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4162</td>
<td>Economists and Economic Policy Researchers and Analysts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5122</td>
<td>Editors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4166</td>
<td>Education Policy Researchers, Consultants and Program Officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4143</td>
<td>Educational Counsellors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7332</td>
<td>Electric Appliance Servicers and Repairers</td>
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<tr>
<td>2241</td>
<td>Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technologists and Technicians</td>
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<tr>
<td>2133</td>
<td>Electrical and Electronics Engineers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7333</td>
<td>Electrical Mechanics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7244</td>
<td>Electrical Power Line and Cable Workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7241</td>
<td>Electricians (Except Industrial and Power System)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3218</td>
<td>Electroencephalographic and Other Diagnostic Technologists, n.e.c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2242</td>
<td>Electronic Service Technicians (Household and Business)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7318</td>
<td>Elevator Constructors and Mechanics</td>
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<tr>
<td>4213</td>
<td>Employment Counsellors</td>
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<td>2274</td>
<td>Engineer Officers, Water Transport</td>
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<td>2262</td>
<td>Engineering Inspectors and Regulatory Officers</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Engineering Managers</td>
</tr>
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<td>1222</td>
<td>Executive Assistants</td>
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<td>Executive Housekeepers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0721</td>
<td>Facility Operation and Maintenance Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4153</td>
<td>Family, Marriage and Other Related Counsellors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8253</td>
<td>Farm Supervisors and Specialized Livestock Workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8251</td>
<td>Farmers and Farm Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5222</td>
<td>Film and Video Camera Operators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1112</td>
<td>Financial and Investment Analysts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1111</td>
<td>Financial Auditors and Accountants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0111</td>
<td>Financial Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1114</td>
<td>Financial Officers (other)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0642</td>
<td>Fire Chiefs and Senior Firefighting Officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6262</td>
<td>Firefighters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8261</td>
<td>Fishing Masters and Officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8262</td>
<td>Fishing Vessel Skippers and Fishermen/women</td>
</tr>
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<td>0413</td>
<td>Government Managers - Education Policy Development and Program Administration</td>
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<td>Hairstylists and Barbers</td>
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<td>Head Nurses and Supervisors</td>
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<td>Immigrants, Employment Insurance and Revenue Officers</td>
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<td>Jewellers, Watch Repairers and Related Occupations</td>
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<td>2225</td>
<td>Landscape and Horticultural Technicians and Specialists</td>
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<td>Machine Fitters</td>
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<td>Machinists and Machining and Tooling Inspectors</td>
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<td>Managers - Publishing, Motion Pictures, Broadcasting and Performing Arts</td>
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<td>Managers in Health Care</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Mapping and Related Technologists and Technicians</td>
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<td>Nondestructive Testers and Inspectors</td>
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<td>Oil and Solid Fuel Heating Mechanics</td>
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<td>Painters, Sculptors and Other Visual Artists</td>
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<td>Paralegal and Related Occupations</td>
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<td>Probation and Parole Officers and Related Occupations</td>
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<td>Producers, Directors, Choreographers and Related Occupations</td>
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<td>Professional Engineers, n.e.c. (other)</td>
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<td>Professional Occupations in Business Services to Management</td>
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<td>Professional Occupations in Public Relations and Communications</td>
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<td>Respiratory Therapists, Clinical Perfusionists and Cardio-Pulmonary Technologists</td>
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<td>Secretaries (Except Legal and Medical)</td>
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<td>Senior Government Managers and Officials</td>
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<tr>
<td>0013</td>
<td>Senior Managers - Financial, Communications and Other Business</td>
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<tr>
<td>0016</td>
<td>Senior Managers - Goods Production, Utilities, Transportation and Construction</td>
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<td>0014</td>
<td>Senior Managers - Health, Education, Social and Community Services</td>
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<td>Supervisors, Fabric, Fur and Leather Products Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Supervisors, Logging and Forestry</td>
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<td>Supervisors, Machinists and Related Occupations</td>
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<td>Supervisors, Mail and Message Distribution Occupations</td>
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<td>Supervisors, Mineral and Metal Processing</td>
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<td>Systems Testing Technicians</td>
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<td>Teachers - Elementary School and Kindergarten</td>
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<td>Telecommunications Line and Cable Workers</td>
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<td>5243</td>
<td>Theatre, Fashion, Exhibit and Other Creative Designers</td>
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<tr>
<td>3144</td>
<td>Therapy and Assessment (Other Professional Occupations)</td>
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<td>Tool and Die Makers</td>
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<tr>
<td>7373</td>
<td>Water Well Drillers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2175</td>
<td>Web Designers and Developers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7265</td>
<td>Welders and Related Machine Operators</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT**

If you want to hire a representative to apply for the Permanent Resident Visa to Canada for the category Skilled Worker he/she should be:
- Representatives with Compensation: Immigration consultants, members of the Canadian Society of Immigration Consultants – CSIC, licensed Canadian lawyers or notary public.
- **IF YOU need to hire a Representative, we can recomend you with members of CSIC, who speak your own language and have reasonable fees. CONTACT US**
DISCLAIMER

The information and recommendations of this Guide and our website must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depend only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.

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INDEX

Chapter #4

PERSONAL EVALUATION - SCORE

In this chapter you can calculate the score you would count on if you filled out the Visa as a Skilled Worker application form right now. Try to be as precise as you can, to know your real possibilities.

4.1 EDUCATION (Maximum 25 points)

State what your score would be according to your degree and the duration of your course of studies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Level of Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25 points</td>
<td>PhD's or Master's, AND at least 17 years full time studies or equivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 points</td>
<td>Two or more Bachelor degrees (see note) AND at least 15 years of full time studies, or equivalent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 points</td>
<td>A two-year study university degree, Bachelor Level and at least 14 years of full time studies or equivalent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 points</td>
<td>A one-year study university degree, Bachelor level and at least 13 years of study, full time or equivalent.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: A "Bachelor" degree is equivalent in many countries to the degrees of Mechanic, Civil, Electric, Electronic Engineer, and other specializations. It is issued by a University and usually has a duration of 4 or 5 years full time study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Level of Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 points</td>
<td>A three-year diploma, trade certificate or apprenticeship AND at least 15 years of full-time or full-time equivalent study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 points</td>
<td>A two-year diploma, trade certificate or apprenticeship AND at least 14 years of full-time or full-time equivalent study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 points</td>
<td>A one-year diploma, trade certificate or apprenticeship AND at least 13 years of full-time or full-time equivalent study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 points</td>
<td>A one-year diploma, trade certificate or apprenticeship AND at least 12 years of full-time or full-time equivalent study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 points</td>
<td>Secondary School Educational Credential</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2 LANGUAGE (Maximum 26 points)
For knowing English and French (both official languages in Canada) you score 2 points, which are, along with education, the most important aspects of assessment for officials to make a decision on your case. The knowledge of these languages is split into four different abilities: listening, reading, speaking and writing. The applicant must state which language is the one he/she masters best with the purpose of that evaluation.

### POINTS ACQUIRED FOR ENGLISH AND FRENCH

**Level of Knowledge** | Score
---|---
1st Language (English or French) |  
High proficiency (per ability*) | 4  
Moderate proficiency (per ability*) | 2  
Basic proficiency (per ability*) | 1 to 2  
No proficiency (per ability*) | 0  
Maximum | 16 points

2nd Language (French or English) |  
High proficiency (per ability*) | 2  
Moderate proficiency (per ability*) | 2  
Basic proficiency (per ability*) | 1 to 2  
No proficiency (per ability*) | 0  
Maximum | 8 points

* Listening, reading, speaking, writing

**Table to estimate your score for LANGUAGES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First official language</th>
<th>Read</th>
<th>Write</th>
<th>Listen</th>
<th>Speak</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High proficiency</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate proficiency</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic proficiency</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No proficiency</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum</td>
<td>16 points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Second official language</th>
<th>Read</th>
<th>Write</th>
<th>Listen</th>
<th>Speak</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High proficiency</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate proficiency</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic proficiency</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No proficiency</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum</td>
<td>8 points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### IMPORTANT

Your real level of English or French, must be proved by taking a compulsory exam recommended or validated by the Citizenship and Immigration Canada - CIC. You could improve your level if you take an intensive course a before you ask for your Permanent Residence Visa. You may study and take several exams until you reach the proper results and score.

### 4.3 EXPERIENCE (Maximum 21 points)

You **must have** at least a one-year job experience in your profession or craft to be accepted by the Federal Government of Canada. That experience must be in one of the professions eligible, classified in the **National Occupation Classification (NOC)**. Calculate your score with the following table:

| Score | Experience profession |
4.4 AGE - (Maximum 10 points)

Age is one of the aspects taken into account for the score by the Visa Officials, with the aim to determine if a Professional or Skilled Worker is accepted or rejected. Use the following table to set your score for AGE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age of Applicant</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16 years or less</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 years</td>
<td>2 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 years</td>
<td>4 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 years</td>
<td>6 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 years</td>
<td>8 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 years to 49 years</td>
<td>10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 years</td>
<td>8 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 years</td>
<td>6 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52 years</td>
<td>4 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53 years</td>
<td>2 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54 years or older</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.5 JOB OFFER - Work Arrangement (Maximum 10 points)

The possibilities to be accepted to get the Permanent Resident Visa are greater when a Professional or Skilled Worker has a valid job offer or a job by a Canadian employer. In this case the applicant will receive 10 extra points for their assessment. The offer must be approved by the HRSDC - Human Resources and Social Development Canada

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Secured Job in Canada</th>
<th>Maximum 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Job offer by a Canadian employer (it must be validated by HRSDC-Human Resources Canada)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.6 ADAPTABILITY (Maximum 10 points)

To get the Permanent Resident visa, you have more possibilities according to certain aspects of your experience or to your wife or permanent couple.

Use the following table to estimate your score. If you and your wife have points for the same reason, the points obtained will only for one person. For example, if both have close relatives in Canada, you will only get 5 points, the score for just one of you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADAPTABILITY CRITERIA</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Level of Education of Wife or Couple</td>
<td>3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Diploma in high school or less: 0 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Certificate of a technical or university course of at least one year full time. Plus full high school: 3 Points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Certificate of technical or university course of two years full study or more, and at least 14 years full study or equivalent: 4 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- A Master Degree or PHD and at least 17 years full study or equivalent: 5 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B. Previous Studies in Canada:
- You or your wife studied in a post-high school institution in Canada at least for 2 years, full time. This course of studies should have been attended after 17 years old and with a valid permit.

5

B. Previous Job in Canada:
- You or your wife have worked at least for a year in Canada with a valid work permit.

5

C. Work Arrangement:
- You got some points for factor 5 - Job arrangement or offer

5

D. Relatives in Canada
- You or your wife have a relative (parent, grand parent, son/daughter, grand son/daughter, uncle, aunt, brother, sister) living in Canada as Canadian citizen or permanent resident

5

PASS MARK

To get the Permanent Resident Visa as Skilled Worker it is most important to get the minimum score (Pass Mark) of 67 points with the documents supporting every factor.

(The pass mark was updated on September 18, 2003)

Use the following chart to calculate your total score. Get some paper and a pencil.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Maximum Score</th>
<th>Your Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Education</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Languages</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Job Experience</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Age</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Job Offer</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Adaptability</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note there are no points for the result of a possible interview. It is probable that if you show clearly that you have more than 67 points, you will not be appointed for an interview and your Visa will be issued with no difficulty.

In case you are appointed to an interview, it will probably be for a Visa Official to assess some aspects that couldn't be determined by the documents you sent, because they need any explanation, or because your score is slightly below 67 points.
IMPORTANT

You can estimate your own total score. When a professional or technician asks for a Permanent Resident visa, an Official of Immigration at the Canadian Embassy will assess your documents and will calculate your score according to the specific evidence attached to support every factor. Based on those documents and on the score that the Official determines for every applicant, he will make a final decision. Remember: apart from score, you should also:

- Show that you have the funds to support your family for 6 months in Canada
- Pass your medical evaluations
- Prove that you have no crime or police record

RECOMMENDATION

If your score here is 67 or higher, you can qualify to immigrate as skilled worker by the Federal Program of Canada. If you are seriously interested and want a PRE-EVALUATION official by the CIC Citizen and Immigration Canada, you can do the following:

1. Doing it online on the CIC website:
   
   http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/skilled/assess/

2. Ask for a visa pre-evaluation form, category Skilled Worker in the Canadian Embassy in your Country, fill out the form (there is no need to send any documents) and submit it by post. You will receive the results and the forms to apply if the result is positive (only available in some embassies)

If you have a score of 67 points or more, and want to start the process to ask for the Permanent Resident Visa in Canada, some advice and stages in the process are given in Chapter #5 in this ebook.
IF YOU WANT TO LIVE IN CANADA, but your score is not enough

If you are a professional or qualified technician in an accepted profession, but your evaluation is less that 67 points in the Federal Program of Canada, you still have two alternatives to immigrate as skilled worker to Canada:

**ALTERNATIVE 1**

Wait for the necessary time as you get ready and improve those aspects that need a higher score, such as education, languages, experience, etc. That time will also be useful for you to think it over and get a better preparation, which will improve your probabilities of success.

It is advisable to fill out the application form once you’re sure to be accepted, as you have to pay for your assessment and the revision of your documents by the embassy.

**ALTERNATIVE #2 – (PLAN B)**

Ask for the Resident Visa for the Province of Quebec (See plan B described in Chapter 20). Quebec has a Provincial Nomination Program based on a different assessment, with these outstanding aspects:

- The accepted Professions or Occupations are those that The Province of Quebec needs (see 18.6 Occupations Accepted by Quebec)
- The language required is French, and the acceptable level is not necessarily very high. The score for languages is not as relevant as in the Federal of Canada (25767 points)
- The selection process gives the higher score to applicants between 23 and 30 years old.
- Quebec takes into consideration some aspects as family, the number of children and wife's education to determine your score
- The interview for the applicant plays an essential role in the acceptance, as the visa official in Quebec will assess and determine a certain score for “ADAPTABILITY”, based on aspects such as personal characteristics of applicants, motivation, personal or informative knowledge on the province, or having relatives or friends in Quebec.
- The minimum score is 60 points

**DISCLAIMER**

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The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will obtain the Permanent Resident Visa, since this achievement depends only on the proper characteristics of the applicant and the evaluation and decision by the embassy. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.
COST OF THE IMMIGRATION PROCESS

IMPORTANT:

With the aim of having the Canadian Embassy check your documents to see if you fill the CIC requirements for Permanent Resident Visa, you must pay for the processing fees.

In case you are accepted and you travel, you must pay for the Right of Permanent Resident Fees. The total cost will depend on the number of family members travelling to Canada.

It is also a requirement being able to prove that you count on the funds to support yourself and your family for 6 months.

5.1 PROCESSING FEES

This is the amount you must pay the Canadian government for them to receive your Permanent Resident Visa Application, and assess your documents. That amount is cancelled or deposited when you turn in your first document at the beginning of the process, asking for their assessment (IMM- 0008-SW-Application for Permanent Resident - Federal Skilled Worker Class) and it's NON REFUNDABLE. (To see how it can be paid in every country, see Chapter 6.2 - Stage 3)

The total cost of the application varies according to the number of people included in your application form. In order to estimate the total, you can use the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of People</th>
<th>Cost per People</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main Applicant</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>x $550</td>
<td>$550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse or common-law partner</td>
<td></td>
<td>x $550</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicant’s dependent children of 22 or above</td>
<td></td>
<td>x $550</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every son or daughter below 22 years old</td>
<td></td>
<td>x $150</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total A</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Converted by Web2PDFConverter.com*
The cost of processing fees is in **Canadian dollars** or its equivalent in other currencies, and may vary at every moment. It must be paid in the specific place set by the Canadian Embassy for your country.

**NEVER SEND CASH WITH THE APPLICATION DOCUMENTS**

To know the necessary payment details in Latin America or any other country in the world, see Chapter 7.2.

### 5.2 COSTO DEL DERECHO DE RESIDENCIA PERMANENTE  
(Right of Permanent Residence Fee)

This cost just corresponds to the amount you must pay **only** if your application for a Permanent Resident Visa is accepted. In case you have already paid by the moment of turning in your documents for this right and you are rejected or you don’t want to accept it, the amount will be refunded.

You must pay for this money for your Visa to be issued. In this case, if the result is positive, the visa bureau will notify you when you must pay.

The cost is in connection with the right of Permanent Residence fee, as main applicant, and the ones for your wife or partner, if applicable.

#### B. RIGHT OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE FEE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of People</th>
<th>Cost per Person</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal applicant</td>
<td>1 x $490</td>
<td>$490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse or common-law partner</td>
<td>1 x $490</td>
<td>$490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicant’s dependent children</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total B</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total A+B</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The cost of the Right of Permanent Residence Fee is in Canadian dollars or its equivalent in other currencies, and may vary at every moment.

### 5.3 ADDITIONAL FEES

You should also pay for these documents, for you and your family:

- Medical Exams.
- Police Certificates or Crime Record.
- English or French Examinations.

**Note:** If you decide to hire a certified immigration advisor to "help" you and check your documents, you must pay between additional $800 and $3500.

### 5.4. FUNDS REQUIRED TO SETTLE IN CANADA

The Canadian government doesn’t provide immigrants who apply for a Permanent Resident skilled Worker /Professional Visa with financial support. You should prove at the Canadian Embassy bureau that you have the funds to travel, settle down, and get by with your family for the first 6 months, after which you are supposed to have integrated to the Canadian job market.

You should prove the Embassy that you have the funds and that it is yours. The minimal amount required depends on the number of family members in your family.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Family Members</th>
<th>Funds Required*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
### 5.6 HOW YOU CAN PROVE YOU OWE THE FUNDS

You will have to declare the Immigration and Visa Canadian Officials that you are taking with you more than $10,000 (Canadian dollars) in cash on your arrival in Canada. Your money can be:

- Cash (American or Canadian dollars)
- Titles (shares, bonds, debentures, treasury bills etc.)
- Negotiable documents (travellers’ cheques, money orders, certified checks, etc.)

Note: Not declaring the whole amount of money when it is greater than $10,000 can get you into trouble and may be imprisoned.

### 5.5 FARE TICKETS (Approx. Cost)

This list shows an estimate of the cost of a fare ticket between some Latin American and Canadian cities in regular season. (They may be more expensive in December, January, June and July).

Company Air Canada (Tango Plus). Price in Canadian dollars.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>To Toronto</th>
<th>To Vancouver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>México</td>
<td>$ 592 (443)</td>
<td>799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>$ 660</td>
<td>660 (330)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITY</td>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>(Children)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bogotá</td>
<td>$789</td>
<td>(529)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caracas</td>
<td>$477</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lima</td>
<td>$979</td>
<td>(734)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santiago</td>
<td>$1472</td>
<td>(1103)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buenos Aires</td>
<td>$853</td>
<td>(639)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Pablo</td>
<td>$958</td>
<td>(718)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minimum cost in May 2011, only ticket to Canada (not round trip ticket)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>To Toronto</th>
<th>To Vancouver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beijin</td>
<td>$1472 (1103)</td>
<td>1472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bucarest</td>
<td>$592 (443)</td>
<td>799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beirut</td>
<td>$853 (639)</td>
<td>1063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>$660</td>
<td>660 (330)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manila</td>
<td>$477</td>
<td>660 (494)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moscu</td>
<td>$979 (734)</td>
<td>979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Delhi</td>
<td>$789 (529)</td>
<td>1137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>$958 (718)</td>
<td>1116</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Just as a reference. The cost between brackets is the cost for children under 12 years old. There are some additional costs such as airport taxes and the fee for leaving the country, fuel tax, and other taxes that vary from country to country, which may suppose between a 25 and a 40% of the cost mentioned, according with the country you live in.

Check several air lines to find the best price.

IMPORTANT

In many countries there are IOM bureau (International Organisation for Migration), an international organisation with the aim of assisting immigrants with their moving. If you have an immigration visa for Canada, you can resort to this organisation and they may help you to buy fare tickets with a 30-50% discount. They have agreements with some lines to benefit the families that move from a country to settle down in another. Consult www.iom.int to find a bureau in your country.
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APPLICATION PROCESS TO GET A PERMANENT RESIDENT VISAA

(Federal Program - Skilled Workers Category)

6.1 SIMPLIFIED PROCESS FOR SKILLED WORKERS

From September 1st 2006 there is a new simplified process by the federal government of Canada to apply for a visa - simplified application process.

According to this NEW process, the applicant must initially send a basic application form and the cancellation receipt of the funds corresponding to their application assessment. This way, your application starts queuing and it will in turn be assessed by a Canadian Visa Official who will be in charge of your case and send you a written communication about the documents required to support your application. This way, the official will count on updated documents to make the final assessment.

All skilled worker immigrants through the federal program must go under this process, with the following exceptions:

- Nominated by Quebec or other provinces (who can start the process by making contact with the organisations in charge of the immigration in that specific province)
- Applicants with a job offer or job arrangement (factor 5)
- People with legal status in the USA or Canada and are applying via the Buffalo -USA embassy.

IMPORTANT

You must be sure you meet the requirements and have the necessary score before starting you apply for a Skilled Worker Permanent Resident Visa. You minimum score must be 67 points, which can be assessed in these three ways:

- By using the self assessment in this books (Chapter 4)
- Evaluation online with CIC
- Pre-assessment at the Canadian Embassy in your country.

Remember that the fee for the assessment to get a visa ARE NOT REFUNDABLE.
6.2 SIMPLIFIED PROCESS FOR SKILLED WORKERS - STEPS

- **STAGE#1 - GET THE APPLICATIONS FORMS.** Following are the applications that you need to start your immigration process as skilled worker:

  1. **IMM-0008e_SW.** Application for Permanent Resident - Federal Skilled Worker Class - Simplified Application Process
  2. **IMM-5476.** Use of a Representative (Optional, if you want to hire a consultant).

**TO GET AND PRINT THESE APPLICATIONS**

Use the links from Chapter #7 to get the forms and save them in your computer.

Note: The form IMM-0008e_SW (application) has either the number IMM 0008 (06-2006) E printed on the bottom of first page (1 of 3).

- **Stage 2 - FILL IN THE FORM**

The form IMM-0008-SW - Application for Permanent Resident must be filled out as best as possible with the required information, clear and accurate. Write the information that you can support or prove with valid documents, which may be required in the future.

To see an example of how to fill out this form step by step see Chapter 7.2

- **Stage 3 - MAKE CONTACT WITH THE CANADIAN EMBASSY**

With the aim to know how you must pay for your visa application assessment (bank, address, etc.), you must contact the Canadian Embassy in your area.

To know the necessary payment instructions in Latin America or any other place in the world see Chapter 7.5

- **Stage 4 - PAY THE PROCESSING FEES**

The total cost of the visa application varies according to the number of people you include in it. To estimate this amount, use the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. PROCESSING FEES</th>
<th>Number of People</th>
<th>Cost per People</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main Applicant</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>x $550</td>
<td>$550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse or in-law</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>permanent partner</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicant’s dependant children (22 or above)</td>
<td>x $550</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicant’s dependant children (under 22)</td>
<td>x $150</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total A</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The cost of the processing fees is in **Canadian dollars** or its equivalent in other currencies and may
vary at any moment. It must be paid at the place set by the Canadian Embassy in your country.
NEVER SEND CASH WITH YOU APPLICATION DOCUMENTS.

**IMPORTANT**

If the forms are incomplete, the receipt is incorrect, or you don’t live in the area of the bureau from where you sent you application, it will be sent back to you.

• **Stage 5 - SEND FORM AND RECEIPT**

Once your form IMM IMM-0008e_SW / Application for Permanent Resident - Federal Skilled Worker Class - Simplified Application Process is ready with all the information and the receipt for the processing fees are ready, you can send them by post to the Canadian embassy in your country, or turn them in at the office.

**IMPORTANT**

• Never send any other document apart from the IMM-0008-SW Application for Permanent Resident, el IMM 5476 (if you have hired a representative) and the receipt.

• If you have sent them correctly, the embassy will send you a confirmation letter in about 5 weeks telling you tat your initial application has been registered. It will also contain a record number and some information and instructions on the following steps of the process.

• By the moment you apply for you visa you should meet the requirements and have the necessary score (67 points)

• The visa official will inform you about the documents you need about one, three or four months before the final application assessment.

• Remember the assessment fee IS NOT REFUNDABLE.

After sending the initial application form, you are not supposed to contact the embassy, even though your marital status may have changed, you may have given birth to other child, changed your job, or got a new grade or diploma. All this information will be updated on the following stage.

However, you should contact the embassy in the following cases:

1. If you change you immigration representative
2. If you move
3. If you decide to retract and cancel you application (fees will be refunded)
4. If you have been nominated by a province (Quebec, Manitoba, etc.) in a provincial immigration program
5. If you get a contract or job offer in Canada

• **Stage 6 - PREPARE ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS, ACCORDING WITH YOUR APPLICATION**

After you send the application form IMM-0008SW and the receipt, you should wait for several months until a Visa Official informs you what documents you must turn in for the final assessment of your application. The documents you should have ready are:

1. ID cards and birth certificates
2. Certificates of Studies and Diplomas
3. Job Certificates
4. Results of the languages examinations (English and French)
5. Marriage, divorce, adoption certificate, etc.
6. Police certificate or crime record
7. Proof of solvency
8. Any other document the Visa Official may require

• **Stage 7 – PREPARE AND SEND NEW APPLICATION FORMS AND DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY THE VISA OFFICER (Supporting Documents)**.

When the Visa officer is ready to assess your application, he will contact you and will ask you:

1. To update and fill in the final application forms. He will provide you with those if they are necessary
2. Additional payments (if you got married or had a child)
3. All the supporting documents (identification, education, job, languages tests, police certificate, etc.). You will also have to send photographs. You will be given a list of all the documents you must turn in (check list).

Once the Visa Official has received all your documents, he will proceed with your assessment, taking into account all the information and the supporting documents you turned in.

**IMPORTANT**

• The CIC, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, through the Visa Officer will make the decision based on your score in the selection factors. He will also check that you have the funds required for your initial economical support in Canada according to the size of your family.

• The Visa Official will inform you the results of your final ASSESSMENT, and will tell you whether you will have an interview, medical exams, additional payments, etc.

• **Stage 8 – INTERVIEW (Some times)**

If the Visa Official from the Canadian Office finds it necessary, the applicant and his family may be called to an interview. In some cases, this is done to check some information, which allows for scoring the candidate properly. Being called to an interview doesn’t mean that there is something wrong with your application. In general terms, it may have the following purposes:

1. Verify the information tuned in by the applicant.
2. Give information to the family for their settlement in Canada.

During the interview, the official may ask about the documents to clarify some doubts in this regard, or ask for explanations about the economical resources to get by in Canada. The interview itself DOESN’T GIVE YOU ANY POINT for the process.

**REMEMBER:** Apart from the minimum score, you must prove that you have the solvency to get by in Canada for the first 6 months. It is a compulsory requirement to be able to produce this evidence of solvency:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Family Members</th>
<th>Funds required*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People</td>
<td>Cost per People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main applicant</td>
<td>1 x $490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner -spouse</td>
<td>x $490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicant's dependant children</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Right of Permanent Residence Fee is in Canadian dollars and the Visa Official will inform you how and where to pay for it.

**Stage 8 - DELIVERY OF VISAS (If you are accepted)**

If you have the necessary score and all the family members pass the medical exams, Citizenship and Immigration Canada will give your visas to you and the members of family included in the application form. This visa, along with some of the documents used for the application, may be turned in face to face to the applicant, in the offices of the embassy if the Visa Official decides to do so, or, in other cases they will be sent by post to the address in your documents.

All visas have an expiry date, a year the medical exams. They are not extended and, in case you cannot travel before that date, they will not be valid anymore.
RECOMMENDATION

The success of your application WILL DEPEND to a great extent on the devotion to gather, organize, and send the correct documents proving every aspect in an accurate manner, information asked. Follow the process step by step.

6.3 CANADIAN EMBASSIES ALL OVER THE WORLD

(ADRESSES and LINKS)

África, Europa y Middle East

- Abdijan, Ivory Coast
- Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
- Accra, Ghana
- Ankara, Turkey
- Berlin, Germany
- Bucharest, Romania
- Cairo, Egypt
- Damascus, Syria
- Kyiv, Ukraine
- London, Great Britain
- Moscow, Russia
- Nairobi, Kenya
- Paris, France
- Pretoria, South Africa
- Rabat, Morocco
- Rome, Italy
- Tel Aviv, Israel
- Vienna, Austria
- Warsaw, Poland

Asia / Pacífico

- Beijing, China
- Colombo, Sri Lanka
- Hong Kong, China
- Islamabad, Pakistan
- Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Manila, Philippines
- New Delhi, India
- Seoul, Korea
- Singapore, Singapore
- Sydney, Australia
- Taipei, Taiwan

Northamérica, Suothamérica, Latinamérica and Caribe

- Bogota, Colombia
- Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Buffalo, U.S.A.
- Caracas, Venezuela
- Guatemala City, Guatemala
- Havana, Cuba
- Kingston, Jamaica
- Lima, Peru
- Mexico City, Mexico
- Port-au-Prince, Haiti
- Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
- Santiago, Chile
- Sao Paulo, Brazil
6.4 PROCESS FOR ENGINEERS

In the case of engineers who want to start the process of immigration to Canada, first of all a good choice is to begin the process requesting an evaluation of the Engineer degree. The Canadian Council of Professional Engineers (CCPE) is the organization in charge of regulating the profession of Engineer in Canada.

The assessment carried out by the CCPE is called EIEAP (Engineering International-Educational Assessment Program). This assessment allows comparing the program of Engineering of the school which granted the degree with the Canadian Engineering program. The EIEAP analyzes and compares the subject and the academic program of the school which granted the degree with the American academic program to get the same school level (basic learning, subjects, time schedules, duration of the courses, contents, labs, trainings, projects, areas of specialization, etc.) EIEAP is the only service of specialized assessment of the credits of Engineers.

The CCPE has information of the schools and educational institutions of many countries all over the world. If the degree of Engineer was granted by a qualified university or school of Engineering and also is well known by the CCPE, the trainees would get an EIEAP CERTIFICATION with a positive evaluation, valid as a first step to immigrate.

There are several advantages of getting this EIEAP assessment. The evaluation of the EIEAP shall be a great advantage for the Engineer immigrant in order to facilitate the immigration process, considering that is original from a Canadian professional organization and it shall be useful for the Visa officials to make a positive evaluation of the documents. Besides, the Engineer can show it later in Canada when looking for a job, or in schools (whether the person is considering taking an advanced course) and in other official situations.

With the result of the EIEAP assessment by the CCPE, the Engineer shall receive useful information about the Engineering profession in Canada and the stages that should be followed to be an Engineer with a professional license in Canada.

In order to be able to work as an Engineer, a process of PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION should be done later that is a bit more complicated and shall require taking some exams and updating courses and/or other studies.

If you are an Engineer (whether in the areas of Mechanics, Chemistry, Electricity, Civil or Manufacturing) is highly RECOMMENDED to start the process of immigration firstly requesting the assessment Engineering International-Education Assessment Program (EIEAP) to the CCPE.

IN ORDER TO GET THE APLICATION FORM AND ASK FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO THE FOLLOWING LINKS:

- [Engineering International-Education Assessment Program form](https://www.ccpe.ca)
- [www.ccpe.ca](https://www.ccpe.ca) (Canadian Council of Professional Engineers - CCPE)

For more information on CCPE’s former Initial Assessment Program, contact CCPE at evaluation@ccpe.ca.

NOTE: In order to make the EIEAP assessment, you have to fill in the previous form and send it to Canada for the proceedings with the certificates, grades, academic programs, etc. The assessment normally lasts from 4 to 6 weeks if all the documents are sent as requested.
The information and all the recommendations of this Guide and on our web site, must just be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience (skilled workers) in their immigration to Canada. For the final presentation of the necessary documents, you will have to follow the instructions given by the Official of Visa of the Embassy of Canada, in the form and order that they should request. The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and in public information of Citizenship and Immigration Canada CIC which, nevertheless, can change at any moment.

The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will obtain the Permanent Resident Visa, since this achievement depends only on the proper characteristics of the applicant and the evaluation and decision by the embassy. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

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Chapter #7

COMPLETING APPLICATION FORMS

7.1 INITIAL FORMS

(Skilled Workers - Simplified application process)

The necessary Application Forms to start the process of application for a Visa as a Permanent Resident, category Skilled Worker are the following two:

1. **IMM-0008e_SW**, Application for Permanent Resident - Federal Skilled Worker Class - Simplified Application Process

2. **IMM-5476**, Use of a Representative (Opcional, en caso de contratar un asesor).

TO GET THE FORMS

Application forms for Permanent Resident visa, Skilled Workers class, are available ONLINE from Citizenship and Immigration Canada website, using the following links:

- **IMM-0008e_SW**, Application for Permanent Resident - Federal Skilled Worker Class - Simplified Application Process
- **IMM-5476**, Use of a Representative

Note: The application form **IMM-0008e_SW** also has the number IMM 0008 (05-2006) E, printed on the first sheet footer (1 out of 3).

IMPORTANT

From September 1st 2006, to start this process it is only necessary to send the basic application form **IMM-0008e_SW**, Application for Permanent Resident - Federal Skilled Worker Class - Simplified Application Process and the cancellation receipt for the assessment fee. This way your application starts queuing and it will be in turn assessed. A Canadian Visa Official will assess your case and send you a written communication telling you what documents are necessary to support your application and some new forms to fill out. This way, they will have updated documents for the final assessment.

7.2 HOW TO FILL THE APPLICATIÓN INICIAL IMM-0008e_SW
This form can be filled out in two different ways:

1. Downloading it from Internet (IMM-0008e_SW, Application for Permanent Resident - Federal Skilled Worker Class - Simplified Application Process), printing a copy and completing (handwriting) it with the necessary information.

2. Downloading the form from Internet, and filling it out on the computer by means of the software ADOBE READER 7.0. Once completed, it can be printed and signed, but there is no way of saving the completed form.

NOTE: This application form must only be filled out by the main applicant.

RECOMMENDATION

It is essential to complete the form correctly. It is a good idea to make a copy of the form before filling it out and use it as a draft copy. Once you are sure all the information is correct for every box, proceed to complete the final application form on your computer or on the printed copy you will send the Canadian embassy.

• Page 1 - DATA

- The first piece of information you should write is the number of family members included in the application form.

For the example: 4 (father, mother, a son and a daughter)

- The following data is which language you prefer for the correspondence you will get and which one for the interview. You should choose it by making a tick in the box, according to your knowledge.

For the example, English was chosen.

- POINT #1.

• Family Name: The applicant’s father’s surname.

• Given name (2): Write your first name(s) just as they appear in your documents.

The following data should belong to your personal information. The sample form can be a guide to fill out the application correctly. You should complete it with your own details accordingly.
Point #17 - Your Identity Card Number

Identification card issued by a department, provincial, or national government. In general terms, it is the most important identification document and has different denominations in every country. For example: Citizen Card, Election Card, etc.

It can also be a document issued by an international organisation such as the Red Cross. If you have this identification document, write its number in the corresponding box. Make a photocopy from both sides of the document and attach it to your application.
Note: When you make your application, you should already owe a passport and the minimum score to get your Permanent Resident Visa.

**DATA Page 2**

**Question # 22 – EDUCATION.** To answer this question you should add up the years of:

- Elementary school
- High School
- University or College (full time)
Choose the box showing your highest educational level you finished.

**Secondary education**: The level after elementary school and before college, university or any other professional or technical education. Secondary education is known in some countries as “high school” (Canada and the USA).

**Trade/Apprenticeship**: Technical training in a specific occupation, such as carpentry, car mechanics, electrician, technical draftsman, plumber, etc.

**Non-university certificate/diploma**: Education in a profession not requiring university degree, although it requires formal education. For example, false teeth technician, engines technician, radiologist, engineer technician, etc.

**Bachelor's degree**: It is the academic grade given by a university to whom finished a professional academic program. For example: Electronic Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, Oil Engineering, Architecture, Dental doctors, etc. In Canada and the USA the equivalent is credited as Bachelor of Science with major in Mechanical Engineering.

**Master's degree**: An academic degree issued by a professional college or university. Usually, to be accepted at this academic level it is needed a university degree (equivalent to a Bachelor's degree).

**PhD**: The highest University degree, achieved after at least three years of studies and a dissertation, thesis, or special project. Usually, it is required to finish a Master degree before the attainment of a PhD.
Point #24 - RELATIVES IN CANADA. Write if you or your spouse have any relatives legally living in Canada. Remember that you will have to prove it by means of producing some evidence to get the score for this aspect.

Point #25 - FUNDS (money). Write the total amount of money you owe, expressed in Canadian dollars, which you can prove by means of different documents. This is an INDISPENSABLE requirement to get the Skilled Worker residence.

**IMPORTANT**

You will have to show before the CIC, Citizenship and Immigration Canada that you owe the funds to arrive and settle down in Canada. It is advisable to make a check list to show them, called “Proof of Settlement Funds”. Don't forget to include documents proving the following (authenticated copies, or originals):

- Bank account and savings balance.
- Investments or deposits at fixed term
- Real State properties
- Machinery or industrial equipment

Remember that it is all vital to produce the right documents to prove the ownership of your wealth.

Point #26 - JOB EXPERIENCE. The first thing you should know is the NOC (NATIONAL Occupational Classification) corresponding to your career. This code number can be found in Chapter 3 of this book.

- You must start by your last job position
- Write about your duties briefly, and highlight their relationship with your profession.
- Remember that you will eventually have to prove that experience with your former employer’s letters.
Point 27. INFORMATION ABOUT THE REST OF FAMILY MEMBERS.

The 3rd and last page of the application form is to write the information of the other family members who will travel to Canada with you, in case you are accepted.

- If your family have more members you will need one more copy of the form.
- The height of every people is given in centimetres (it may be additionally expressed in feet & inches)

The family members you may include are:

1. Spouse
2. Permanent Partner: Person with whom you have lived for at least a year (common law)
3. Sons and daughters - born to you or adopted - under 18.
4. Dependant sons and daughters, born to you or adopted who:
   - Are under 22 and are single or have no permanent partner.
   - Have been full time students and have been financially supported by you since they turned 22 (or since they turned into spouses or permanent partners if that took place before they turned 22)
   - Have depended financially from their parents since they turned 22 and are unable to support themselves as a consequence of a disease or any special medical condition.
28. **DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE.** Once you filled out the form you must sign it and write the corresponding date. As you sign it, you confirm that all the information in the form is true and trustworthy.

---

**¡IMPORTANT!**

Giving false information is considered a serious offence, and will certainly leave you without your visa for at least two years. The embassy may do some research to verify the information supplied.

7.3 **APPLICATION IMM 5476 – USING A REPRESENTATIVE**

Complete this form if you hire the services of a Representative, who will have your authorisation to do the necessary errands on your behalf before the Citizenship and Immigration Canada. When you hire a representative...
you also authorise the CIC to share the information about your application with that people.

```
IMPORTANT
Using a representative isn’t compulsory, and it makes no difference before the CIC. The results and the duration of the process will be exactly the same with or without a representative, as the final result is strictly based on the score you achieve.

What is really important is to turn in the proper documents to achieve that score.
```

The representative will be authorised to represent you just in issues in connection with your visa application sent. You can hire just one representative per application sent. The authorised representatives may be:

- **Non Remunerated**: friends or organisations providing this kind of assistance, law students, etc
- **Remunerated Representatives**: Immigration Consultants - CSIC - Canadian Lawyers. Notaries, etc. Immigration Consultants, Members of the Canadian Society of Immigration Consultants - CSIC, Canadian Lawyers, notaries, etc.

```
You must notify the CIC if you change your representative or if you decide to cancel his /her services
```

7.4 PAYMENT FOR THE APPLICATION ASSESSMENT

With the aim of knowing the way of paying the amount for the assessment of your visa application (bank, financial agency, bureau, etc.) you must contact the Canadian Embassy in your area.

To know the necessary details to pay in any other country in the world, use the following links:

África, Europa y Middle East

- [Abidjan, Ivory Coast](#) >> also in [HTML format](#)
- [Accra, Ghana](#) >> also in [HTML format](#)
- [Ankara, Turkey](#) >> also in [HTML format](#)
- [Berlin, Germany](#) >> also in [HTML format](#)
- [Bucharest, Romania](#) >> also in [HTML format](#)
- [Bucharest, Romania](#) >> also in [HTML format](#)
- [Cairo, Egypt](#) >> also in [HTML format](#)
- [Damascus, Syria](#) >> also in [HTML format](#)
- [Kyiv, Ukraine](#) >> also in [HTML format](#)
- [London, Great Britain](#)
- Moscow, Russia
- Nairobi, Kenya
- Paris, France
- Pretoria, South Africa
- Rabat, Morocco
- Rome, Italy
- Tel Aviv, Israel
- Vienna, Austria
- Warsaw, Poland

Asia / Pacífico
- Beijing, China
- Colombo, Sri Lanka
- Hong Kong, China
- Islamabad, Pakistan
- Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Manila, Philippines
- New Delhi, India
- Seoul, Korea
- Singapore, Singapore
- Sydney, Australia
- Taipei, Taiwan

North America, South America, Latin America or the Caribbean
- Bogota, Colombia
- Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Buffalo, U.S.A.
- Caracas, Venezuela
- Guatemala City, Guatemala
- Havana, Cuba
7.5 OTHER FORMS

Several months after you sent the initial application form, (IMM-0008e_SW) the Visa Official will send you a written communication with a list of documents and some new forms to turn in. Apart from the documents, you will have to fill out some other immigration forms with updated information. The general applications for a Resident Visa are:

- IMM 0008 - Application for Permanent Residence in Canada
- IMM 5406 - Schedule 1: Background/Declaration and Additional Family Information

You can also print the forms from the following Internet address:


- The form IMM 0008 - Application for Permanent Residence in Canada must be completed by the main applicant. He/she must include the details of every family member included in the visa application in the second page. If you need to include more than three dependant people. You must photocopy the form.

- The form IMM 5406 - Schedule 1: Background/Declaration and Additional Family Information must be filled out by your spouse or dependant son/daughter of 18 or above, (whether he/she is travelling with you or not). It is necessary to make copies of the page for everyone.

**IMPORTANT**

To fill out the applications IMM 0008 - Application for Permanent Residence in Canada and IMM 5406 - Schedule 1: Background/Declaration and Additional Family Information the information and the details to fill out are similar to the ones shown for the initial application explained in this chapter.
The information and all the recommendations of this Guide and on our web site, must just be taken **ONLY as a reference**. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience (skilled workers) in their immigration to Canada. For the final presentation of the necessary documents, you will have to follow the instructions given by the Official of Visa of the Embassy of Canada, in the form and order that they should request. The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and in public information of Citizenship and Immigration Canada CIC which, nevertheless, can change at any moment.

The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will obtain the Permanent Resident Visa, since this achievement depends only on the proper characteristics of the applicant and the evaluation and decision by the embassy. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

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Chapter #8

PREPARATION AND DOCUMENT CONTROL (CHECKLIST)

(Permanent Resident Visa - Skilled Workers Category)

8.1 PREPARATION OF DOCUMENTS

Stage #1

PREPARE THE IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS

The identification documents that you and every family member must have to apply for the Resident Visa are:

- Valid Passport
- Identification card, election card, of any other valid document proving your identity and citizenship from your country of origin.
- Legal Certificate or Police Certificate, original for every person above 18 years old.
- Birth Certificate
- Marriage Certificate (from the church or government) in every applicable case

NOTE: Some personal documents as birth certificates and baptism certificate must be translated into English or French. This translator must be done and translated by a professional translator. These documents will be asked by the Visa Official, in the first term, for preparing your scoring. If you are approved, you would eventually need them in Canada to do some errands such as entering Catholic schools, etc.

Stage #2

GATHER THE CERTIFICATES, DIPLOMAS AND ACADEMIC DEGREES
The academic certificates and degrees you must have a main applicant and you spouse if he/she has post high school education are:

- High School Degree or Diploma
- University or Technical College Degree (Professional, Technician, Technologist)
- Act of Professional Degree
- Analytical Certificate of Subjects and Marks
- Professional or Technical Affiliation Cards.

NOTE: The academic documents such as degrees, diplomas, acts, syllabi and certificates of marks must be translated to English or French. This translator must be done and signed by a professional translator. These documents will asked by the Visa Official for your initial scoring. They will eventually necessary, if you are approved, to get a professional or technical certification in your career.

Stage #3

GATHER THE JOB CERTIFICATES

The necessary documents you must turn in to prove your job experience are:

- Certificate of job from the companies where you have worked in the last 10 years, containing:
  a. Name of the job Position.
  b. Technical or professional functions performed.
  c. Period worked.
  d. Name, position and degree of your immediate superior
  e. City, address, telephone, e-mail

It is also advisable to specify if the job was a full time or a part time job. If possible, ask those documents in English and also ask your former employer to include a brief recommendation letter. It is also advisable to have them translated in to English or French by a certified translator.

Note: This document not only will be necessary for the visa application but also for getting a certification of your career or profession and to get a job in Canada.

Stage #4

TAKE AN EXAM TO CERTIFY YOUR LEVEL OF ENGLISH AND/OR FRENCH

For the Canadian Visa Official to assign the points for the language factor, you must turn in:

- Valid English Exam or an exam recommended by the Canadian Embassy
- French Exam

Note: It is compulsory to turn in the evaluation of at least one of those languages (French or English) Producing proof of both languages level would be only necessary if you have a good command and intend to prove it to get a high score.

There are just two English exams approved by the Citizenship & Immigration Canada to prove your level. In Latin America and many countries around the world, the exam is conducted by the English Language Testing organisation:

- IELTS: International English Language Testing System

  This exam is given in different capitals and important cities in Latin America by the British Council.
  
  Note: IELTS has two options for “reading and writing tests” - “General Training” and “Academic”. You must take the option “General Training”.

You must take the English exam at the British Council and pay for it. The result will be included in the documents that the Visa Official will take into consideration for the final assessment of your documents.
The result of this exam is valid for a year.

Once you have the results, you will know exactly how many points you have for your assessment, by using the following chart:

### International English Language Testing System (IELTS): Test Score Equivalency Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Points (per ability)</th>
<th>Test Results for Each Ability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Speaking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>First Official Language: 4</td>
<td>7.0 - 9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Second Official Language: 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5.0 - 6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4.0 - 4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(to a maximum of 2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Less than 4.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you must take the exam in French, the approved exam is the one by the TEF: Test d’évaluation de français.

The Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry runs those exams. Note: you must send the following TEF tests as a proof of your French level:

- compréhension écrite
- compréhension orale
- expression écrite
- expression orale

In those countries where this institution has no branches, this exam can be taken in similar institutions such as the French Alliance or where the Canadian Embassy advises you to do so.

Once you have the results, you will know exactly how many points you have for your assessment, by using the following chart:

### Test d’évaluation de français (TEF): Test Score Equivalency Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Points (per ability)</th>
<th>Test Results for Each Ability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Speaking (expression orale)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>First Official Language: 4</td>
<td>Level 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Second Official Language: 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stage #5

PREPARE OTHER DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR IMMIGRATION

The Visa Official will ask other documents to give score you for factor 6 - Adaptability - or simply to support your application. Have these ready:

- **Authenticated Authorisations** by your children father or mother for they to emigrate and live with you in Canada (if applicable)
- Authenticated copy of the birth of any relative (parents, siblings, uncles/aunts, etc.,) living in Canada plus some evidence of they living as citizens or permanent residents in Canada, if applicable.
- Authenticated copy if the Divorce Certificate, if you don’t live with your ex spouse. Include the decision on the legal custody of children under age, if applicable.

Stage #6

PREPARE POLICE OR LEGAL CERTIFICATE

Ask this document to prove you have no criminal record in your country of origin. This is the one asked by the Visa Official:

- Legal Certificate or Police Certificate, original, for every family member over 18 years old.

Stage #7

MAKE A BALANCE OF YOUR GOODS OR PROPERTIES TO PROVE YOUR SOLVENCY

Apart from having the minimum amount required, you must prove the Canadian Government that you are solvent enough to get by in Canada for the first months. It is a compulsory requirement to get a visa, to prove you owe those economical resources. Make a balance with its corresponding documents (bank letters) and certificates of the goods and properties you have:

- Money in Bank Accounts
- Fixed term savings
- Machinery, cars or any other active of your own you may sell
- Apartment, houses or other properties you owe (title deeds).

Note: See example in Chapter 8.4

You should prove the Embassy you have and owe these funds. The minimum amount depends on the number of family members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Family members (applicants)</th>
<th>Founds required*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
All the information and recommendations of this Chapter should be taken just as a reference. You should follow the instructions given by the Visa Official from the Canadian Embassy strictly for the final turn-in of the necessary documents.

Several months after sending your initial application IMM-0008SW and the payment receipt, a Visa Official will contact you and give you instructions for the final assessment of your application. In order to do that he/she will ask you:

1. To update and fill in the final application forms. He will provide you with those if they are necessary.
2. Additional payments (if you got married or had a child)
3. All the supporting documents (identification, education, job, languages tests, police certificate, etc.). You will also have to send photographs. You will be given a list of all the documents you must turn in (check list).

Once the Visa Official has received all your documents he will proceed with your assessment, taking into account all the information and the supporting documents you turned in.

8.2 GUIDE FOR THE CHECK-UP OF DOCUMENTS TO BE TURNED IN TO THE EMBASSY

The following “Guide for the check-up of documents” has been written with the aim to help you in the thorough and organised preparation of the different documents, supporting information, copies, certificates, etc. That will be asked by the Visa Official. It is also useful to turn in the necessary documents for the final assessment of your Permanent Resident Visa application, in a neat professional way.

PERMANENTE RESIDENT VISA APPLICATION IN CANADA - SKILLED WORKER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>DOCUMENT</th>
<th>MAIN APPLICANT</th>
<th>SPOUSE</th>
<th>CHILD 1 UNDER 22</th>
<th>CHILD 2 UNDER 22</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-1</td>
<td>Passpport AND AUTHENTICATED COPY MAIN PAGE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-2</td>
<td>AUTHENTICATED COPY OF IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT FROM THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-3</td>
<td>BIRTH CERTIFICATE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-4</td>
<td>AUTHENTICATED COPY OF MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-5</td>
<td>PHOTOGRAPHS (3 PER PERSON)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C - ACADEMICAL CERTIFICATES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-1</td>
<td>COPY OF HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-2</td>
<td>COPY OF UNIVERSITY, TECHNICAL OR POST-HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION MARK</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-3</td>
<td>COPY OF UNIVERSITY, TECHNICAL OR POST-HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-4</td>
<td>COPY OF PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION OR LICENSE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D - JOB CERTIFICATES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-1</td>
<td>LETTER #1: JOB REFERENCE DESCRIBING POSITIONS, DATES AND DUTIES (LAST 10 YEARS)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-2</td>
<td>LETTER #2: JOB REFERENCE DESCRIBING POSITIONS, DATES AND DUTIES (LAST 10 YEARS)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E - MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-1</td>
<td>ENGLISH TEST OR SIMILAR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-2</td>
<td>FRENCH TEST OR SIMILAR</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-3</td>
<td>ORIGINAL LEGAL / POLICE CERTIFICATE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-4</td>
<td>AUTHENTICATED COPY OF DIVORCE</td>
<td>Only if any of you is divorced</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-5</td>
<td>AUTHORIZATION OF THE FATHER OR MOTHER OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE TO TRAVEL WITH YOU IF APPLICABLE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-6</td>
<td>LETTER AND DOCUMENTS TO PROVE YOUR ECONOMICAL SOLVENCY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-7</td>
<td>PROOF OF RELATIONSHIP WITH ANY RELATIVE LIVING IN CANADA, IF APPLICABLE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-8</td>
<td>ASSESSMENT OF DEGREE AND QUALIFICATIONS BY THE CANADIAN COUNCIL, IF REQUIRED</td>
<td>Engineers and Technicians (optional)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F - OTHER DOCUMENTS ASKED BY THE VISA OFFICIAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F-1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F-2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F-3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE 1:** YOU SHOULD ONLY TURN IN ORIGINALS OR AUTHENTICATED COPIES OF DOCUMENTS
8.3 GUIDE TO PROVE ECONOMICAL SOLVENCY

You will have to PROVE your solvency before the CIC, Citizenship and Immigration Canada. It is advisable to make a list to show that you have the minimum required funds to settle down with your family in Canada: the “Proof of Settlement Funds”. Don’t forget to include the documents (authenticated copies or originals) proving:

- Balance of bank account and savings.
- Fixed term deposits or investments
- Real state properties
- Machinery or Industrial equipment
- Any goods or properties you owe and may be easily sold.

Remember that it is extremely important to turn in the correct documents to prove you owe the required goods.

Use the following example ONLY as a reference:
Bogotá, D.C., junio 17 de 2006.
Para: Canadian Embassy
Subject: Application for Residence Visa – Solvency Evidence
File # 2006-2345455

Proof of Settlement Funds
(RELACIÓN DE PATRIMONIO)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N.</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>AMOUNT $</th>
<th>OBSERVACIONES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Apartment 608 Street 142 No. 22- A 61 Bogota D.C. with garage and storage area</td>
<td>$80,000.000</td>
<td>See attached sheet No. 1.P (certificate of liberty and tradition updated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Apartment 202 Street 3 No. 46-16, Bogota, with garage.</td>
<td>$38,000.000</td>
<td>See Attachment No. 2.P (certificate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Car R-19 - Model 96, Number Plate CBS-767 Chia</td>
<td>$15,000.000</td>
<td>See Attachment No. 3.P (Property Card)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Tools and Machines</td>
<td>$10,000.000</td>
<td>See Attachment No. 4.P (invoices)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Savings Account YOURBANK No.00800012159-3</td>
<td>$4,000.000</td>
<td>See Attachment No. 5.P and 6.P (copies of extracts)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Certificate of Fixed Term BCH No. 0273732-7</td>
<td>$5,000.000</td>
<td>See Attachment No 7.P (copies of certificate).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Severance, settlement, legal and extra legal premiums JUN-2006.</td>
<td>$6,000.000</td>
<td>Present job INDUSTRIAS KATO (according to job certificates).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Appliances (TV, Video Camera, PC, Laptop, office equipment, washing machine, furniture, tools, etc.).</td>
<td>$5,000.000</td>
<td>Approximated Value</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL $ 123.000.000 (Colombian pesos)

1 Cd$ = 2200 Col pesos. 
Total en Cd $ 40.000

THEY SUM UP: ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY THREE MILLION PESOS
(GROSS WEALTH OF THE FAMILY PEREZ PEREZ)

Yours sincerely,

JUAN PÉREZ PÉREZ
ROSA MARIA PÉREZ DE PÉREZ
CC. 19.999.000 de Bogotá
CC. 51.111.555 de Bogotá
Mechanical Engineer

NOTE 1: Send a copy of all the bank receipts, copies of title deeds, invoices, etc. That are useful to prove that you actually owe those goods and properties.
8.4 GUIDE FOR PLANNING AND CHECK-UP OF GATHERING TASKS

To organise the gathering of the different documents, you can use as a reference a table like the one showed here, which will allow for achieving your aims in an organised way and within a reasonable period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOCUMENTS to TURN IN TO THE EMBASSY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERMANENT VISA APPLICATION IN CANADA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEMS</th>
<th>DOCUMENTS</th>
<th>FOLLOW - UP AND ACHIEVEMENT OF GOALS (months)</th>
<th>OBS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>VISA APPLICATION FORM</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>PASSPORT AND AUTHENTICATED COPY OF PASSPORT SHEET</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>AUTHENTICATED COPY OF IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>ORIGINAL LEGAL / POLICE CERTIFICATE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>REGISTRO CIVIL DE NACIMIENTO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>AUTHENTICATED COPY OF MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>FOTOGRAFÍAS (3 PRR PERSON)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>COPY OF HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>COPY OF HIGH EDUCATION OR UNIVERSITY CALIFICATIONS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>COPY OF UNIVERSITY OR HIGH EDUCATION DIPLOMA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>COPIA MATRÍCULA O REGISTRO PROFESIONAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>LETTERS OF JOB REFERENCE, DESCRIBING POSITIONS AND DUTIES (LAST 10 YEARS)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>EVIDENCE OF SOLVENCY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>ENGLISH AND FRENCH TESTS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>COPY OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE OF RELATIVES LIVING IN CANADA (IF APPLICABLE)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>AUTHENTICATED COPY OF DIVORCE CERTIFICATE (IF YOU DON'T LIVE WITH YOUR SPOUSE ANY MORE)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>AUTHORIZATION OF THE MOTHER / FATHER OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE TO TRAVEL WITH YOU, IF APPLICABLE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>ASSESSMENT OF CALIFICATIONS AND DEGREE BY THE CANADIAN COUNCIL (IF REQUIRED)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

converted by Web2PDFconvert.com
8.5 OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS

• As in many cases the English exam is the most important document to get the minimum score required for the Permanent Residence Visa, **it is advisable to take the exam more than once**. If you take the opportunity to study from the time you send your application until you are asked your documents, you’ll turn in a better exam result.

• Avoid the medical examinations in the three first months of the year (January, February or March), as you would have to arrive in Canada before they expire one year later. This is to avoid arriving in Winter, which is not advisable.
Once you have all the documents and forms required by the Canadian Embassy, sort them out and make a list check-out to make sure they are neatly complete. The most frequent causes for delay in the assessment process which may eventually lead to the rejection of your visa application are the following:

- Non clear photocopies or not authenticated if applicable
- Translations of documents into French or English by a professional translator not attached when required
- Documents (job /experience certificates, bank statements, etc.) with information that cannot be verified (no contacts, address, telephone numbers, e-mail, etc)
- Medical examination results requiring further studies or specialized attention
- Outstanding family affairs, such as divorce, custody, or family responsibilities.

## 9.1 FINAL REVISION OF DOCUMENTS

Send all the documents and information required by the Visa Official with the corresponding supporting documents, in a clear, neat and organized manner. This is the best way helping the Officials with your assessment, which will avoid possible delays.

Make sure you are sending all your documents according to the checklist given to you by the Visa Official. Use that list to verify all and every required document

**NOTE:** Sending an application without the necessary documents will delay your assessment.

## 9.2 NUMBER YOUR DOCUMENTS

A practical way of sorting out your documents is making a table with the type of document and every family member and check that they are all complete. This way every document is key coded, which key is also useful to sort the required documents out.

This "document checklist" will help you in the preparation and final revision of your documents before sending them to the Embassy. USE THIS EXAMPLE JUST AS A REFERENCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>DOCUMENT</th>
<th>MAIN APPLICANT</th>
<th>SPOUSE</th>
<th>CHILD 1 UNDER 22</th>
<th>CHILD 2 UNDER 22</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-1</td>
<td>A-APPLICATIONS (Forms Required by the Visa Official)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### B- ID DOCUMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B-1</th>
<th>PASSPORT AND AUTHENTICATED COPY OF MAIN PAGE</th>
<th>B-1-1</th>
<th>B-1-2</th>
<th>B-1-3</th>
<th>B-1-4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B-2</td>
<td>AUTHENTICATED COPY OF ID DOCUMENT FROM YOUR COUNTRY</td>
<td>B-2-1</td>
<td>B-2-2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-3</td>
<td>NUMBER OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE</td>
<td>B-3-1</td>
<td>B-3-2</td>
<td>B-3-3</td>
<td>B-3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-4</td>
<td>AUTHENTICATED COPY OF MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE</td>
<td>B-4-1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-5</td>
<td>PHOTOGRAPHS (3 PER PERSON)</td>
<td>B-5-1</td>
<td>B-5-2</td>
<td>B-5-3</td>
<td>B-5-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### C - ACADEMIC CERTIFICATES

| C-1 | COPY OF HIGH SCHOOL CERTIFICATE | C-1-1 | C-1-2 |       |       |
| C-2 | COPY OF UNIVERSITY, TECHNICAL OR POST HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION CALIFICATIONS | C-2-1 | C-2-2 |       |       |
| C-3 | COPY OF UNIVERSITY, TECHNICAL OR POST HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION DIPLOMA | C-3-1 | C-3-2 |       |       |
| C-4 | COPY OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSE | C-4-1 | C-4-2 |       |       |

### D- JOB CERTIFICATES

| D-1 | LETTER 1, OF JOB REFERENCE, DESCRIBING POSITIONS, DATES AND DUTIES (LAST 10 YEARS) | D-1-1 |       |       |       |
| D-2 | LETTER 2, OF JOB REFERENCE, DESCRIBING POSITIONS, DATES AND DUTIES (LAST 10 YEARS) | D-2-1 |       |       |       |

### E- MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

| E-1 | ENGLISH TEST | E-1-1 |       |       |       |
| E-2 | FRENCH TEST | E-2-1 |       |       | Optional |
| E-3 | LEGAL CERTIFICATE ORIGINAL COPY | E-3-1 | E-3-2 | E-3-3 | E-3-4 |
| E-4 | AUTHENTICATED COPY OF DIVORCE CERTIFICATE (S) | E-4-1 |       |       | Only if any of you is divorced |
| E-5 | AUTHORIZATION OF MOTHER /FATHER OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE TO TRAVEL WITH YOU, IF APPLICABLE | E-5-1 |       |       |       |
| E-6 | LETTER AND DOCUMENTS TO PROVE FINANCIAL SOLVENCY | E-6-1 |       |       |       |
| E-7 | PROOF OF RELATIONSHIP WITH ANY RELATIVE LIVING IN CANADA IF APPLICABLE | E-7-1 |       |       |       |
| E-8 | ASSESSMENT OF CALIFICATIONS, IF APPLICABLE) | E-8-1 |       |       | Engineers and Technicians (optional) |

### F-OTHER DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY THE VISA OFFICIAL

| F-1 |       |       |       |       |
| F-2 |       |       |       |       |
| F-3 |       |       |       |       |
NOTE: As you organize your batch of documents, write the number of every document on the lower right corner of the page in pencil. This system will help you organize your documents easily.

9.3 SENDING YOUR DOCUMENTS

Before sending your documents, please check:

1. Application forms: complete and correct.
2. Receipt of payment with the correct amount.
3. All the supporting documents that were required and are relevant.

The Visa Official will send you a letter on the arrival of your documents and will notify you what the next step will be.

9.4 WHAT HAPPENS AFTER SENDING THE DOCUMENTS?

The processing time for your application may be different for every embassy. The ordinary period in every bureau can be checked on Internet applications processing times.

The assessment of your application may take extra time if:

- There are outgoing law or police issues.
- Non-clear family affairs, such as divorce, separations, children from different mothers, adoptions with non-finished custodies, etc.
- If the official has to consult other bureaus of the CIC in Canada or any other country.

9.5 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

The Visa Official will eventually inform you about the medical examinations required for the visa. You, as the main applicant, and all your family members included in the application form will have to undergo a medical examination with a doctor who is authorized by the Canadian embassy. It consists of a routine physical and mental health, along with some blood, urine, and X-ray tests.

CAUSES OF REJECTION FOR MEDICAL REASONS:

- If the condition of the applicant can put at risk other people’s health - for example tuberculosis, AIDS, etc.
- When the applicant has a disease or disorder requiring extreme expenditure from the health system in Canada
- When the condition of the applicant might lead him/her to be unable to support him/herself and the applicant’s family

Note: The medical exams must be performed by any authorized doctor in every Country. However, the assessment of their results and the final decision will be made by an authorized medical organization, in a different country from yours, where they are sent. The doctor in your country just collects the necessary data on your physical condition, gathers the laboratory tests, and sends them without taking any decision.

The final results of the medical exams are expressed by an “M” and a number identifying the opinion of the medical authority regarding the admission of the applicant. These are the possible results:

- M - Result of medical examinations
- M1: No medical impediments to be admitted
- M2: A condition (disease or disorder) of no risk for the public health and not enough to deny admission, but which should be taken into consideration along with other social and personal factors.
- M3: A condition (disease or disorder) which possible social service costs are not enough to deny admission, but which should be taken into consideration along with other social and personal factors.

- M4: A condition that may be dangerous for public health, so the applicant is inadmissible. However, a new application and possible admission is possible after certain treatment.

- M5: A condition (disease or disorder) which possible social service costs are such that the applicant is inadmissible at present. A new application and possible admission is possible after certain treatment.

- M6: A condition (disease or disorder) that is dangerous for public health with no possible treatment that may allow for the applicant admission in the future.

- M7: A condition (disease or disorder) that may demand an excessive social services cost and that seems to have no possible treatment.

Note that the medical assessment is performed for every person included in the application. If any family member doesn't meet the medical standards, the whole application will be rejected.

NOTE: This information is shown just as a reference and the author has no responsibility for the interpretation the reader may make of it.

9.6 INTERVIEW

If the Visa Official from the Canadian Embassy estimates it as necessary, you may be called to an interview. In some cases this interview is to verify some data or information to establish your scoring clearly. Being called for an interview doesn't mean that there are any problems with your application. Basically, it responds to these two purposes:

1. Verify the information submitted by the applicant.

2. Give the family some information that will be useful for their settlement in Canada.

During the interview, the official may ask some questions in connection with the documents to clarify some matters, or require you to explain what your economical resources to get by in Canada are. The interview itself doesn't score any points.

IMPORTANT: Apart from the minimum score, you must show evidence of your financial solvency to get by in Canada for the first 6 months.

9.7 THE DECISION ON YOU APPLICATION

Once the Official has determined that the applicant complies with the required score and is accepted to receive the Permanent Resident Visa in Canada, he/she will inform you the results.

The visa is stamped on one of the original passport pages of every family member. That is why the passport must be valid at least for a year and have a least two pages available for the visa.

NOTE: To get the Permanent Resident Visa, the applicant must pay the right to Permanent Visa as main applicant and the one corresponding to his wife or permanent partner, if applicable.
**VALIDITY**: Every Permanent Resident visa is valid for a year from the date of the medical examinations. The main applicant and his family must arrive in Canada before it expires. If this condition is not fulfilled, the visa is cancelled. The visa expiration date cannot be extended.

**9.8 REJECTION OF AN APPLICATION**

An applicant can be rejected during the application process for any of these reasons:

- Law or police affairs or criminal record in any country
- Security reasons
- Medical reasons (medical examinations failed)
- A quite low level of English and French
- Financial reasons (not complying the minimum resources required for settlement)
- Fake or incomplete information
- Inadmissible family members
- Not turning in the required documents or not attending the interview

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**DISCLAIMER**

The information and all the recommendations of this Guide and on our web site, must just be taken **ONLY as a reference**. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience (skilled workers) in their immigration to Canada. For the final presentation of the necessary documents, you will have to follow the instructions given by the Official of Visa of the Embassy of Canada, in the form and order that they should request. The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and in public information of Citizenship and Immigration Canada CIC which, nevertheless, can change at any moment.

The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will obtain the Permanent Resident Visa, since this achievement depends only on the proper characteristics of the applicant and the evaluation and decision by the embassy. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

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-Photos from istockphotos.com & estockphotos.com
RECOMMENDATION

The best season to travel and settle down in Canada is from April to November (Spring, Summer and beginning of Fall). The least recommended months are from December to February, due to the extremely low winter temperatures. An arrival at Canada in an extreme cool winter could make the experience too hard and unpleasant to endure for you and your family.

Take into account that the educational season starts in the first week of September. However, new students will always be admitted to school, no matter the time of the year.

To save money, it is also advisable to know that prices of fare tickets often are more expensive in holiday season and in December, January and June than in low season.

As soon as possible, plan your trip to Canada carefully and in advance enough to be able to choose the most convenient date for your personal situation, which will prevent you from go beyond the visa expiration date.

10.1 PACKING

Congratulations! By this time of the process your family and you will be experiencing a special feeling of happiness, expectation and also of uncertainty regarding your future. You may be about to give the most important step in your life and it will affect your and your family's future in a positive way. Moving to a country like Canada is a big change that will certainly give you new opportunities.

However, take into consideration that the successful development of future events, will depend to a great extent on your planning and your good assessment abilities to make decisions. To help you in your project, you will find some tips below, based on the experience of other immigrants who followed the same path before you.

Have into account the following general considerations to start your trip in the smoothest way:

- Ask your airline about the maximum weight for luggage in kilos you can take with you, for your whole family. Keep in mind that total weight when you pack for the whole family. Paying for extra baggage is not always justified, especially for used articles that will probably have a short life in the future, for example: toys, clothes, shoes, appliances, etc.

- Make sure your hand baggage doesn't surpass the size and weight specified by the airline. Remember that you cannot take metal or cutting objects, or those banned by authorities.

- Ensure that any case weight is within the weight allowed by the airline (20 or 25 kilos per case, depending on the airline). Remember that, if any case exceeds the allowed weight, you will have to pay extra (approx.
Have your basic, important and recommended documents ready. They are listed in sections 10.2, 10.2 and 10.3. Also carry a list of all the valuables of the family you are bringing to Canada.

Exchange your money into local dollars (Canadian dollars is best) in a well-known and serious bank or exchange agency. Fake notes (quite common in some countries) may get you into serious trouble. Remember that it is always possible to get money from automatic machines, in Canada as in most places in the world, from your own bank account in your country, by services like INTERACT, Redeban, Visa, etc. Consult your bank. Another option is turning your money into traveller's cheques.

If you bring packages for other people in Canada, for example for relatives or friends, make sure to know what they contain. Avoid inconvenience.

Choose carefully the clothes you will bring. Everyday clothes in Canada usually depend on the weather and it varies from day to day. By experience, don't bring lots of clothes because you will have to purchase appropriate shoes, boots, coats, etc., especially for the cold snow season. Besides, especially children would like to start dressing like the other Canadians.

Since books are usually heavy, choose carefully and minimise the amount of books to pack. Especially your professional and technical books.

Re-confirm and keep handy the telephone number of the person who will pick you up from the airport, along with the address of the house or hotel where you will stay when you arrive in Canada.

Ensure that all what you are bringing is allowed in Canada (see 3.5 Articles you can bring to Canada)

10.2 BASIC DOCUMENTS

The following is the list of documents you should keep handy on your arrival at Canada:

- A Canadian Immigrant Visa of Permanent Resident for every family member.
- Passport from the country where you come from, valid to travel, for every family member.
- Two copies of the detailed list of the family valuable objects you are bringing to Canada, such as appliances, valuables, professional equipment, etc. Write on this list the estimate price (aprox.) of every article.
- Two copies of the list of articles your family will bring in the future.
- Enough funds to afford your family's initial expenditure, as stated in Chapter 5.2, for a period of about 6 months. On arrival, you may be asked by Immigration to proof that you actually owe those funds, such as the money itself or some evidence to prove you owe it. Officials will then make down how much you are bringing.

NOTE: These documents should be at hand and ready to be put forward on demand of immigration and customs officers. Don't pack them in the baggage cases.

RECOMENDACIÓN

The copies of the lists are one for the Canadian authorities, and the other for you. You can get a form with this purpose from the Canada Border Services Agency on the Internet site:


10.3 IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

According to your personal situation, you should bring to Canada the following documents, for every family member:

- Birth and baptism certificates
- Wedding certificate
- Adoption documents, if applicable
- Divorce or legal separation documents
- School documents or certificates, trade or professional certificates and licenses for every family member.
• Reference letters or WORK CERTIFICATES from previous employers
• A resume including your education, qualifications and work experience. Medical certificates.
• Certificates of vaccination, immunisation, dental registry, etc. for every family member.

**IMPORTANT:**
Have all your documents translated into English or French by a qualified translator before you come to Canada, especially degrees, qualifications, birth certificates, etc. This will avoid some inconvenience in the future.

### 10.4 RECOMMENDED DOCUMENTS

- An International Driver’s Permit.
- A certificate of reference by your country insurance company, stating how long you have been associated, and that - hopefully - you had neither accidents nor traffic offences.

**IMPORTANT**
Car insurance for new non-experienced people are rather expensive in Canada - maybe between $300 and 450$ per month. As an immigrant, it is important to carry some evidence to show the years of driving experience and your good record with the insurance companies in your country, in order to lower the insurance month fee.

### 10.5 ARTICLES YOU CANNOT BRING TO CANADA

You won’t be allowed to bring the following articles to Canada:

- Fire weapons, explosives or ammunition.
- Narcotics and drugs, with the exception of prescription drugs or medicines.
- Meat, daily products, fruits, plants of vegetables.
- Pets or endangered species of animals, or manufactured products made of animal parts such as fur, feathers, bone or ivory. Antiques with cultural value or articles having a historical significance in your country of origin. However, you will be allowed to bring some important artistic family objects or jewels that you may have inherited.
- More than 200 cigarettes (if you bring a greater number, you should pay a custom tax) for every person over 18 years old if you arrive in Quebec, Alberta, Saskatchewan o Manitoba, or for every person over 19 if you are immigrating to Ontario or other province.
- More than 1.5 litres of wine or 1.14 litres of any other commercial liquor (if you bring more, you should pay the customs tax for the exceeding quantity) for every person over 19.

For any doubts, or further information, you can communicate with:

Canada Customs and Revenue Agency
Customs, Excise and Taxation
Information Services
2265 St. Laurent Boulevard
Ottawa, Ontario K1G 4K3
Telephone: 1 (506) 636-5064 or (204) 983-3500
(when calling from outside Canada)
1 800 461-9999
(toll-free, from inside Canada)
Web site: [www.ccra-adrc.gc.ca](http://www.ccra-adrc.gc.ca)
Keep in mind the total weight when you pack for the whole family!

10.6 ARRIVAL IN CANADA

IMPORTANT

There are two vital points in your immigration process to Canada: the first one is making the necessary arrangements with a friend or reliable person for the picking up of your family and your baggage from the airport. The second one is having an apartment or house where to start your new life in Canada with your family.

If you intend to settle in Toronto, Vancouver or Calgary, we could help you to solve these two aspects, with reliable people who will assist you in your arrival and will find an initial location for you in Canada. They may also help with information on the place and will guide you to do the first errands in Canada, such as opening a bank account, transportation, enrolment on school, getting the basic Canadian documents, etc. Contact us for information (no commitment at all on your part)

CUSTOM and IMMIGRATION

If your Basic Documents are handy and in order, and you have taken into account what was set in ARTICLES YOU CANNOT BRING TO CANADA, most sure you will find the errands at Custom and Immigration quite easy.

You will be interviewed by a custom officer, who will ask you the list of articles and valuables you are entering into Canada. You will also need to show your immigrant visa, and will eventually be sent to the desk of the immigration official. Your visa, ID and travel documents will be verified. He will ask you about your personal affairs to verify your personal details and the information you wrote on your application form. The official may also ask you to produce some evidence to proof that you owe the funds to settle down, as stated in Chapter 5. In some cases you may be asked to tell the money you bring to Canada.

All being well, as expected, the official will authorise your arrival in Canada and will sign your Record of Landing or confirmation of Permanent Resident.

This entire errand may last about an hour. In some Canadian airports, you will be given a brochure called Welcome to Canada: What You Should Know. It contains information about life in Canada, especially referring to federal and provincial government bureaus, as well as about the free teaching centres of French and English. Remember, you as a permanent resident will have free access to different English or French courses, and at a very low cost for other training courses for immigrants.
IMPORTANT

When you arrive in Canada your visa will be confirmed and your Permanent resident Card will be issued. This ID card will be necessary to enter Canada, if you have to leave for some time.

Having with you the address where you will live or a reliable person’s address where these documents can be posted in the following weeks is essential.

If you intend to establish yourself in Toronto, Vancouver or Calgary, we can help you in this regard. Contacts us for information.

10.7 WEATHER IN CANADA - WHAT CLOTHES TO BRING.

Canada has four well different seasons. The weather and temperature in every season may vary a little from one area of Canada to the other, as the country is really big. These are the two most important aspects in every season:

Spring: In Spring, it is chill and rainy in Canada. Temperatures range from 5 to 15 C, being the highest during the day, and the lowest at night. Day light varies between 12 and 14 hours a day. The daily temperature average is 12 C in March, April and half of May.

Summer: It starts on June 21st. Hottest temperatures are in July and August, reaching 30 C or higher. In general terms, Summer is rather hot in Canada. Usually, temperatures between 20 and 30 C are expected. Day light in Summer is between 14 and 16 hours per day.

Autumn: Autumn, also called “fall”, starts on September 21st and ends in December. It gets chilly again and the green Summer vegetation gets extremely colourful, when leaves start losing their power, until they wither and fall. It is sometimes quite rainy, and snow starts falling regularly in November. Average temperatures range from 10 to 12 C, on the Southern area of the country.

Winter: Winter goes from the week before Christmas in December to March 20. Landscapes get covered by snow and temperatures can stay under 0 C in big areas of the country. Sometimes it reaches -28 C, day and night. Please take into account that the Northernmost the area you live in, and the higher the place you live in, the more cold you will face. Towards the Atlantic coast, in British Columbia, just a few times temperatures will go below 0 C. Day light hours are fewer and the sun rises around 8 AM in some December weeks, whereas the sunset takes place around 5 PM.

IMPORTANT

If you arrive at Canada in Winter (December to March), you will need to be properly ready and with special clothes. Remember that you must wear waterproof non-slip boots, a cap to protect your head and ears, gloves, and a coat or jacket made of any insulating material. Most probably, you will have to buy them on arrival. It is advisable to consult with somebody who lives or had the experience of living in Canada before you travel.

To check the weather in Canada and the area where you intend to live, please consult:

10.8 WHERE TO LIVE IN CANADA.

Most skilled workers, professionals and qualified technicians, usually live in the three biggest Canadian cities: Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver.

However, many others feel attracted to medium size cities, also important, where they can live with their families to their liking, so their life style can be better than the one in big cities. With a population rate between 100,000 and 1,000,000 inhabitants, they usually have the same educational and cultural offer, as well as public and private institutions, than the larger Canadian and North American cities. All Canadian cities are multi-ethnic and multi-cultural. The most important medium sized cities are Calgary, Edmonton, Victoria, Regina, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Sudbury, Barrie, Windsor, Hamilton, London, Mississauga, Ottawa, Quebec City, Halifax and Moncton.

Other families prefer smaller cities to start their new lives, which are usually more peaceful. Some of them are: Moncton, Fredericton, Sant John, Kelovna, Barrie, Red Deer, Guelph, Kichener, Oshawa, or Niagara. In these small cities or towns, new settlers can enjoy the mix of modern facilities and country life. The great attraction of these places is the possibility to rent or buy a house at lower prices.

RECOMMENDATION

You will find out that, depending on your profession, you will have better job opportunities in certain cities. Remember that your future will depend, to a great extent, on your job.

In the beginning, you would find better training and job opportunities in big cities, such as Toronto, Montreal, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver, and more possibilities to be appointed for a job interview. At the same time, both the cost of housing and the amount of competitors for job positions would be higher.

Experience has taught us that it is best to find a suitable job, no matter where, and then live as close to it as possible.

10.9 LOOKING FOR HOUSING

Once you have filled out the forms and presented your documents in Immigration, you will be allowed to enter the country and you will be there by your own.

The best idea is to contact somebody in Canada before you travel, in order to pick you up from the airport and take you to an apartment or hotel where you made a reservation for you and your family, on temporary basis. Finding somebody reliable who is waiting for you, who speaks your own language, and who may have gone through this same experience is the best thing that may happen to you.

Otherwise you would have to take a taxi, and the search for a hotel would be in your own hands, or the taxi driver’s.

10.9.1 YOUR FIRST ACCOMODATION IN ONTARIO

Counting on somebody to pick you up and help you to establish in the city where you have decided to live is most advisable. It is the best condition to start a new life in Canada.

However, this is not the case for most immigrants. If you have not made a reservation for an apartment for you and your family, a stay in an economical hotel for some days would be a good alternative. Reservations can be made on Internet. If you need to know where to spend some days or weeks, you may use these links:

www.dodgesuites.com
www.montecarloinns.com
www.super8.com
Since staying at a hotel may be costly, that may be just a good temporary solution, for a few days or weeks.

10.9.1 TYPES OF HOUSING

You will find these types of housing to rent in Canada:

- **Bachelor or studio apartment**: Small apartments, good for just a person. They usually offer a big area where you can find a kitchen and a bedroom area. The bathroom is usually in a different room.

- **Apartment**: The apartments found in residential buildings usually have 2 or 3 rooms and also have a separate kitchen, a living room, and a dining room. They may also have a bathroom or a bathroom and a toilet. They are usually rented with a refrigerator and electric heater, all-inclusive. Usually it has a balcony.

- **Condominium**: They are private apartments in residential buildings. Inhabitants are usually the owners and every one pays for their utilities. Condos share some public areas, so owners pay for a monthly maintenance fee.

- **Room for rent**: They are rooms in a house, apartment or condo. In general terms, tenants share the use of the toilet and the kitchen.

- **Townhouse**: Usually small houses on a row of identical ones situated side-by-side and sharing common walls. There are private and for-rent townhouses.

- **Duplex**: Houses having fully separate apartments or units. They can be private or for rent.
BASEMENT - APARTMENTS

Most houses in Canada are built on concrete and iron walls. These walls are strong and can resist the weight of the building. Since those walls are located on the exterior side of the building and cover the whole house, the inner space is used in various ways: to place the heating, air conditioning and machine systems, or a laundry, etc. Canadian families use the remaining place for comfortable entertainment rooms, to rest or as storage rooms, as well as for offices or private studios. It is also very common that owners adapt them for rent, with all the necessary services and an independent door, separated from the rest of the house.

Renting an apartment basement can be suitable as a temporary solution for a family on their arrival to Canada. The rent of these apartments is usually lower than the one of those located in housing buildings. Moreover, it is easy to find families that, apart from renting the apartment, are willing to help and advice their new neighbours who have just arrived in Canada.

Basement apartments are cool in the hot Summer and warm in the extremely cold Canadian Winter. The main drawback of this type of housing is the lack of a view to exterior areas out of the windows, as due to the location of the apartment, windows only allow a little light to enter. This is a particularly negative aspect, especially when there are children, since they may have an atmosphere of confinement and darkness.

To sum up, if you decide to rent a basement apartment as your first housing solution in Canada, it may be a good alternative for several reasons. But if you have children or teenagers, you should take this alternative just as a temporary solution.

10.9.2 RENTING AN APARTMENT OR A HOUSE.

Since finding a suitable housing at a reasonable price is your first concern, your alternative may be renting an apartment with furniture, paid weekly, fortnightly, or monthly. Living for a short while in this sort of apartments will allow for seeking a better one in the medium or long term (usually for 12 months) where you will start your new life with your own furniture and everyday elements, without the stress of not having a place to stay. In this case avoid renting in some places where, because of their low rent, may not be advisable because their location or your future neighbours. Remember that you pay for is what you get.

Your first housing should be, if possible, centrally located and with enough means of transportation to allow...
for trips in the city.

Finding the right apartment - which is, obviously, cheaper than renting a house - can be a bit difficult, and it takes time and patience. Most probably, the first housing may not suit all the needs, but bear in mind that it will be just for a while. That situation is just normal in the process of settlement in Ontario.

The following are the most common ways of seeking for-rent housing:

- Ask in apartment buildings having the “For Rent” or “Vacancy”. Go to the overseer bureau, which is the one in charge of giving information in those places.
- In free rent magazines you will find in different public areas and in many supermarket boards.
- In the section of classified ads in newspapers, where you will find a good variety of apartments in different city areas.
- Asking for help in organisations which offer help to newcomers.

Remember it is always advisable to phone in advance, and make an appointment with the person in charge of renting. Besides, asking for the total cost, and the additional fees for tenants, such as parking, cable TV, etc. Most apartments in Canada include electric heating and refrigerator, and the cost of water and electricity is usually included in the monthly rent, although you should make sure in every case.

Also remember that it is advisable to take into account the monthly rent and other family expenditure. You will also have to pay other services such as telephone, Internet, cable TV, apart from public transportation, etc.

Finally, keep in mind that in Ontario an in Canada, a rental agreement is a legal contract to which those who sign must abide to. You cannot do away with it, and just leave overnight.

IMPORTANT

In Ontario houses and apartments are rented on 12-month bases. Remember to ask your right to move before that period in the case you find a job far from that place and you need to move. If you include that clause or condition, you will avoid being fined for not abiding to the contract. It would be reasonable to tell the owner one month in advance before you move for they to have the time to find a new tenant.

10.9.3 Where to Look for an apartment for rent in Toronto and other cities in the area:

http://www.rentersnews.ca/
www.realstar.ca
http://www.hrpm.ca/46panorama
www.biddingon.com
http://www.briarlane.ca/
www.parkproperty.ca
http://www.homestead.on.ca/
http://www.gotransglobe.com/
http://www.wjproperties.ca/
http://www.pinedaleprop.com/
www.oshanter.com
www.rentminto.com
www.highparkvillage.com
http://www.glencorp.com/
www.carent.com
www.trivesdev.com
http://www.rentoronto.com/
http://www.mainst.biz/
www.berkleypm.ca
www.thorncliffe.ca
http://www.gatewayproperties.ca/
http://www.standardlofts.com/
www.leasidetowers.com
www.greenwinpm.com
http://www.themyriadgroup.net/
http://www.hrmp.ca
www.thestatetorent.ca
www.theartista.com
http://www.thevalleywoods.com/
http://www.ghcapital.ca/
danielsgateway.com
http://www.dmsproperty.com/
### 10.9.4. AVERAGE RENT IN DIFFERENT ONTARIO CITIES (APARTMENT RENT)

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<th>October 2006</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Bedroom</td>
<td>$641</td>
<td>$754</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Rental statistics are from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, with the latest statistics coming from their CMHC Rental Market Survey, Press Release, December, 2006

There are some points you should bare in mind:

- Stay calm and don’t rush. Finding a suitable housing takes time. Don’t get discouraged either. We have all gone through the same circumstances when we were newcomers.

- How much will be the maximum rent you can pay for? Make a budget to state how much of you funds you can assign to housing.

- Ask and keep in mind the utilities that are included in the monthly rent. Make sure to have everything put in written before you sign.

- Watch the apartment in detail, paying special attention to bad odours (because of garbage accumulation) or problems in the electricity or piping systems.

- Check where the laundry is. Ask for the opening hours and the cost of coins for the machine.

- Apartments in high floors have the advantage that noises from the street are not so loud. The disadvantage is the amount of storeys to go up, if the elevator is out of order.

- Make sure there are smoke detectors in the apartment, it is compulsory. Ask whether curtains and blinds are included in the rent or if it is you who must bring them. Most overseers in charge of buildings may help you fix them or lend you their tools.

- Get to know the area and find the things you need: school, public transportation, food shops, supermarket, etc.
When you rent an apartment or house in Canada, contracts are for 6 or 12 months according to what you agree with the owner.

It is just normal that in rental agreements the tenant (you) has to pay two monthly rents when you sign it - the first monthly rent and an additional one (or last month) customary here.

It is customary to tell the owner two months in advance if you will move. That is to say that you have the right to say two more months after paying the last rent - one for the monthly rent and the other for the extra month you paid when you signed the contract.

If you need to move to a new place, always keep in mind to tell the owner at least two months in advance to avoid inconvenience and lose the monthly fee you paid in advance for the last month.

On the other hand, some Canadian owners may ask you another month when you sign, as a deposit of guaranty. They claim to need it for possible repairing or to purchase any objects you or your family may break, such as glasses, bathroom fittings, faucets, etc.

This deposit of guaranty is not compulsory, and you can deny paying for it. We have seen that, in general terms, that sum in not refunded to newcomers. They claim to need it to pay for repairing or to refurbish the house after several years of use, which may be reasonable or not.

You are not obliged to pay for the deposit of guaranty for the housing you rent.

10.10 FURNITURE.

To start your new life in an apartment you will need to buy furniture and other belongings. Remember that you might have them brought from your country by some international moving companies. However, you should assess whether the cost of moving and the quality of that furniture justify that solution. It may be advisable if you have good quality furniture, as they are quite expensive in Canada.

On the other hand, many families initially get the basic pieces of furniture, economical and light. It is a good idea to purchase pieces that have different functions, such as sofa-beds or bunk beds, which can serve as chairs. Many prefer purchasing airbeds to start, as they are easy to install and move.

Remember that the possibility to move your furniture is important when it comes to moving to other apartment or house. Sometimes it could be more costly to take your furniture from one place to the other than their total cost.

10.11 ELECTRICITY AND APPLIANCES.

When you arrive to live in Canada you can bring your appliances, duty free. You should only bring those of a good quality and having the stamp of the Canadian (CA) or American (UL) regulations.

In Canada, the residence electricity power is:
● 120 volts - 60 Hz

So, if you come from Europe, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Peru or Brazil, where the residential electric power is 220 volts-50hz DON'T bring your appliances to Canada, as you will not be able to use them. Moreover, plugs in Canada are like the American ones, different from the European plugs.

10.12 TELEPHONE

There are several telecommunication companies in Ontario that can give you a telephone number. The line will belong to the person who buys it, and not to the house. Moreover, if you must move to other area of the city, you have the possibility to keep the same telephone number. To get your telephone line you just need to contact one of these companies, usually leave a small deposit, and your telephone line will be connected in your apartment in a few days.

In general terms, telephone fees are fixed, with unlimited local phone calls in both amount and duration. Thus, you will be able to use the telephone as much as you need, and use it to connect to Internet, which service you will have to pay separately.
IMPORTANT:

The international calls you make from your telephone are VERY EXPENSIVE. If you need to call your country it is advisable to buy an international phone card, with which it is very cheap to make this type of calls. There are different companies and plans (Internet) and you can purchase them in the shops close to your house.

10.13 SAFETY AT HOME

As Canadian buildings are made of a high percentage of flammables, such as wood, carpets, and derived products) there are sound prevention measures against fire at home. Usually, there is a general sound fire alarm in every building. Apart from that, every apartment or house must have, by law, smoke detectors, which are rather cheap and can save your life and your neighbours'.

Certain basic safety measures must be borne in mind, especially when hot oil is used to cook (to fry). Finally, You should never smoke in bed.

DISCLAIMER

The information and recommendations of this Guide and our web site must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depends only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.

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11.1 YOUR FIRST DAYS IN ONTARIO

During the first days after your arrival in Ontario, the major concern will be finding suitable housing for you and your family. Once achieved this goal, start exploring the environment, to know the surroundings and, as much as you can, to enjoy your arrival as if it was a deserved vacation. You will have time to worry about other things. Bare in mind that achieving your goal, which includes getting a job, will be a matter of organisation, good advice, preparation and, above all, time.

The following are some activities you should perform on your first days in Canada:

- Getting a Health and Social Security (SIN) Card
- Inscription in the provincial health system
- Inscription of children in the Child Benefit Program
- Opening a bank account
- Enrolling your children on school
- Inscription in the public library
- Exam and enrolment on a school of English
- Taking the necessary exam and getting a driving license
- Finding low-cost means of transportation
There are strict laws for the safety and protection of children in Canada. Pay special attention to the following rules:

- CHILDREN below 12 years cannot be let at home by themselves. It is against law. As help from an adult relative or friend to take care of them when you can't do it, or leave them in a day-care centre.

- It is against law to hit children. If a parent does it, he/she will be taken to the Court of Justice and lose the guardianship of the child. Any people can report this fact, usually school teachers if they see any harm in the child or a friend's parents if your child tells a friend.

11.2 SEEKING INFORMATION IN ONTARIO

11.2.1 Telephone Service

As stated in the previous chapter, telephone is a basic service you should ask as soon as you have housing in Canada. You will get many services by making a phone call, as getting information on the working hours of different bureaus and shops, doctor appointments, information for immigrants, information on job opportunities, paying services, enrolling on courses or tests (driving test), etc.

Canada is one of the countries where telephone system is most used. That is why you should purchase a good telephone.

When you ask for a telephone line, the company will offer you various additional services such as call waiting, call ID, etc. Some of them are necessary, but some others are unnecessary extras, so check if you really need these additional services you will pay monthly form now on.

Among these services, the answering system is most useful for immigrants. It allows for recording incoming messages and listening to them again, from your telephone or not, by using a password. This way, you can make sure of the telephone number and other necessity information to call back. This service is quite convenient, especially when you are waiting for job interviews.

The first source for information in your new home are telephone books, given for free when you get your telephone line, which contain different kinds of information:

- WHITE PAGES, a list of people, shops, companies and municipal, provincial and federal bureaus.
- YELLOW PAGES, a list of business services and shops.
- BLUE PAGES, containing a thorough list of all municipal, provincial and federal bureaus.

IMPORTANT:

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, SUCH AS FIRE OR ACCIDENT, ASK FOR HELP IMMEDIATELY BY DIALLING 911

11.2.2 Information Sessions for Immigrants

Information sessions on everyday life in Canada are offered for newcomers. It is advisable to pay attention to these information sessions in your first days in Canada, to learn some basic aspects of the community and learn about different topics related to your new environment:

- Documents, rights and errands.
- Available services
- Economical matters
- Family life
- Health and health care services for families
- Housing
The following are some organisations giving information sessions for newcomers in Ontario.

- **YMCA Newcomer Information Centre**  
  42 Charles Street East, 3rd Floor  
  Web Site: [http://www.ymcatoronto.org/](http://www.ymcatoronto.org/)  
  Tel. 416-928-3362 ext. 2165  
  Toronto (Central)

- **COSTI Reception Centre**  
  Office Phone: 416-922-6688  
  E-mail: reception@costi.org  
  Web site: [www.costi.org](http://www.costi.org)  
  Address: 100 Lippincott St, Toronto, ON, M5S 2P1  
  Toronto Central (Bathurst St-College St)  
  Mon-Sun 24 hours

- **Centre for Spanish-Speaking Peoples**  
  (Centro de Ayuda para Gente de Habla Hispana)  
  Telephone: 416-925-2800  
  E-mail: aidcsssp@spanishservices.org  
  Address: 2141 Jane Street, 2nd floor, Toronto, ON, M3M 1A2  
  (Jane St-Wilson Av)

- **Community Action Resource Centre**  
  Tel 416-652-2273  
  e-mail: yorkcic@idirect.com  
  1652 Keele St, Toronto, ON  
  (Keele St-Rogers Rd)

- **Latino-Canadian Community Association of Scarborough**  
  Tel: 416-492-5128 / 416-516-0851  
  Email: gapar@rogers.com  
  2190 Warden Ave, Suite 212  
  (Warden Ave-Sheppard Ave)  
  Scarborough, ON

- **Welcome Centre - Immigrant Services**  
  [http://www.welcomecentre.ca/](http://www.welcomecentre.ca/)  
  9100 Jane St - Building H - Vaughan, ON (Intersection Rutherford Rd - Julliard Dr)  
  info@welcomecentre.ca  
  View MapQuest Map

### 11.2.3 AGENCIES HELPING IMMIGRANTS IN ONTARIO

There are many organisations or agencies in Ontario, whose mission is to help immigrant families to settle down in the province. You can find information regarding the following topics:

- Finding suitable housing  
- Different services in the community  
- How and where to purchase furniture, clothes or food  
- Errands to do and documents to get  
- Where to study English and how.  
- Other aspects related to family, health and life in Canada.

These services are offered for free in English or French. To ask for help and information over the phone in Toronto, you can dial #211. You will get specific information on the service centres in your area.

You can also find related information on these web sites:

- [www.settlement.org](http://www.settlement.org)  
- [www.ymcatoronto.org](http://www.ymcatoronto.org)  
- [www.skillsforchange.org](http://www.skillsforchange.org)  
- [www.cathcrosscultural.org](http://www.cathcrosscultural.org)  
- [www.cicscanada.com](http://www.cicscanada.com)  
- [www.toronto.ca](http://www.toronto.ca)  
- [www.costi.org](http://www.costi.org)  
- [www.culturallink.net](http://www.culturallink.net)  
- [www.yorkhispaniccentre.org](http://www.yorkhispaniccentre.org)  
- [www.newcomerwomen.org](http://www.newcomerwomen.org)

At the end of this chapter you will find a list of all the IMMIGRATION HELP CENTRES IN ONTARIO.
11.2.4 - COMMUNITY INFORMATION CENTRES

Community Information Centres can give you information about the services, organisations, and events in your area. Many of them attend to people in other languages apart from English and French.

These are the information centres attending in Spanish, in Toronto:

- Centro de Ayuda de Habla Hispana
- COSTI
- Skill for Changes

The address and telephone number of every centre is in the telephone blue pages.

The address and telephone number of every centre is in the telephone blue pages.

11.2.5 PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Public libraries have an essential role in the culture and the family life in Canada, and they are scattered around in every neighbourhood, town and city in Ontario and the rest of Canada.

As a new Canadian, it is advisable to affiliate you and your family and ask for an affiliation card in the library in your area. There, you and your family can borrow books, language courses, videos, documentaries, etc. that will help you to understand and get familiar with the Canadian lifestyle in a faster way. You can also read newspapers and magazines, or use free Internet when you need it.

To know where the closest library is, consult the blue pages of the telephone book. To get information on the libraries in Toronto, click on the following link:

http://www.tpl.toronto.on.ca/

11.3 - TRANSPORTATION IN ONTARIO

RECOMMENDATION: To start your life in any city, the first thing to do is to get familiar with a map of the city and the area where you live. Different city and province maps can be purchased in gas stations or pump stations, or in some supermarkets (Walmart, Canadian Tire, etc.). They are indispensable to find addresses in this country. In Canadian cities, every street has a specific name, like Yonge Street. But there may be several streets with the same name (Yonge) but of a different denomination, such as Avenue, Crescent, Road, Boulevard, Circle, etc. Thus, Yonge Street (St) is a different place from Yonge Avenue (Av), or Yonge Road (Rd).

IMPORTANTE:
You can consult a map of Toronto city by clicking on the following link
http://www.map.toronto.ca/imapit/iMapIt.jsp?app=TOMaps

Once you are in your new home, you must get a map of the public transportation service in the city. They are free of charge and can be obtained in transportation stations.
All the cities in Ontario have public transportation services by bus, train, or streetcars. There are also some trains connecting cities, or different points within the same city.

There is a modern and efficient service of SUBWAY, known as TTC (Toronto Transportation Commission), which covers efficiently most part of the city.

11.3.1 - USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

To use the public transportation service, you can pay cash for every ticket. In this case you should have the exact amount of money to pay, and deposit it in a transparent box before the driver if you get on the bus in a station, or before the attendant in the station, if you are to pay in a cash register machine, to enter the TTC in Toronto.

NOTE: You should have the exact amount to pay. Buses drivers will never give you change, or return your money, as they don't handle with money. Their job is driving the bus and checking that you deposit the corresponding money for the ticket.

If you are to use the public transportation often, it would be a good idea to buy several tickets (pre-printed cardboard), tokens (special coins to register at the entrance) or daily / monthly passes. Passes are cards which allow the passenger to use the transportation system an unlimited number of times for some days or a whole month.

Tickets, tokens and monthly passes are purchased in any TTC station or in some specific shops.

To get information about the TTC use the following link:

http://www.toronto.ca/ TTC/index.htm

NOTE: The most economical way of using the public transportation system often is purchasing a monthly pass (metro pass), which allows for using the service as many time as you need, for a fixed weekly or monthly price.

If you need to take the bus, streetcar, or train more than once to go to a certain place, you don't need to pay every time. In this case you must get a small piece of paper called TRANSFER, which will indicate the following driver that you have already paid and you won't have to pay again. This transfer must be asked from the driver in the first bus or streetcar. In some stations you can find a transfer dispenser machines. Transfers are valid just for a limited time (30 or 60 minutes).

You can take trains or buses between cities and towns in Ontario. These are some companies offering transportation between these places:
There is a great difference between the public transportation in Canada (sometimes just used by a small part of the population) and many countries, where most people use it. Study thoroughly the organisation of the local transportation system, schedule, itineraries, routes, etc. to learn to use it correctly and arrive in time when necessary. Check the itineraries you can take in your area, and make sure there will be available transportation at the time you need it. Buses, for example, which will take you to industrial areas where you will most probably have job interviews, may just work in the first hours in the morning and then a couple of hours in the afternoon. If you make an appointment for a job interview in a distant place at a different time and have no other means of transportation, it will very difficult for you to get to the place and then lose your job opportunity. Besides, check if you should pay any additional charges for the area you have to go to (which applies in Toronto if you go to the North of Steeles).

**IMPORTANT**

DON'T TAKE FOR GRANTED THAT THE CANADIAN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM WILL WORK IN THE SAME WAY AS THE ONE IN YOUR COUNTRY. ANALYSE ANY ASPECTS RELATED TO THE ITINERARIES IN YOUR CITY. READ THE TIMETABLE CONSTRAINTS AT CERTAIN TIMES IN CERTAIN AREAS. THIS WILL HELP YOU TO AVOID WASTING YOUR TIME, MONEY AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### 11.3.4 - TAXI SERVICE.

You may need to take a taxi or cab. In this case, people usually phone the taxi agency, and give their address and time when they will need the taxi. You will find the telephone numbers of these companies in the yellow pages of the telephone book.

You may also take a taxi on the street. However, they are not as abundant as in other countries. In consequence, you may have to wait for a long time until you get a taxi. The customary procedure is to phone a taxi agency.

The cost of the services will depend on the distance and it is set by a taximeter, by the driver. The taximeter will show an initial cost (minimum fare) when you start the itinerary.

Travelling to certain specific places - such as to the airport - will always have a fixed cost. The taximeter is not used in those cases.

**IMPORTANT**

BEFORE YOU TRAVEL, ASK THE TAXI DRIVER HOW MUCH IT WILL COST TO TAKE YOU TO THE AIRPORT.

### 11.3.5 - RENTING A CAR

The living license from your country will allow you to drive in Canada for 60 days from your arrival.

It may be a good alternative to rent a car from a rent-a-car company to get to know the place or moving around the city. You can rent a car per day, or per week. However, it is always advisable to read the information on driving regulations and traffic, before you drive a car.

The cost will depend on the type of car, the rental period and, in some cases, on the amount of kilometres. At the moment of renting a car you will have to pay, apart from the cost of the rent and the gas, an accident insurance car. As a guarantee, you will be asked a credit card number (Visa, MasterCard, etc.) or you may have to leave a certain amount of money as a deposit for some time (in case some fines, accidents, etc. may be reported).

**IMPORTANT**

It is advisable to rent new cars, in excellent conditions. You have the right to test the car and accept or reject it if you think it is not suitable (for example: if it burns too much oil, or there is a certain smell in the cabin). Remember that you will have to drive on your right side at a minimum speed of 90, and at a maximum of 110km/h on highways. Police may fine you if you drive below or over that speed, and you will have to pay for it. If you drive your car at a speed below 90 Km/k on a highway, you may cause an accident.
11.4 DOCUMENTS YOU MUST GET.

It is advisable to get a fixed place to live and a mailing address as soon as possible, where agencies and people could send you correspondence and the documents you need. If you don't have a fixed place to live, you may receive your mail at a friend's home or by renting a mailbox in Canada Post, or any similar service.

These are the documents that you and every member of your family must get as soon as possible on your arrival in Ontario:

- Getting a Social Security Card (SIN) and Health Card.
- Inscription in the Ontario Health System - OHIP
- Inscription of children in the Child Benefit Program
- Inscription in the public library
- Taking a driving examination and getting a driving license

11.4.1 SOCIAL INSURANCE NUMBER - SIN CARD

This document, usually called SIN, will be your identification number in Canada. You will use it especially for official errands, with employers, government and financial institutions.

To get your Social Insurance Number, you must follow these steps:

- Pick up the form from any Human Resources Canada Centres bureau, or in Human Resources and Skills Development in Canada.
- Fill out the form
- Submit the form and your ID document at the Human Resources Canada centre in your area.
- Verify that your address and postal code are correct, as this document (plastic card) will be sent by post.

This is a private number (it may only be required by your employer by law) and you should keep it along with your important documents. Don't take it with you, unless you need it to do any errand.

11.4.2 ONTARIO HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN (OHIP CARD)

It is a plastic card, with your photograph, which will allow you for receiving free health care and hospitalisation in any area of Ontario. All residents in the province are covered by this plan, and every family member must have his / her own card. Immigrants have the right to this service after three months from arrival in Ontario. People who require health care before that period must pay for it, and that is the reason why many people decide to buy a private plan.

To get it you must register at any Ontario Ministry of Health bureau.

The OHIP offers the following services:

- Medical care.
- Hospitalisation
- Specialized Treatments

The OHIP doesn't offer the following services:

- Medicines supply
- Dental care
- Cosmetic surgery

To get the OHIP card, you will turn in two valid identification documents and an address under your name, where the card will be sent.

NOTE: As you can benefit from the OHIP health insurance only three months after your arrival, it is advisable to buy a private insurance for that initial period, during your first five days in Canada.
After three months, you and your family should seek a family doctor, in charge of the basic aid attention and aid. It is advisable to find a doctor who speaks your same language, which allows for a better communication. To find a family doctor, make your friends and relatives know you are seeking for one, for them to ask their own doctors if they would accept you and your family, as there is a lack of family doctors in Ontario.

Other suitable ways of finding a family doctor is asking at the hospital in your area, and browsing the yellow pages under the headings “physicians & surgeons” or phoning the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario.

For further information on the OHIP card and the Canadian Health System, click on the following links:

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hcs-sss/index_e.html

● Family Doctors:

According to the Health Insurance Act, you and your family have the right to have a family doctor. After you find one in your area, you should make an appointment to ask him if he would accept you as patients, as in most cases they already have lots of patients and won’t accept new ones. On the other hand, many people prefer finding a doctor who speaks their mother tongue, to facilitate the relationship doctor-patient.

In case of emergency, especially with children, you can make an appointment with any doctor in your area, or in the Walk Clinics or at any hospital. They will provide emergency care, and you won’t have to pay for the attention, but you must pay for the medicines.

Bear in mind that for a specialist or laboratory to examine you, a family doctor must refer you. So you must first go to see your family doctor, who will decide whether you need specialized attention or laboratory studies.

Check this link to FIND A FAMILY DOCTOR in Ontario

11.4.3 REGISTERING YOUR CHILDREN IN THE CANADA CHILD TAX BENEFIT

In Ontario, families with children under 18 and with a low income, can benefit from the financial help by the province / state to satisfy their basic needs. As permanent residents in Ontario, immigrant families have the right to receive this help from arrival.

The federal help program known as Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) is run by the Canada Revenue Agency, and provides with help to mothers for every child under 18 until they turn 18. The benefit per child is related to the family annual income, the number of children, their age, and the general situation of the family. There is also additional help in case of disabled
IMPORTANT

You should register your children in the first days after your arrival in Ontario to start receiving that financial benefit. Fill out the application form, and turn it in along with the necessary documents in the Canada Revenue Agency in your area.

They will ask you information related to the family income during the previous year (the lower the declared income, the higher the monthly benefit will be during the first year) and will send you the funds.

For families whose both parents work, do courses, etc., there are child-care centres to take care of children. If parents cannot afford the fee, they may be eligible for a benefit known as subsidised child-care. For more information consult the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

You can get more information on family help programs in any Human Resources Canada Centre.

11.4.4 DRIVING LICENCE

It is necessary to have a valid suitable driving license to drive a car or any other vehicle in Ontario. You can use your international license just for the first 90 days from arrival. After that, you will need a license from Ontario. To ask for your driving license, go to the (Ministry of Transportation), where you will find information on the documents and exams you must turn in.

IMPORTANT

The driving license for Ontario and the rest of Canada is, perhaps, the most important identification document you will carry everyday, as it contains your identification details, date of birth and address. You are obliged to update your driving license every time you move. For that reason, every person over 16 years old in Ontario should get that document.

NOTA: You will find further information about getting a driving license in Chapters 18 and 19 in this book.

11.5 FINANCIAL MATTERS

11.5.1 CANADIAN CURRENCY

The Canadian currency is the CANADIAN DOLLAR ($), whose exchange rate is about 80 and 90 % of USA dollars. (2006)

Notes: $5, $10, $20 $50 y $100.
Coins: 1 ¢, 5 ¢, 10 ¢, 25 ¢, $1 y $2.

You can find exchange agencies at the airport in Toronto and in some others.

NOTE: As long as it is possible for you, don’t use big notes for small purchases, as in many supermarkets and small shops $50 and $100 notes are not accepted.

11.5.2 OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

Taking into consideration that as a Skilled Worker Immigrant you are required to bring a minimum amount of money, it is necessary to open a bank account as soon as you arrive.
To start with, it is advisable to open a "checking" account, which will allow you for withdrawals in ATM machines and making cheque payments. As you are a newcomer it is useful to be backed by cheques, as they may be taken as a guarantee in some errands needing money back. For example: renting a car or an apartment, etc.

To open a bank account you must show two identification documents, your Permanent Resident card and the SIN card.

Open your account in a bank in your area offering low maintenance and service fees. Check the specific opening hours of that particular branch, as some banks have extended timetables in the evening (only on some specific days), Saturdays, etc.

These are the websites of some well-known banks and financial entities in Ontario:

- TD Canada Trust
- Royal Bank of Canada
- Bank of Montreal
- Scotiabank
- Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce - CIBC

**Recommendation**

It is advisable, when you open your bank account, to keep the possibility to pay your bills and services via internet (telephone, credit card, cable TV, internet services, etc.) Thus you will be able to pay from your house or office, at convenient times.

11.5.3 Credit Cards.

It is advisable to get a credit card when you open your bank account, so that you start your bank record. Consult at your bank the possibilities you are entitled as a bank client.

In some cases they will ask you for a guarantee deposit for one, two or three years and your credit card will be issued. The greatest credit card companies in Canada are:

- VISA CARD
- MASTERCARD
- AMERICAN EXPRESS

Other way to start your credit record is asking some credit cards issued by big shops, such as Sears, Walmart, Canadian Tire, The bay, Zallers, etc.

You should build your own credit record. Being a newcomer nobody knows anything about you. It is the beginning of a new history, which will give you access to credit for housing, cars, or education. So a good credit history is essential, and you must have asked for credit and paid the fees according to it for you to have a good credit record.

**Note:** The best thing to do is getting a credit card, use it and pay for it every month as soon as possible. It is not advisable to owe too much money or for a long time to credit card companies, as they charge a high interest (18 to 29% per month). The idea is to use them quite often but not to have debts for a long time.
Although Canada has one of the lowest criminal indexes in the world, it is necessary to pay attention to some basic recommendations about security.

- Avoid using your credit card daily, especially to pay minor expenses like gasoline, food, restaurants, etc. There are some cases in which some dishonest cashiers in these places (who earn low salaries and do not have permanent positions) keep the number (copies of the receipt) and the information of the credit card of customers and steal money, for example using them to buy things in Internet.

- Be careful to buy in Internet sites outside Canada especially for high sums of money.

- Destroy (tear) the receipts with your information, financial and banking data before throwing them to the litter.

- Read and watch the recommendations of your banking office in relation to the use and security in the management of your card and bank account.

11.5.4 SHOPPING

These are the most common opening hours in Ontario:

- Monday to Fridays: 8.00 am a 9.00 PM
- Saturday and Sunday: 8.00 am a 5.00 PM

Some shops, as food shops (convenients), pharmacies, gas stations, entertainment, hotels, etc. Have a different schedule.

11.5.5 TAXES

Must purchases of goods and services must pay the Federal Goods and Services Tax), which is 7%, and the Quebec Sales Tax (QST), of 7.5 %.

In general terms, these are not included in the process of goods or services.

11.6 EDUCATION IN ONTARIO

Seeking for a school for your children and enrolling them in the first thing to do in your second week after your arrival. In Canada the academic year starts in the first week of September and finishes by the end of June. It is compulsory that every child between 6 and 16 attend school.

Canada offers free public education from kindergarten to college, where more the 80% of Canadian children attend. Most schools are Anglophone, although there are also some francophone schools. There are also a number of private schools approved by the
11.6.1 ENROLLING YOUR CHILDREN ON SCHOOL

IMPORTANT: There are two official school systems that run the educational system:

1. **Public Schools**, run by the Public School District Board.
2. **Roman Catholic Schools**, run by the Roman Catholic District board.

Both systems depend on the Ministry of education and are run by the Education Boards of the different areas. All schools must follow the same programs and texts of the Ministry of Education so, at least in theory, their educational quality is similar. The difference between both school systems is that some religious knowledge is taught at the latter. Students from different ethnic groups and religions attend public schools, where no religious knowledge is taught.

**RECOMMENDATION**

If you and your family are Catholic, it is advisable to enrol your children in a good Catholic school. He will find children from different nationalities and customs, but closer to their beliefs than in a public school, and with a little better discipline and supervision.

To seek a school in Ontario and Toronto, click the following link:

http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/sbinfo/  
http://www.tcdsb.org/ (Catholics Schools in Toronto)  
http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ (Public Schools in Toronto)

These are the documents you must have when you go to enrol your children on Pre-school, Elementary or High School courses:

- Permanent Resident Visa in Canada
- Passport
- Birth Certificate
- School Certificates if applicable (for college or university)

**Note:** Certificates of vaccination must be handy, to be produced on demand.

**IMPORTANT**

Your children will be enrolled on the form corresponding to their age, no matter if they don't speak English. Neither is considered their previous educational level. In Canada all children of a certain age attend the same form, in general terms. So, if a child is 6, he will be assigned to form 1 or, if he is 12, to form 7. You must produce a valid ID document to certify your child's birth date.

11.6.2 KINDERGARDEN - PRE-SCHOOL

This is the first stage in the educational system and the aim is to make students familiar with their partners and teachers in a stimulant school atmosphere. It prepares children to start their elementary level successfully. It is not compulsory and it is available for everyone in the province.

Students can attend pre-school in one of these two ways:

- Half board: for children of 4 years old
- Fill time, for children of age 5

11.6.3 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Every child of six, or turning 6 before October 1st (any year) must be enrolled to start elementary school. Attendance to pre-school is not a pre-requirement.

Elementary school in Canada goes from form 1 to 8. Classes start in the first week of September and end in the last week of June. Usually, schools ask parents to take an active role in the educational life of their children.
11.6.4 HIGH SCHOOL

After the 8 forms of elementary school, students attend secondary or “high” school. It prepares them for college or university, or for a future job.

Students are free to choose some areas of interest. One Credit is obtained after completing a 110-hour course.

After attendance to the general program, of 5 years, students get the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) and can attend higher studies - College or University. The diploma is obtained after getting 30 credits.

Students also have the choice to take some vocational programs to get specific knowledge in a certain craft.

Those who intend to go to university, must do the Ontario Academic Course, which have three difficulty levels:

- Basic, job oriented
- General, prepares students for COLLEGE or for a job
- Advanced, prepares students for University or special Colleges.

11.6.5 COLLEGE

After the general program of high school, students can attend college, the first step of higher education. Both public and private colleges offer the following options:

- Pre-university 2-year courses as a preparation for University
- Technical Studies, of up to three years, to get the level of Qualified Technician

Every College sets its own course list and schedule, fees, duration, requirements, etc.

For general information, consult the Ministry of Education and Training (Tel (416) 325-2929)

These are some of the largest Colleges in Ontario:

- Seneca College
- George Brown College.
- Sheridan College
- Humber College
- Georgian College
- Centennial College

You can also get information on these college-related websites:

- List of Colleges in Ontario
- Community and Technical Colleges in Canada

11.6.6 UNIVERSITIES

The requirements to start University vary according to the course of studies and every specific educational institution. To enter a professional program it is often required the highest level of education and a high performance.

The application for every Canadian University in Ontario is made by the OUAC (Ontario Universities Application Centre), the sole institution devoted to do that job. Once submitted the application form for a course in a University, the OUAC assesses the applicant’s marks and, after that, accepts or denies the application to that specific University.

University courses of studies have several levels. The first is called Undergraduate study, which issues the professional Bachelor’s Degrees, equivalent to a university degree in Latin American countries, such as Lawyer, Doctor in Medicine, or Mechanical, Chemical or Electronic Engineer, etc, with a duration of 10 semesters of full time studies.

The second level of university education is the Master Degree and the third level, the PhD. degree

To learn more on the main Universities in Ontario, follow these links:

- University of Toronto
Elementary and high school are free for residents, and are supported by taxes. However, vocational courses in colleges and professional courses in Canadian Universities are costly and must be paid by every student’s family resources. There are no government Universities or Colleges.

For example, a year of the course of studies in Law or Medicine in Ontario costs between 12,000 and 20,000 dollars, Engineering between 6,000 and 10,000, apart from the everyday life expenditure typical of a university student.

That is why the Canadian government has created a saving program for university education, that intends that parents open an account when the child is little and then deposit certain amount every year for him / her to count on that money when turning 18, and be able to pay for their higher education. The program, called RESP (Retirement Education Scholarship Plan) has as an incentive that the government will deposit $20 for every $100 deposited by parents. The system has some restrictions, as those funds can only be devoted to the higher education of the beneficiary. You can ask for more information at your bank, asking about the RESP.

11.7 LEARNING ENGLISH

The government in Ontario will help you and your family to study English and get a better integration at school, the society and the productive system. Every newcomer should devote as much time as possible to study the language from arrival. There are a broad variety of free English and French courses in cities. There are two English teaching programs oriented to newcomers in Canada.

- LINC - Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada
- ESL - English as Second Language

LINC (Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada): It is a free program oriented to adult new permanent residents who need to learn the language. LINC English classes can be found in different institutions all over Toronto and the rest of the province, such as:

- Community Organisations
- Schools
- Agencies of help for newcomers
- Community Colleges.

You can do these courses full or part time. To enrol on the program you must go to a LINC Assessment Centre, to take a placement test based on the different abilities of language acquisition: reading, writing, etc. According to the exam results, you will be placed in the corresponding level.

DURATION: LINC English courses last around 32 years, for those who start from scratch. However, every student is assessed and will start from the corresponding level.

ESL - English as Second Language. The program is organised in three levels: beginners, intermediate and advanced. It is oriented to improve the student’s reading, writing, and listening abilities, along with grammar, intonation and conversational skills.

ESL courses are intended for newcomers who need extra English classes to learn or improve their abilities in the
language. If their children need it, help must be asked at school for their program to help them learn the language as soon as possible and integrate to the activities of the course. Many schools have specific teacher for these programs.

Some educational institutions holding these programs offer day care centers and economical support for transportation. Moreover, you will learn about the lifestyle, history, politics, Geography, and other interesting aspects in Ontario and the rest of Canada by studying French, as these topics are used for newcomers to learn the language.

### IMPORTANT

The ability to communicate fluently in English or French will be the most important key to reach a good job position in Canada and get the opportunity to show your level, professional education and personal skills.

Also is the key to immerse properly to your environment, meet other people, meet new friends, start and keep your networking and improve your possibilities to get a good and salary

### RECOMMENDATION:

Once you find housing, you should enrol full time to study English. That is a fast way to improve your level and will help you to make your way in this new country as well. Remember that when you start working, you won’t have the time to attend intensive language classes.

### 11.8 OTHER CONTINUING EDUCATION RESOURCES

In many community centres where English classes are taught, it is possible to find other training or continuing education courses as well. The courses that are taught more often are:

- Computing (introduction, uses, fast typing, etc)
- Ms Windows
- Ms Office (Word, Excel)
- Internet Usage
- AutoCAD

By attending those courses not only you will learn specific vocabulary but you will also improve your language from the practical point of view and because of dealing with other students of different nationalities. Those courses are affordable, in general terms, and are job oriented.

### 11.9 IMMIGRATION HELP CENTRES IN ONTARIO.

Social Development Council of Ajax-Pickering
134 Commercial Avenue
Ajax, Ontario L1S 2H5
(905) 686-2661
home.interhop.net/socialdev/

Barrie YMCA Immigrant Services
22 Grove Street West
Barrie, Ontario L4N 1M7
(705) 726-6421, ext. 264

Quinte United Immigrant Services
28 Isabel Street
Belleville, Ontario K8P 3N3
(613) 968-7723
www.reach.net/~quis/

Newcomer Information Centre
Centre for Language Training and Assessment
Brampton Civic Centre
150 Central Park Drive, Suite 200
Brampton, Ontario L6T 1B4
(905) 270-6000
www.clta.on.ca/NewcomersInformation/about.html
Brampton Neighbourhood Resource Centre  
50 Kennedy Road South  
Suite 24  
Brampton, Ontario L6W 3R7  
(905) 452-1262

Brampton Multicultural Community Centre  
150 Central Park Drive, Suite 107  
Brampton, Ontario L6T 2T9  
(905) 790-8482

Catholic Cross-Cultural Services  
37 George Street North, Suite 403  
Brampton, Ontario L6X 1R5  
(905) 457-7740

YMCA-YWCA of Brantford  
143 Wellington Street  
Brantford, Ontario N3T 3B2  
(519) 752-6568

YMCA of Cambridge  
250 Hespeler Road  
Cambridge, Ontario N1R 3H3  
(519) 621-3250  
www.cambridgeymca.org

Cornwall and District Immigrant Services Agency  
55 Water Street West, Suite LL30  
Cornwall, Ontario K6J 1A1  
(613) 933-3745

Arab Community Centre  
5488 Dundas Street West, Suite 324  
Etobicoke, Ontario M9B 6E3  
(416) 231-7748

Dejinta Beesha  
8 Taber Road  
Etobicoke, Ontario M9W 3A4  
(416) 743-1286

Rexdale Women’s Centre  
8 Taber Road, 2nd Floor  
Etobicoke, Ontario M9W 3A4  
(416) 745-0052  
rexdale.on.ca/rwc/

Polycultural Immigrant and Community Services  
3363 Bloor Street West  
Etobicoke, Ontario M8X 1G2  
(416) 233-0055

Fort Erie Multicultural Centre  
55 Janis Street  
Fort Erie, ON L2A 5M5  
Telephone 905 871-3641  
www.firststepincanada.com

Guelph and District Multicultural Centre  
214 Speedvale Avenue West, Unit 7  
Guelph, Ontario N1H 1C4  
(519) 836-2222  
www.gdmc.org

Settlement and Integration Services Organization of Hamilton  
360 James Street North  
Hamilton, Ontario L8L 1H5  
(905) 521-9917  
www.siso-ham.org

Kingston and District Immigrant Services  
323 Brock Street  
Kingston, Ontario K7L 1S9  
(613) 548-3302  
www.kdis.org/welcome/

Mennonite Central Committee of Ontario  
50 Kent Avenue  
Kitchener, Ontario N2G 3R1  
(519) 745-8458

Kitchener-Waterloo YMCA
London Cross-Cultural Learner Centre  
717 Dundas Street East  
London, Ontario N5W 2Z5  
(519) 432-1133  
www.lcclc.org

Catholic Cross-Cultural Services  
90 Dundas Street West, Suite 204  
Mississauga, Ontario L5B 2T5  
(905) 273-4140

Dixie-Bloor Neighbourhood Resource Centre  
3439 Fieldgate Drive  
Mississauga, Ontario L4X 2J4  
(905) 629-1873  
www.dixie-bloor.com

India Rainbow Community Services of Peel  
3038 Hurontario Street, Suite 206  
Mississauga, Ontario L5B 3B9  
(905) 275-2369  
www.creditvalley.com/indiarainbow/

Malton Neighbourhood Services  
7200 Goreway Drive  
Mississauga, Ontario L4T 2T7  
(905) 677-6270  
(905) 672-3660

Newcomer Information Centre  
100 Elm Drive West, Room 126  
Mississauga, Ontario L5B 1L9  
(905) 270-6000  
www.cfta.on.ca

Inter-Cultural Neighbourhood Social Services  
3050 Confederation Parkway  
Mississauga, Ontario L5B 3C6  
(905) 273-4884  
www.creditvalley.com/community/communit.htm

Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Canada  
4600 Bathurst Street, Suite 325  
North York, Ontario M2R 3V3  
(416) 630-6481  
www.jias.org

Northwood Neighbourhood Services (C.S.)  
2528A Jane Street  
Wycliffe Jane Plaza  
North York, Ontario  
(416) 748-0788

Halton Multicultural Association  
635 4th Line, Unit 48  
Oakville, Ontario L6L 5W4  
(905) 842-2486

Catholic Immigration Centre  
219 Argyle Avenue  
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 2H4  
(613) 232-9634  
www.cic.ca

Jewish Family Services of Ottawa-Carleton  
1774 Kerr Avenue, Suite 230  
Ottawa, Ontario K2A 1R9  
(613) 722-2225

Lebanese and Arab Social Services Agency of Ottawa-Carleton  
151 Slater Street, Suite 302  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5H8  
(613) 236-0003

Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization  
959 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4W1  
(613) 725-0202  
www.ocios.org
Ottawa Chinese Community Service Centre
391 Bank Street, 2nd Floor
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 1Y3
(613) 235-4875

New Canadians Centre Peterborough
205 Sherbrooke Street, Unit D
Peterborough, Ontario K9J 2N2
(705) 743-0882

Catholic Community Services of York Region
21 Dunlop Street
Richmond Hill, Ontario L4C 2M6
(905) 770-7040

Folk Arts Council of St. Catharines
85 Church Street
St. Catharines, ON L2R 3C7
(905) 685-6689

Satellite Office:
St. Ann Adult Learning Centre
4700 Epworth Circle
Niagara Falls, L2E 1C6
(905) 398-3653
www.folk-arts.ca

Tropicana Community Services Organization
670 Progress Avenue, Unit 14
Scarborough, Ontario M1H 3A4
(416) 439-9009
www.ayce.on.ca/toppage1.htm

South Asian Family Support Services (SAFS)
1200 Markham Road, Suite 214
Scarborough, Ontario M1H 3C3
(416) 431-4847

Catholic Cross-Cultural Services
780 Birchmount Road, Unit 3
Scarborough, Ontario M1K 5H1
(416) 757-7010

Centre for Information and Community Services of Ontario (CICS)
3852 Finch Avenue East, Suite 310
Scarborough, Ontario M1T 3T9
(416) 292-7510

Sudbury Multicultural Folk Arts Association
196 Van Horne Street
Sudbury, Ontario P3E 1E5
(705) 674-0795
www.cyberbeach.net/~smfaa/index.htm

Thunder Bay Multicultural Association
17 North Court Street
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7A 4T4
(807) 345-0551

Afghan Association of Ontario
29 Pemmican Court, no. 6
Toronto, Ontario M9M 2Z3
(416) 744-9289

Afghan Women's Counseling and Integration Community Support Organization
2333 Dundas Street West, Suite 205A
Toronto, Ontario M6R 3A6
(416) 588-3585

Bloor Information and Life Skills Centre
672 Dupont Street, Suite 314
Toronto, Ontario M6G 1Z6
(416) 531-4613
www.bils.cjb.net

Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture
192-194 Jarvis Street, 2nd Floor
Toronto, Ontario M5B 2B7
(416) 363-1066
www.icomm.ca/ccvt/
11.10 TEMPERATURE IN TORONTO (Climate in Toronto)

Following are the average temperatures in GTA (Great Toronto Area)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Low</th>
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Tamil Eelam Society of Canada
861 Broadview Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M4K 2P9
(416) 463-7647
tesoc.com

Toronto Thorncliffe Park Neighbourhood Services
18 Thorncliffe Park Drive
Toronto, Ontario M4H 1N7
(416) 421-3054

Toronto Chinese Community Services Association
310 Spadina Avenue, Suite 301
Toronto, Ontario M5T 2E8
(416) 977-4026
www.tccsa.on.ca

Toronto Organization for Domestic Workers’ Rights (INTERCEDE)
234 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 205
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1K5
(416) 483-4554

Vietnamese Association of Toronto
1364 Dundas Street West
Toronto, Ontario M6J 1Y2
(416) 536-3611

Woodgreen Community Centre of Toronto
835 Queen Street East
Toronto, Ontario M4M 1H9
(416) 469-5211
www.woodgreen.org

Working Women Community Centre
533A Gladstone Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M6H 3J1
(416) 532-2824

Lakeshore Area Multi-Service Project Inc.
185 Fifth Street
Toronto, Ontario M8V 225
(416) 252-6471

YMCA of Metro Toronto
(Korean Community Services)
721 Bloor Street West, Suite 303
Toronto, Ontario M6G 1L5
(416) 538-9412

Youth Assisting Youth
1992 Yonge Street, Suite 300
Toronto, Ontario M4S 1Z7
(416) 932-1919
www.yay.org

Welland Heritage Council and Multicultural Centre
26 East Main Street
Welland, ON L3B 3W3
Telephone: 905 732-5507
www.wellandheritagecouncil.com

New Canadians’ Centre
Windsor Essex County Family YMCA
511 Pelissier Street
Windsor, Ontario N9A 4L2
(519) 256-7330

Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County
245 Janette Avenue
Windsor, Ontario N9A 4Z2
(519) 255-1127
www.themcc.com

11.10 TEMPERATURE IN TORONTO (Climate in Toronto)

Following are the average temperatures in GTA (Great Toronto Area)

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Low</th>
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<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>-5</td>
<td>23</td>
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<td>Apr</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Oct</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT**

You should come to Canada with as best education as possible in your area to compete in the Canadian job market. As a skilled worker, basic knowledge on computers, Word, Excel, Internet, AutoCAD, etc, should be part of your intellectual heritage and tools for your work. Remember that to get a skilled worker job you will compete with immigrants from all over the world who usually are well ready to success in their jobs. Although it is true that you can do some of these courses in Canada, it will be more expensive in terms of time and money.
SOCIAL SECURITY AND HELP FOR FAMILIES IN ONTARIO

With the status of Canadian Residents, you and your family have the right to receive some help and protection from the government. There are several federal, provincial and municipal programs to help families who need help, especially those with children. Apart from a free elementary and high school education, your family has the right to receive economical help during the period while you have no job. These are the benefits in Toronto and in the province of Ontario, for people who need:

- Canada Child Tax Benefit
- Universal Child Care Benefit
- Ontario Works Program (Welfare)

On the other hand, workers count on an Employment Insurance which allows for some income during the period when they have no job. Besides, after 65 years old, people who have worked have the right to a monthly pension, according to the Canada Pension Plan.

When a family in Toronto, and in other cities in Ontario, have no job or their income is too low, they can resort to food banks. There are several organisations in the different Canadian provinces in charge of delivering daily food rations to those in the need. Food Banks are sponsored by private and official funds, and a family can ask free food for their daily needs.

There are different government programs and private organisations with the aim to guarantee that no Canadian citizen lacks of daily food for survival. In other words, no people should starve because of their lack of income.

12.1 CANADA CHILD TAX BENEFIT – CCTB

In Ontario, families with children under 18 and with a low income, can benefit from the financial help by the province and federal government to satisfy their basic needs. As permanent residents in Ontario, immigrant families have the right to receive this help from arrival.

The federal help program known as Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) is run by the Canada Revenue Agency, and provides with help to mothers for every child under 18 until they turn 18. The benefit per child...
is related to the family annual income, the number of children, their age, and the general situation of the family. There is also additional help in case of disabled children.

To register, fill out and submit the corresponding forms to the nearest Canada Revenue Agency bureau. They will ask information related to your family income during the previous year (the lower the income, the greater the initial help will be) and then will send you the monthly help benefit.

The Canada Child Tax Benefit is a monthly benefit, free of charges, and it is given to mothers of children. The amount is calculated according to the total income of the family during the previous year. The following chart is shown as an example, calculated for a family with an income of $20,435, for a period of July, 2006 to June 2007:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number Of Children</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Monthly</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Child</td>
<td>$3200</td>
<td>$266.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Child</td>
<td>$2975</td>
<td>$247.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd and additional</td>
<td>$2980</td>
<td>$248.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Annual maximum CCTB for the July 2006 to June 2007 benefit year for families with net incomes below $20,435 in 2005

- If you have children of 6 or younger, you will also receive the UCCB. (see following paragraph)

To estimate the amount of money you would receive for your family, use the next link:

Child and Family Benefits On-Line Calculator

12.2 UNIVERSAL CHILD CARE BENEFIT - UCCB

From July 2006, the Universal Child Care Benefit - UCCB - was implemented with the aim of helping mothers with children under 6. This help has the aim to recognise the upbringing of children and encourage mothers and their efforts, by giving them financial help.

The UCCB is a monthly payment of $100 per every children under 6. To register and receive this benefit, you can use the Canada Child Tax Benefit application.

Use the following link to ask for your UCCB: Apply for the Universal Child Care Benefit

12.3 SUBSIDIZED CHILD-CARE

In the case of families whose both parents work, do courses, etc., there are child-care centres to take care of children. If parents cannot afford the fee, they may be eligible for a benefit known as subsidised child-care. For more information consult the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

You can get more information on family help programs in any Human Resources Canada Centre

12.4 ONTARIO WORKS PROGRAM - (Welfare)
In Canada, families have the necessary support from the government to guarantee the minimal welfare of citizens, especially of children, when parents are unemployed or going through a difficult financial situation.

There are assistance programs for resident families in the province of Ontario and in the city of Toronto, by the Ministry of Community and Social Services. The program called Ontario Works provides people temporary in need with economical assistance and job opportunities and, at the same time, involves them in certain activities.

1. **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.** Food, housing (rent), clothing, purchase prescribed medicaments, dental service for children, special winter clothes, school materials, prescribed glasses and lenses, transportation, etc.

2. **ASSISTANCE IN JOB SEARCHES.** They include preparation in the following aspects:
   - Training or skill development
   - Academic upgrading
   - Independent job searches
   - English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL)
   - Services in the local Employment Resource Centres.

The ultimate aim of this program is to assist people who, for one reason or another, find it difficult to get a job by themselves. This help is given on a temporal basis, as they set good job relationships.

Once a family resorts to Ontario Works and is accepted in the program, a social worker is assigned, who will be in charge of co-ordinating and planning the actions to take. He/she will also assess the family needs and decide on the necessary financial assistance to suit them. Besides, the social worker and the client - the worker - will set the necessary strategies leading to get a paid job. Their goals may be short or long-term, and the client should commit and work to achieve them, as part of the activities related to the program.

As a requirement to receive financial help in Ontario Works, it is compulsory for people to take part in at least one of these programs:

- Employment Supports (Preparation and help in job searches)
- Community Participation (To give a certain service to their community)
- Employment Placement (Placement for people who are ready to work)
- Learning, Earning & Parenting. (For young parents -16-21- who have to Venice high school and get trained to run their families)

For further information on this program, please follow this link:

http://www.toronto.ca/socialservices/index.htm - applyss

Contact Information:
- Toll-Free: 1 888 789-4199
- Toronto: 1 416 325-5666

One of the requirements of the Canadian Embassy to get a Permanent Resident Visa as a Skilled Worker is to show that the immigrant has the funds to support himself and his family for 6 months, the estimate period to get a job in his/her specialisation. The government will not provide financial assistance during that period, and will expect the worker to enter the job market successfully, without the help of the resources to help the poorest Canadians. However, in case of need, and if you find it necessary, you can ask for help for your family a food bank. After 6 months you will also able to ask for financial assistance from Ontario Works.
12.5 EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE - EI

Employment Insurance (EI) is a temporary financial benefit for workers who have paid for this insurance when they had a job. The insurance is paid to workers who have lost their jobs for reasons against their will, such as a lack of work, having a baby, or being sick. This benefit also applies if the worker leaves his/her job to take care of a close relative whose life is at risk.

The aim of this insurance is to assist the worker while he/she finds a new job, or gets trained in their specialisation. There is a requirement of minimum worked hours to have the right to this benefit, which vary according to certain conditions such as area, period worked, etc. It is around 910 hours.

The amount received is the 55% of the average salary the worker had in his/her last job, or a maximum amount of $413 per week. A worker may receive this insurance for no more than 45 weeks. After that, they lose the right.

As the Employment Insurance has a maximum limit, there is also a yearly maximum amount fee for the worker to pay. For 2006, deductions for this insurance were 1.87 per every $100, up to a maximum of 39,000. This maximum is $729,30 for 2006.

For more information on the Employment Insurance, please consult the following link:
Human Resources and Social Development Canada

IMPORTANT
New immigrant Skilled Workers DON’T have the right to the Employment Insurance. The basic condition is having worked at least 910 hours and having paid for the insurance monthly fee.

Contact Information
Toll-Free: 1 800 206-7218
TTY: 1 800 529-3742

12.6 FOOD BANKS

There are Food Banks in Ontario and in every Canadian province, whose main goal is to provide foods to families with a low income who cannot purchase them in regular supermarkets. These food banks are organisations supported by the government and receive assistance from stores and private donations. In general terms, they are run by volunteers who donate their time to help others. Their goal is that no people in Canada goes to sleep without having had the necessary food.

The families that resort to these banks regularly are:

- **Canadian Families**, low income families, with different problems, single mothers, unemployed or with an extremely low salary.
- **Refugees**, More than 80,000 refugees arrive in Canada per year, from all over the world, especially from Africa, Latin America and Asia. These people are wholly supported by the government during the necessary time they may require to learn English and enter the job market.
- **Skilled Workers**, who find it difficult to enter the job market, and have been unable to find a job according to their skills for a long time.

The Canadian Association of Food Banks
http://www.dailybread.ca/
http://www.northyorkharvestfoodbank.com/

* In every region, food banks report that inadequate minimum wage and social assistance rates, followed closely by high rents, are among the primary reasons for...
the growing demand for emergency food assistance. The information below is taken from HungerCount 2004.

12.7 WORKER’S COMPENSATION

It is an insurance paid to workers in case of having an industrial accident. It is also applicable in case of job-related illnesses. Apart from the financial benefit, the worker receives therapy and medical treatment to allow him/her to go back to work. There is a Workers Compensation Board bureau in every province, where it is decided if a certain worker qualifies for this compensation, based on medical reports and evidence of the accident or job-related illness.

To get more information about Workers Compensation programs, please consult the Ministry of Labour of Canada.

12.8 CANADA PENSION PLAN - CPP

CPP is a monthly benefit received by those who contributed regularly to the Canada Pension Plan. In 2006, the monthly contribution of a worker for the CPP is approximately 4.9% of his total salary if he/she is an employee, or 9.99% for independent workers.

This pension intends to cover the 25% of income on which the contributions of the worker are based.

To qualify for the CPP you must be 65 years old, and must have contributed as required by law. A worker may also start receiving the pension on turning 60, but in that case he/she will receive a 30% less than the corresponding amount for somebody of 65 years old. A worker may opt to start receiving the benefit at 70, in which case this person will receive an extra 30%.

The CPP has set a minimum amount per worker of $828.75, in 2005. The average CCP received by the Canadians in 2004 was $458.

For further information, please consult the Canada Pension Plan.

DISCLAIMER

The information and recommendations of this Guide must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depends only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.

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13.1 TYPICAL MONTHLY EXPENDITURE FOR A FAMILY IN TORONTO

The following table shows the basic expenditure of a newcomers family, assuming they will live in a 2-room rented apartment. Many families will need more rooms, depending on the amount of family members and their income. The following example, based on real costs, is presented just with orientation objectives.

- FAMILY OF 2 ADULTS AND 2 SCHOOL CHILDREN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>MONTHLY EXPENDITURE (approx.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HOUSING:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 2-rooms apartment rent.</td>
<td>$950 - 1150 +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTILITIES:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Telephone</td>
<td>$35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Cable TV</td>
<td>$30-45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Internet</td>
<td>$20 - 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Long Distance Calling</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOOD</td>
<td>$250 - 450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLOTHING</td>
<td>$80 - 160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(It will depend on every season, previous stock, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER SERVICES</td>
<td>$30 - 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(bank payments, newspapers, etc)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSPORTATION</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Public Transportation TTC (2 adults)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENTERTAINMENT</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Sports and others</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL MONTHLY BUDGET</td>
<td>$1715 - 2250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(monthly budget)

Note: It is worth highlighting that according to this table, the cost of housing (renting an apartment) may take between 55-65% from the total monthly budget.

13.2 HOUSING IN TORONTO
A- APARTAMENTS - RENT

1 - bedroom  $ Average from $750 -950+

2 - bedrooms  $ Average from $950 -1150+

3 - bedrooms  $ Average from $1100 -1300+

- Utilities may be included for this price, such as electricity, water, and heating in Winter.
- You must pay an additional parking fee from $50 -80+
- Every user pays for their own telephone service, cable TV, Internet, etc.

Apartments usually include:

- Two appliances (heater/cooker - refrigerator) or three appliances (heater, refrigerator, dish washer)

Some important Housing Rental Companies (apartments, townhouses, etc.) in Toronto and Ontario are:

http://www.rentersnews.ca/
www.realstar.ca
http://www.hrmp.ca/46panorama
www.biddington.com
http://www.briarlane.ca/
www.parkproperty.ca
http://www.homestead.on.ca/
http://www.gotransglobe.com/
http://www.wjproperties.ca/
http://www.pinedaleprop.com/
www.oshanter.com
www.rentminto.com
www.highparkvillage.com
http://www.glencorp.com/
www.caprent.com
www.trivestdev.com
http://www.renttoronto.com/
http://www.mainst.biz/
www.berkleypm.ca
www.thomcliffe.ca
http://www.gatewayproperties.ca/
http://www.standardlofts.com/
www.leasidetowers.com
www.greenwinpm.com
http://www.themyriadgroup.net/
www.hrmp.ca
www.thelocatorent.ca
www.thearista.com
http://www.thevalleywoods.com/
http://www.ghcapital.ca/
www.danielsgateway.com
http://www.dmsproperty.com/
NOTE: The apartments and townhouses available are usually located in residential settings and buildings that have been designed and built for rent to newcomers. There are no great social or economical differences among the different areas, so housing prices don't vary too much. Different from many cities in the world, where smart costly apartments are for rich people and low cost simpler apartments are for popular classes, there is no such a difference in Ontario. It may be stated that a 2-room apartment costs $1050 in a clean and neat building, located in a peaceful residential area, picturesque and nice, and $950 in a non-advisable area, with historic social conflicts and low security rates. (e.g. Jane & Finch).

- NON ADVISABLE AREAS in Toronto:
  - JANE & FINCH
  - Markham Road & Eglinton
  - WESTON & LAWRENCE
  - Victoria Park & Danforth

RECOMENDATION:
You can find an apartment in a nice safe residential area for almost as much as for one in a non-advisable area. St time aside to know the neighborhood and seek housing in the area that suits you best. Ask your friends and acquaintances to find a good place to live in. Remember that the people in the area you will live in are the ones that will eventually be your children's friends at school.

B- TOWNHOUSES

RENT: Between $1200 - 1550 +

Usually, the rent of a townhouse includes:
- Utilities (electricity, water and heating in Winter)
- Additional Parking Fee (from $50-80+)
- Every user will pay for their telephone bill, cable TV, internet, etc.

Townhouses usually offer:
- Two appliances (Freezer - stove) or three appliances (Freezer - stove - Dishwasher)
- Gas heating
- Three Appliances
- Underground Parking

For more information about townhouses rental in Toronto, you can consult the following companies:

www.glencorp.com
www.gardentowns.ca
www.meadowvalegardens.com
HOUSING BELONGING TO THE TORONTO CITY GOVERNMENT

The Toronto city government owns a number of building and residential areas in different points of the city, whose houses and apartments are rented to low income families. In case your financial situation isn't good, you can ask those types of housing for your family. Consult the following link:

http://www.torontohousing.ca/

13.3 AVERAGE RENT COST IN CITIES IN ONTARIO

Average Rent by Metropolitan Area
Privately Initiated Three Apartment Units and Over

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ontario Region</th>
<th>Oct. 2010</th>
<th>Oct. 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>$646</td>
<td>$791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingston</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchener</td>
<td>677</td>
<td>811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oshawa</td>
<td>753</td>
<td>855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ottawa</td>
<td>762</td>
<td>920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St.Catharines - Niagara</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Sudbury</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thunder Bay</td>
<td>556</td>
<td>680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toronto</td>
<td>888</td>
<td>1,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windsor</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>780</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The information by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

13.4 BUYING FOODS & GROCERIES

In the GTA (Great Toronto Area) there is a broad offer of vegetables and other types of foods, coming from diverse locations in the world. You can find traditional food from China, India, Greece, Italy, Africa, etc. in some ethnic city areas.

The most common way of stocking your house with foods is buying in big supermarkets and in an only place, luckily close to your home. In large supermarkets, you can also enjoy a nice atmosphere, with pleasant temperatures, both in Summer and Winter. However, not all supermarkets sell their products at the same prices. Every chain or store will set the price for the products they sell, according to their own criteria.

The Canadian market is open to offer and demand principles. Every store or company sets the price for their products, which includes food. The price of Petrol, for example, may vary several times a day, according to
demand or the decision of runners. It has a maximum price in the morning, and it may be between 5 and 10% less costly in the evening, after 7 PM. There are no institutions devoted to help consumers - especially newcomers - save. In general terms, the commercial system is aimed to make the best profits possible.

**HOW TO SAVE IN FOODS**

As immigrants in Canada in 2000, and coming from a Latin American country, we went through the experience to see how our funds, the result of long years of work and saving, were easily spent in Toronto at a steady worrying pace. The main reason was the lack of knowledge of prices and a lack of consumer advice on which the places where saving is possible are. Moreover, as the aim of getting a job is not reached and Canadian funds are not earned, the prices taken in our countries currencies are usually several times the price we knew, and this leads to an increasing distress.

Knowing the importance that starting a new life has for a Skilled Worker - a life with no restrictions but taking care of savings as much as possible - we have conducted a study to know which the supermarkets with lowest / highest prices are in Ontario and Toronto. To get a real vision on prices we have made a comparative chart containing 20 products at the 8 main supermarkets chains in Ontario. This study also has the aim of making consumers aware of the variations of prices among the different supermarket chains in the city, so that they are able to take good decisions that will eventually help them to save monthly or purchase more foods for the same amount of money.

We took into account these key points:

- We chose products of the same brand, quality and grade and in the same amount, weight and size.
- Prices were registered during august, 2006.
- Special offer products were not included

**TABLE #1**

**PRICES COMPARATION - SUPERMARKETS IN TORONTO**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>NO FRILLS</th>
<th>LOWLABS (ZERS)</th>
<th>DOMINION (A&amp;P)</th>
<th>FORT INOS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Green grapes (no seeds) 1 kg</td>
<td>3.95</td>
<td>6.59</td>
<td>6.50</td>
<td>6.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bananas (Colombian) - 1 kg</td>
<td>0.96</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>1.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Potatoes “yellow Yukon” - 10 lb</td>
<td>2.10</td>
<td>4.90</td>
<td>4.30</td>
<td>4.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sunflower Oil Unico - 3 lt</td>
<td>6.49</td>
<td>6.49</td>
<td>7.69</td>
<td>6.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mayonnaise ‘Hellmans’ - 950gm</td>
<td>4.17</td>
<td>4.59</td>
<td>4.29</td>
<td>4.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Orange Juice Tropicana - 3,7 lt</td>
<td>6.99</td>
<td>7.49</td>
<td>7.49</td>
<td>7.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Apple Juice -Machintosh-21</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>3.29</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td>2.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>White Cheese - 520 gr</td>
<td>7.47</td>
<td>8.29</td>
<td>7.79</td>
<td>7.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Meat - sirloin steak - 1 kg</td>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>12.10</td>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>12.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Chicken Breast - 1 kg</td>
<td>9.90</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12.40</td>
<td>11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Sausages -Jumbo-450 gr</td>
<td>3.27</td>
<td>3.99</td>
<td>4.49</td>
<td>4.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nescafe - 150 gm</td>
<td>4.97</td>
<td>5.99</td>
<td>5.99</td>
<td>5.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Soup Campbell-Mushrooms-540g</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>2.09</td>
<td>2.09</td>
<td>2.09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TABLE #2
PRICES COMPARATION - SUPERMARKETS IN TORONTO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PRICE CHOPER</th>
<th>SOBEYs</th>
<th>TONNY FOOD</th>
<th>HIGH LAND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Green grapes (no seeds) 1 kg</td>
<td>3.24</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.76</td>
<td>4.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bananas (Colombian) - 1 kg</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>0.64</td>
<td>0.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Potatoes &quot;yellow Yukon&quot; - 10 lb</td>
<td>3.97</td>
<td>5.53</td>
<td>4.24</td>
<td>3.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sunflower Oil Unico - 3 lt</td>
<td>5.88</td>
<td>6.99</td>
<td>4.97</td>
<td>5.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mayonnaise 'Hellmans' - 950gm</td>
<td>2.97</td>
<td>4.19</td>
<td>4.17</td>
<td>4.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Apple Juice -Machintosh-2 l</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.59</td>
<td>2.27</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>White Cheese - 520 gr</td>
<td>5.97</td>
<td>7.49</td>
<td>7.47</td>
<td>7.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Meat - sirloin steak - 1 kg</td>
<td>9.90</td>
<td>9.90</td>
<td>10.97</td>
<td>12.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Chicken Breast - 1 kg</td>
<td>7.91</td>
<td>8.50(s)</td>
<td>6.55</td>
<td>15.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Sausages -Jumbo-450 gr</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.29</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>4.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nescafe - 150 gm</td>
<td>4.97</td>
<td>4.69</td>
<td>4.97</td>
<td>5.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Soup Campbell-Mushrooms-540g</td>
<td>1.87</td>
<td>1.99</td>
<td>1.87</td>
<td>1.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>White Rice - 8 kg</td>
<td>6.97</td>
<td>7.16</td>
<td>6.47</td>
<td>6.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Cookies Oreo - 530 gm</td>
<td>3.97</td>
<td>3.99</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>4.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Coca cola (original) - 2 litres</td>
<td>1.57</td>
<td>1.79</td>
<td>1.57</td>
<td>1.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Water - Aquafina 4 lt</td>
<td>0.97</td>
<td>0.99</td>
<td>0.97</td>
<td>0.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Detergent - TIDE - 6,6 kg</td>
<td>16.10</td>
<td>17.10</td>
<td>18.08</td>
<td>16.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Colgate Total - 130g-Mint</td>
<td>1.99 (s)</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Shampoo Pantene -400 g</td>
<td>4.97</td>
<td>4.97</td>
<td>4.99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Pizza Delisio -de Luxe (med)</td>
<td>7.29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(s) Means that the product was temporarily in special

NOTE: These charts were made by the author getting those prices directly at the stores mentioned. They are just shown as a reference.

13.5 FURNITURE

To start a new life in your apartment you need to purchase furniture and other gear. Most people buy first the basic pieces, light and economical. It is also a good idea to buy pieces of furniture for different purposes, such as sofa-beds and beds that can be used as chairs. Many decide to start by using hollow filled mattresses, as they are easy to install and move. Remember that the possibility to move your furniture easily should be a strong point to be borne in mind, as it may be more costly to move heavy furniture than their price itself.

Many newcomers buy "second hand" furniture in good conditions at really low prices. In Spring and Summer, garage sales are quite frequent. The Canadian sell their furniture, appliances, toys, bicycles, clothing, etc. that they don't need any more or just because they are moving and prefer selling them at any price.

Remember that you may bring your furniture through international moving companies, but you should think it over, as their quality may justify or not the cost of moving them. If they are quality furniture bringing them may be advisable as Canadian quality furniture is rather costly.
RECOMMENDATION

1. Don't hurry to purchase living and dinning room furniture until you have a good job and know in what city you will live.

2. To buy quality furniture at good prices seek "outlet stores", stores that sell new furniture at reasonable prices and frequent special offers.

13.6 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

COST in Toronto

TTC Fares - PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COST in Toronto (Effective January - 2010)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adult Fares</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 trip</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day (multiple trips)</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 week (Weekly Pass - Transferable)</td>
<td>$36.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 unlimited month (Metropass - Transferable - Monthly)</td>
<td>$111.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Tokens/Tickets</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student/Senior Fares</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 trip</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 week (Weekly Pass - Transferable)</td>
<td>$28.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 unlimited month (Metropass - Transferable - Monthly)</td>
<td>$89.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Tokens/Tickets</td>
<td>$16.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children (12 Years or under)</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 trip</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Tokens/Tickets</td>
<td>$5.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13.7 RECOMMENDATIONS TO SAVE MONEY IN CANADA

◊ Avoid buying food or other products in 24-hour stores (Dominion, A&P, SOBEYs, etc, open day and night, as the usually charge an extra 30% over the prices offered by day supermarkets.

◊ Buy foods brand "NO NAME" in supermarkets. The difference in price is up to 35% lower. In most cases, they are elaborated by the some companies that manufacture products of advertised brands, and those products are usually of the same quality or are just the same product Packaging is the only difference. Most supermarkets have brands such as "No name", "EQUALITY", "President's choice", "Compliments", or similar, that are used for naming generic products. You will find a number of products under these generic brands, such as cookies, sodas, coffee, cheese, orange juice, sparkling water, yogurt, margarine, pasta, sausages, and many more.

◊ Avoid buying products at "Convenience Stores". These small shops' products are more costly than in many supermarket, especially in those that are "24 hours" and the ones in gas stations. (SEE TABLE 3)
◊ Try to buy the vegetables and fruits of the season. For example, in June strawberries and asparagus, lettuce and some other vegetables. In July and August, cherries, “nectarines”, cucumbers, peaches, apples, pears, plums, and many other fruits and vegetables. IN September, grapes, tomatoes, zucchini, peppers, corn, etc. Remember that most vegetables and fruits are imported in winter, and that are more expensive.

◊ Buy products in simple disposable packaging. For example: a kilo of chicken legs in a simple closed plastic bag will cost, let’s say $4.89/kilo. The same product in a white plastic foam tray (polystyrene) with an absorbent piece of cloth under it, wrapped in transparent plastic foil will cost 5.98. It is just logical, as you must pay for the tray, the piece of cloth and the transparent plastic foil. Moreover, you will have more garbage in your kitchen, which will contribute to the soil pollution, as these elements cannot be recycled.

◊ It is very common that those products whose expiry date is nearing are cheaper than their ordinary price. They have a label that reads “SPECIAL”, as they have a new lower price or for being separate from the rest. Meat and bakery products are most often offered as “special”.

◊ There are special offers in supermarkets every week, which are advertised in printed brochures send to houses and apartments. In most cases, they allow for saving money or for buying a bigger amount of items for the same price. However, avoid buying those special offers of products that you don’t use frequently. In this consumer society it is easy for families to stock up a number of cheap products that will never be used.

◊ The most economical way of buying clothes is buying outfits for the season that has just finished or is now finishing. Big stores in Canada (Sears, Bay, Wal-Mart, and many more) usually keep those goods from a season to the other, on the contrary, they lower their prices several times to try and sell them, especially Summer clothes and Winter garments. This way, you can buy clothes for the next year at really good prices. However, avoid purchasing big amounts of children clothes, as they grow up rather quickly, and those clothes may not suit them.

RECREATION AND SPORTS FOR ALL THE FAMILY (CHEAP RESOURCES)

The recreation and practice of healthy and educational sport activities should be an important aspect for all the members of the family, specially the children and adolescents in their new life in Canada. The following items are some of the options that the author recommends (based on his own experience) to find economical, gratifying and educational activities for all the family.

• FOR ALL THE FAMILY

In most neighborhoods in Canadian cities and towns there are COMMUNITY CENTERS, whose function is to give recreation, qualification and courses for different kinds of persons of the community. In these centers many courses, sports and activities are developed for persons of all ages.

The courses offered in the COMMUNITY CENTERS vary generally form 8 to 12 weeks, depending on the nature of each one. Most of the facilities are air-conditioned so the courses are offered even in the winter season. The following are some of the courses that generally are offered in these centers.

- Sports in different levels and ages (swimming, hockey, aerobics, judo, tennis, etc.)
- Computers (Word, Excel, internet, Office, etc)
- Lenguajes
- Teaching of musical instrumenta
- Painting (oil, acrylic, pastel, etc)
- Art and crafts
Apart from the different courses offered in the communities, most of them have swimming-pools, gyms, stadiums and other recreation places to use daily by the residents.

**FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS**

- SEASON SPORTS

Students' vacations in primary and secondary schools, colleges and universities are from the last week of June to the first week of September. It is a long season in the hottest part of the year. Canadians are used to take advantage of the good weather doing sports and all kind of open air activities. Camping sites, fishing, sailing and excursions in natural areas are a good choice.

All kind of sports competences are usual in the parks and sport fields of cities and towns in Canada. The most popular open air sports in summer are soccer, baseball, softball, tennis, volleyball and basketball. In winter skiing and hockey are the most popular ones.

**RECOMMENDATION**

In summer register your children in the local competences organized by boys, girls and adolescents of your community. It is a good way for you to join, know other places, people and families of the area. Although these are sport competences among organized teams, the main objective for the children is to have fun, participate and socialize.

Registrations to participate in different summer sports are generally in March and April and the costs vary from $140 and $280 for open air sports like soccer, baseball, softball, tennis, volleyball and basketball. The uniforms and referees of the tournament are paid with this money. The sport competences have at least one or more games per week.

In many cities and towns of Canada there are also sport competences in indoor places like stadiums and community centers that are scheduled in fall and winter season. Although the most popular sport in Canada is hockey, there also soccer, tennis, basketball, curling, volleyball and lacrosse tournaments all the time.

**- SCOUTS CANADA**

Scouts Canada is one of the biggest youth organizations in the country and abroad. It offers seven interesting programs for boys, girls and youngsters between 5 and 26 years old with 3,600 groups in most of cities and towns in Canada. Around 78,000 youngsters enjoy the programmes (sports,
camping and other activities) of Scouts Canada. More than 24,000 volunteers collaborate with these programmes. Scouts Canada national office is in Ottawa and is member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. Scouts Canada is a not-for-profit organization supported by youngsters and parents of the community.

Although the groups start the activities in August and September. You can register your children in Scouts Canada any time of the year. As usual the groups have scheduled interesting recreation activities and campings regularly. The meetings are once a week and last from 2 to 4 hours. Parents are responsible for the purchase of uniforms and the necessary equipment for the activities.

For more information visit SCOUTS CANADA

http://www.scouts.ca/default.asp?cmPageID=81

- CADETS CANADA

Cadets is a program sponsored by the Canadian Federal Government for children and youngsters between 9 and 18 years old. In this program the ones interested participate in interesting recreative and educational activities as well as learning about Canadian Armed Forces.

Cadets promotes and stimulates boys to be responsible and active members of the community. They teach values for life and work, like for example leadership, working in groups and citizenship values. Cadets Program also promotes personal benefits for youngsters like improving their self-esteem and keeping fit while learning how to take the initiative and their own decisions. Cadets makes a permanent valuable contribution to the Canadian society in relation to environment issues, citizenship and community activities.

CADETS ARE NOT PART OF THE ARMED FORCES, and there isn’t any commitment or expectation for the youngsters to join the military life.

The youngsters can join it any time of the year and they can be absent as their convenience. Although they receive uniforms, there isn’t any commitment of their staying in CADETS.

The registration to CADETS is free and uniforms or equipment are not paid. The organization carries out some activities with the cadets and voluntary parents for the fund rising in the community.

CADETS program can be taken in the following branches:

- Royal Canadian Sea Cadets (Marines, which is known as Sea Cadets)
- Royal Canadian Army Cadets (Army, which is known as Army Cadets)
- Royal Canadian Air Cadets (Air Force, which is known as Air Cadets)

CADETS program is divided into three training stages:

- Local training - Cadets meet in order to participate in the program weekly during the school season (September-June), a night per week. Training sessions or other weekend activities are optionally scheduled depending on their own interests.
Summer training: There are 24 cadet summer training centers (CSTC) located all over Canada. Approximately 21,000 registered youngsters receive training and have more than 2,500 staff cadets (parents and adults of the community) who are employed each summer in the 24 CSTCs. The interchange and going out of the cadets to other cities within Canada and cultural interchange with other countries of the world is very frequent.

To know more of these programmes, use the following links:

CADETS – CANADA
http://www.cadets.ca/intro_e.asp

IMPORTANT

The programs of SCOUTS CANADA and CADETS - CANADA are an excellent choice for the recreation and education of boys, girls and adolescents. They are useful to reinforce civic values, give self confidence and leading concepts to their children. Besides, they will allow children to know and socialize with other boys of their same age. Apart from being organized programs by the community with the permanent participation of many parents, they are almost free.

As many other resources and possibilities in Canada, many families especially immigrants and Canadian families do not use these institutions because they DO NOT KNOW THEIR EXISTENCE (Scouts and Cadets-Canada do not have any advertising) or do not have information about the possibilities they offer to the youngsters.

13.8 COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR FAMILY

◊ The most economical way of communication with your family is Internet. By a chat program, as Messenger by MSN, you can write, speak and even see your relatives for a really low cost. Learning to operate it is easier than you suppose.

◊ The other economical way of calling abroad is by the use of international calling cards. Just buy the ones that only charge for the minutes you used and NO CONEXION FEES, as they are more economical. Try several brands of phone cards and decide by your self which is the one that suits you best, according to the country and city you phone.

The cost of direct international phone calls, over your residential phone line, are really high.
13.9 SALARIES IN ONTARIO

MINIMUM WAGE IN ONTARIO.

In Ontario and in the rest of provinces in Canada, the minimum wage is set by the government, based on the hourly rates paid to workers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Minimum Wage</th>
<th>March 31, 2009</th>
<th>March 31, 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$9.50 per hour</td>
<td>$10.25 per hour</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WAGES IN SOME PROFESSIONS AND CRAFTS IN ONTARIO.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROFESSION</th>
<th>LOW</th>
<th>HIGH</th>
<th>AVERAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accountants</td>
<td>14.85</td>
<td>33.50</td>
<td>24.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actuaries</td>
<td>20.45</td>
<td>41.25</td>
<td>29.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architects</td>
<td>19.00</td>
<td>34.40</td>
<td>25.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiology Technologists</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>27.37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical Engineers</td>
<td>19.25</td>
<td>34.60</td>
<td>27.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemists</td>
<td>15.80</td>
<td>32.35</td>
<td>23.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Engineers</td>
<td>14.60</td>
<td>36.45</td>
<td>24.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Engineers</td>
<td>14.45</td>
<td>38.30</td>
<td>26.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Assistants</td>
<td>12.50</td>
<td>20.25</td>
<td>16.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Hygienists</td>
<td>33.50</td>
<td>41.00</td>
<td>38.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dietitians and Nutritionists</td>
<td>17.50</td>
<td>36.05</td>
<td>30.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical &amp; Electronic Engineers</td>
<td>17.00</td>
<td>41.05</td>
<td>27.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funeral Directors and Embalmers</td>
<td>13.46</td>
<td>19.23</td>
<td>17.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geological Engineers</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>19.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graphic Designers</td>
<td>12.35</td>
<td>28.65</td>
<td>20.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Engineers</td>
<td>15.85</td>
<td>32.90</td>
<td>25.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interior Designers</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>31.05</td>
<td>22.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Surveyors</td>
<td>15.30</td>
<td>25.80</td>
<td>20.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyers</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>39.95</td>
<td>30.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed/Registered Practical Nurses</td>
<td>17.50</td>
<td>24.00</td>
<td>20.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Therapists</td>
<td>28.45</td>
<td>36.05</td>
<td>32.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical Engineers</td>
<td>24.00</td>
<td>41.00</td>
<td>33.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Laboratory Technologists</td>
<td>24.00</td>
<td>33.15</td>
<td>28.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Radiation Technologists</td>
<td>30.75</td>
<td>34.50</td>
<td>30.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metallurgical Engineers</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>33.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining and Mineral Processing Engineers</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>28.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physicians</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>81.60</td>
<td>56.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiotherapists</td>
<td>29.75</td>
<td>36.60</td>
<td>34.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologists</td>
<td>18.65</td>
<td>40.95</td>
<td>30.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate Agents and Salespersons</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>30.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Therapists</td>
<td>25.95</td>
<td>39.65</td>
<td>32.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROFESSION</td>
<td>LOW</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>AVERAGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Workers</td>
<td>26.05</td>
<td>35.65</td>
<td>26.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Software Engineers</td>
<td>22.00</td>
<td>43.65</td>
<td>33.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers, Elementary School</td>
<td>19.00</td>
<td>34.05</td>
<td>26.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers, Secondary School</td>
<td>19.35</td>
<td>36.40</td>
<td>27.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck Drivers</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>21.50</td>
<td>17.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wages for some **LICENSED TECHNICIANS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROFESSION</th>
<th>LOW</th>
<th>HIGH</th>
<th>AVERAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alignment and Brakes Technician</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>22.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autobody Repairer</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>22.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automotive Electronic Accessory Technician</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>22.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automotive Service Technician</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>22.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrician (Construction and Maintenance)</td>
<td>13.95</td>
<td>32.10</td>
<td>22.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas Technician</td>
<td>18.75</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>23.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hairstylist</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>12.90</td>
<td>9.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Crane Operator</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>29.95</td>
<td>22.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycle Mechanic</td>
<td>16.60</td>
<td>22.50</td>
<td>16.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plumber</td>
<td>13.95</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>20.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Mechanic</td>
<td>18.35</td>
<td>28.00</td>
<td>18.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheet Metal Worker</td>
<td>13.75</td>
<td>34.15</td>
<td>23.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steamfitter</td>
<td>16.15</td>
<td>29.55</td>
<td>22.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tower Crane Operator</td>
<td>14.15</td>
<td>32.70</td>
<td>24.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transmission Technician</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>22.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck-Trailer Service Technician</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>22.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wages for some **NON LICENSED TECHNICIANS** (whose license is not compulsory)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROFESSION</th>
<th>LOW</th>
<th>HIGH</th>
<th>AVERAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Automotive Machinist</td>
<td>17.00</td>
<td>28.00</td>
<td>22.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automotive Painter</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>15.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>14.50</td>
<td>11.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bricklayer</td>
<td>24.90</td>
<td>30.20</td>
<td>28.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Millwright</td>
<td>14.50</td>
<td>31.00</td>
<td>22.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>11.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chef</td>
<td>10.55</td>
<td>17.50</td>
<td>13.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drafting Technologists and Technicians</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>24.90</td>
<td>19.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronics Service Technician</td>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>26.15</td>
<td>16.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Machinist</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Electrician</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>31.70</td>
<td>24.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Woodworker (Carpenters)</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>30.65</td>
<td>22.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lather</td>
<td>12.60</td>
<td>31.00</td>
<td>23.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mouldmaker</td>
<td>19.00</td>
<td>28.00</td>
<td>24.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painter and Decorator</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>22.65</td>
<td>16.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Engine Technician</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>17.00</td>
<td>14.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tool and Die Maker</td>
<td>19.00</td>
<td>28.00</td>
<td>24.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Station Attendants</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>9.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13.10 ANNUAL COST OF KEEPING A CAR IN ONTARIO (APPROXIMATED - Based on statistical expenditure)

The following is an estimate of the amount you would expend yearly in Ontario, based on the cost of a new car. Calculations were made as a reference, and with cars of different cylinder sizes. Most are the most cost-effective cars in Canada. These considerations have been taken into account:

- A 12% from the price of a new car was taken as depreciation cost
- The cost of the yearly insurance is the one the a driver would usually pay, having a license and no experience in driving in Canada or North America. The estimate is just a reference, and it is the average amount some people pay in similar conditions.

The average cost of petrol in Ontario is 1 liter = $0.98 (July 2010)

COST OF SOME NEW CAR IN ONTARIO (2006)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Brand</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Motor (Lt)</th>
<th>Speeds</th>
<th>Consumption (Lt) 100 km city</th>
<th>Consumption (Lt) 100 km highway</th>
<th>Cost (approx) $ dollars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>SUZUKI</td>
<td>Swift</td>
<td>1.600</td>
<td>Automatic 5 speed manual</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>13.800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>FORD</td>
<td>Focus</td>
<td>2.000</td>
<td>Automatic 5 speed manual</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>16.800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>CHEVROLET</td>
<td>Cobalt- 2 drs</td>
<td>2.200</td>
<td>Automatic 5 speed manual</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>14.800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These prices are approximate and may vary. Some extras may be necessary, as registrations fees, plate, insurance, etc.

ANNUAL CAR OPERATION COST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Brand Model</th>
<th>Annual Depreciation (12% initial cost)</th>
<th>Annual Insurance (Aprox.)</th>
<th>Annual Petrol in 12,500 km city</th>
<th>Annual Petrol 12,500 km highway</th>
<th>Total Annual Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>SUZUKI -Swift 1.6 litros</td>
<td>1656</td>
<td>3780</td>
<td>1114</td>
<td>759</td>
<td>$ 7309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>FORD - Focus 2.0 litros</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>3840</td>
<td>1102</td>
<td>784</td>
<td>$ 7742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>CHEVROLET Cobalt- 2 drs 2.2 litros</td>
<td>1776</td>
<td>4482</td>
<td>1151</td>
<td>747</td>
<td>$ 8156</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE:

This table is just to give the reader an idea on approximate costs and no responsibility is taken for the numbers or prices written. All costs are quite approximate to the real ones. You should add other expenditures such as stricker tax, parking, auto windscreen cleaner, car washing, oil, filters, tyres and any occasional maintenance expenditure to the previous annual cost.
13.11 BUYING A HOUSE OR APARTMENT IN ONTARIO

Most newcomers start by living in rented houses or apartments, at least while they get a job, and settle down in the work market. They also start building a credit record that will facilitate them the access to a loan for housing.

Buying a house or apartment in Toronto or in any city in Canada is a possibility you must consider when you start your new life in Canada. There are three key factors that may lead a newcomer to think of buying housing as soon as his possibilities allow for it:

- THE HIGH COST OF RENTS. Toronto is one of the most expensive cities in the world, in terms of rent annual cost.
- THE RELATIVELY LOW INTEREST OF MONEY. With annual rates between 5 and 8%, bank credits are easy to get if newcomers fulfill the bank requirements.
- THE STEADY INCREASING COST OF HOUSING

In Canada, houses or apartments are purchased by giving a 5 or 10% of down payment. The rest is paid by means of a loan (or mortgage loan to a bank or financial company, and it is paid in monthly or bi-monthly installments for around 25 years.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR BUYING HOUSING IN ONTARIO

The basic requirements of some banks and financial companies for mortgage loans are:

- A full time job, for at least a year
- Having lived for at least two years in Canada
- Owing 5% or more for the down payment.

The maximum loan a family can get is calculated on the base of the annual income of the worker and his wife or permanent partner, according to the following rules:

1. "The monthly payment for housing mustn't be higher than 32 % of the total net family income"
2. "The maximum monthly fee for mortgage loan and other credits (car, credit cards, etc.) of a family cannot surpass the 40% of their net income."

The following is a chart showing the maximum mortgage loan amounts, according to monthly income and savings for the down payment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family income</th>
<th>5% Down Payment</th>
<th>Maximum Home Price</th>
<th>10% Down Payment</th>
<th>Maximum Home Price</th>
<th>25% Down Payment</th>
<th>Maximum Home Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>$6,300</td>
<td>$63,000</td>
<td>$18,900</td>
<td>$75,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>$3,900</td>
<td>$78,000</td>
<td>$8,200</td>
<td>$82,000</td>
<td>$24,700</td>
<td>$98,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>$4,800</td>
<td>$96,000</td>
<td>$10,100</td>
<td>$101,000</td>
<td>$30,300</td>
<td>$121,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$5,700</td>
<td>$114,000</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
<td>$36,000</td>
<td>$144,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$45,000</td>
<td>$6,600</td>
<td>$132,000</td>
<td>$13,900</td>
<td>$139,000</td>
<td>$41,700</td>
<td>$166,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$15,800</td>
<td>$158,000</td>
<td>$47,400</td>
<td>$189,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>$9,300</td>
<td>$186,000</td>
<td>$19,600</td>
<td>$196,000</td>
<td>$58,800</td>
<td>$235,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$70,000</td>
<td>$11,050</td>
<td>$221,000</td>
<td>$23,400</td>
<td>$234,000</td>
<td>$70,100</td>
<td>$280,400</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$14,400</td>
<td>$288,000</td>
<td>$31,000</td>
<td>$310,000</td>
<td>$81,500</td>
<td>$371,200</td>
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<td>$90,000</td>
<td>$16,275</td>
<td>$325,500</td>
<td>$34,800</td>
<td>$348,000</td>
<td>$92,800</td>
<td>$417,200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: This table is shown as reference. Prices for 2006

**Example:** To buy an apartment (2 brm) costing **$140,000** with 25% down payment.
- Total Down Payment: $35,000 (25%)
- Total Mortgage: $105,000 (75%)
- Monthly Fees: $601.12 (with 8% annual for a 25 years, you must pay approx. $572 per every $100,000 loan)
- Other Monthly Expenditures: -$180 property taxes + 250 maintenance fees
- **Total Monthly Payments:** $1031.12 (mortgage + taxes + administration)
- Utilities: $100 (Electricity, Water)

**RECOMMENDATION:** If you compare the monthly rent of a 2-room apartment (in Toronto, average $950 - 1200+) it is rather similar to a monthly mortgage loan for your own apartment (also called "condo or condominium"). For that reason, you should ponder over the possibility to buy your own housing as soon as possible, and fulfill the requirements for a mortgage loan!!

### 13.12 ABOUT INVESTMENTS AND INSURANCES.

As a new immigrant in Canada, for sure you will find many new things in this country. As soon as you are settled and have a phone you will receive frequent phone calls from people or institutions offering you different services (financial, banking, insurance, long distance phone calls plans, etc.) or products of different kind and use. The insurance offer (of any kind) and financial plans in Canada are one of the most common and aggressive.

The first things seen by the immigrants arriving to any town or city a century ago were the towers or church domes and cathedrals. People of that time built their most important building to adore God and have a place to pray and feel protected by the divine power.

Nowadays when you arrive to any city or town in South America, Canada or USA, the tallest and most beautiful buildings are from insurance companies and financial institutions. In modern life especially in USA this kind of companies are those which achieve the highest incomes thanks to the natural psychological need of the people of having or feeling some protection for the future of their family life.

Many are the reasons why the immigrants have doubts and fears of a not certain future, lack of family and friends, not having a certain or permanent job, lackings in the language, etc. In other words, the immigrant is possible to be "afraid of what his future is going to be".

Insurance companies, banks and financial institutions know very well the fear of many immigrants who arrive to Canada. They sell the product which may take their fear away and...
give security and trust in their new life in Canada. On the other hand, these insurance companies will go on increasing their incomes and image with the money of the immigrants.

Insurance companies employ mostly immigrants as their employees to train them in the selling of their "products" to the new other immigrants. One reason is the ability they have to communicate with those persons who speak the same mother tongue language, and other reason is the trust deriving from client-seller of the same country or similar culture. These sellers are ready to meet new immigrants to increase their sales and they are always asking people for information to find new immigrants.

For many trained sellers in this business to sell all kind of insurance to an immigrant is an easy task. First, sellers will flatter them because of their courage to come to Canada. Then, they will talk about how wonderful things are here for you and your family. After that, (following the techniques of their training) they will tell you the most terrible tragedies and difficult situations they know by heart. With some terrible stories they will lead you to feel fear (maybe sadness) that will make you remember that you are in Canada without any protection before so many evil and dangerous things that according to the sellers "are seen every day", like painful illnesses, fires, earthquakes, etc. But in order to "rescue" of these "possible" tragedies and give security in Canada, they will offer you all kind of insurances, like for example life insurance, insurance against accidents, fires, robberies, etc.

Besides, some companies will also sell you an insurance to protect you in case the insurance company you hired does not cover the whole insured sum. For example, most of the car companies do not recognize the first $500 (deductible) in case of the claims for a car accident. If the owner has your car damaged for a low cost, he should pay the first $500, and this makes some customers do not inform the insurance companies about small accidents. In order to include this possibility, some insurance companies will offer you another insurance including this initial deductible of $500.

The following items are some examples of insurances that are paid in Canada:

- **HOUSE INSURANCE**: When you buy a house of a flat, according to the law the real state must be insured against fire, flooding, hurricanes, earthquakes, etc.

- **CREDIT HOUSE INSURANCE**: When you buy a house or a flat with the credit of the bank, the purchaser must have insurance for the credit he receives. The cost of this insurance depends on the cost of the real state with relation to the down payment given by purchaser. For example, if he buys a house of $200,000 and delivers only $20,000 of down payment (10% down payment), an insurance must be paid (3%) for the credit of the remaining $180,000. The sum of $5,400 (% of 180,000) will sum to the down payment, and the debt will be of $185,400.

This insurance is to "protect" the money of the banks in case the purchaser is not able to pay the money of the credit and has to sell it for a less price (depreciation of the real state). The cost of this insurance lowers if the money of the down payment increases, and it is not paid when the purchaser gives 30% or more of the total cost of the real state.

- **HEALTH AND DENTISTRY INSURANCES**: The Canadian health system covers medical and hospital service of the whole population. However, other services like dentistry, ophthalmologist, medicines, etc., are not covered by the system. In order to protect from these eventualities, the insurance companies offer extra protection in these fields.

**NOTE**: The new residents in Canada are **NOT** protected by the Canadian health system during the first months. It is advisable (not compulsory) that you buy a private insurance for the members of the family during that period of time, especially if you arrive in winter. Fallings in winter are one of the main "not natural death" causes among Canadian inhabitants.

- **LIFE INSURANCE**: This is one of the most popular insurances among new immigrants in Canada. Maybe many people have never thought or not even have this insurance in their country of origin. In Canada (due to psychological conditions) immigrants will be sure candidates for the sellers to offer (successfully) this insurance.

- **CAR INSURANCE**: In Canada you must have an insurance of liability against damages to other persons or properties to be able to drive any motor vehicle. However, having a car insurance against other issues like for example robbery, damages, etc., is not compulsory.
IMPORTANT:

The cost of the insurance for people without driving experience in USA or Canada is very expensive. A new driver in Ontario who has passed the exam successfully and obtained license G-1, and after that has passed the road exam and obtained license G-2, will be in conditions of buying his own vehicle and the corresponding insurance. The cost per month for insuring your first vehicle can be of $350 and $450, depending on the type of vehicle, brand, model and place where you live in. The cost of the insurance also varies according to the insurance companies, year of the vehicle, age and experience of the driver, number of doors, capacity or size of the motor and many other factors.

However, although its high cost, it is not easy to find an insurance company which insures new drivers. For example, some insurance companies (State Farm Insurance, Grey Power, etc.) prefer to sell insurances only to persons who have more than 5 years of experience driving in Canada and who did not have any accident or claim.

• ON CREDIT MERCHANDISE. If you buy some merchandise on credit (electrical appliances, clothes, cars, ct.) is usual to pay with its price (and the commercial interest that the shop charges you) the purchase of an insurance for the sum debt of the merchandise. In this way the insurance (which is compulsory to have the credit) will pay the money to the shop in the case you do not pay whatever the reason. Another insurance that the shops will offer you is against "lose of job". If you purchase it, you will pay the monthly fees of those months in which you would be without any job in the future due to the lose of the current job. Remember that when you purchase on credit you have few possibilities (maybe none) to negotiate the conditions and you will have to sign accepting the imposed conditions (very small letters) by the seller.

RECOMMENDATION

In order to attract customers many chain stores (where you can find electrical appliances, computers, cars, etc.) promote merchandise with the advantage of having "1 year without paying or without any interest". But most people do not know that when they make you the bill of the merchandise, apart from charging the normal taxes (which are never included in the prices shown), they usually charge you from 8% to 10% approximately of the total of the credit for the so called “administration fee”, which they will include in the credit.

Be careful to pay the total of the credit before the given limit, because if you do not pay the corresponding day, they will charge you very high interests of 28% or higher over the credit you still owe.

• GUARANTEES. When you purchase an electrical appliance, vehicle or expensive article, you will generally be offered to buy extra insurances (guarantees) to protect your investment. Like for example, if you purchase a remote control for your TV set for $20 (example), apart from the usual guarantee of the store (6 months), they will offer you an additional insurance ($5 to $10) for 1 or 2 years more, just in case it has a damage which is not covered by the original guarantee. You decide if it is worth paying more to be sure or “run the risk” (? ¿) that some something wrong may happen and lose your investment.
RECOMMENDATION

As an immigrant you should know it in advance and be ready to skip these matters. To know could mean an economical advantage in your monthly family expenses, especially if you avoid buying (sometimes under psychological pressure) intangible products or services that could not be really compulsory, important or necessary for you.

13.13 INCOME TAX - STATEMENT

In Canada every person who is able to work must do an income-tax statement called Income Tax in the first months of the year. Generally it is done before April 30th.

Every worker must pay a tax over the salaries he receives. This money is deducted directly by the employer, and it is always over the received sum in each payment (no matter if it is a daily, weekly or monthly payment). Then, every employer must deposit the deducted money to the worker in the tax office.

The percentage of the deducted money over the salary is calculated in each payment with base in the annual projection if he works 52 weeks. These taxes (in Ontario) are approximately of the following order (2006):

- Low annual Salaries: between $1,000 and $31,677 per year will pay taxes between 0% to 15.9% (approx).
- Medium salaries: between $31,677 and $63,353 per year will pay taxes between 16% and 25.9% (approx).
- High salaries: between $63,353 and $103,000 per year will pay taxes between 20% and 29% (approx).
- Salaries higher than $103,000 per year will pay taxes of 29%

The following terms will be deducted to the deductions per tax abovementioned as a worker or employer:

- For the contribution to the retirement system. (CPP).
- For the employment insurance.

NOTE: The percentages shown above are approximate values in Ontario, and they are the total of various kinds of taxes which are applied to the workers (Ontario Provincial Tax income, Ontario Health Premium, etc.) They can vary in other Canadian provinces where taxes are lower.

WHEN THE WORKER HAS HIS MONEY BACK - EXAMPLE

The following is an example to show the reader the case when CANADA REVENUE (the Canadian tax organization) gives the worker his money back.

- Suppose that Mr. Roger is working for a company with a weekly salary (gross value before any tax or discount) of $1,000, this will mean an income of $52,000 a year. For this level of income the percentage for taxes is 20% approximately. Then, the company will deposit $200 to Canada Revenue in his name and it will really pay $800 to Mr. Roger (see note#1).

Case A: Mr. Roger worked 52 weeks of the year continuously.

In this case the company discounted 52 weeks x $200 = $10,400 as a total, that is the fixed 20% that a worker must pay with a salary of 52,000 per year. When Mr.Roger makes his INCOME TAX, he will not receive any money back, given that the discounted sum corresponds to the calculated sum.

Case B: Mr. Roger worked only for 26 weeks during the year.

In this case the company discounted 26 weeks x $200 = $5,200 in total. As he only worked for 26 weeks the gross income (before taxes) was $26,000.

For an annual salary of $26,000 only 10% must be discounted. Then, $100 should be discounted every week. In this way, during the 26 weeks Mr.Rogers really worked, the total discount would be 26 x $100 = $2,600.
When Mr. Rogers makes his INCOME TAX he will receive:
$5,600 (which was discounted) - $2,600 (corresponding to the real income) = $2,600 TOTAL
MONEY BACK.

NOTE #1: This is just an example. The following terms will also be discounted to the deductions per tax abovementioned as an employer or worker:
● For the contribution the retirement system (CPP)
● For the employment Insurance

IMPORTANTE
As a new Canadian you will have to make your INCOME TAX since the first year you live here. It does not matter if you arrive in December, even for a week you live here you should make your INCOME TAX, no matter if you fill in with “ceros”.

Bear in mind that lower is the annual received value declared by a family in the first INCOME TAX, higher will be the help of the government and the benefits for the dependant children.

Keep all the receipts of your purchases, services and specially sport expenses spent on children. You will need them to make your Income tax.

To know more about the taxes in Ontario, use the following links:

http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/menu-e.html

ONTARIO TAXES
DISCLAIMER

The information and recommendations of this Guide must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depend only on your own characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.

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Canada is a land of opportunities where you and your family can live and work, in a safe modern environment. However, the fact of having been admitted to live in this Country doesn't necessarily mean that they are waiting for you with a good job. You must be ready on your arrival, with a good level of English and the technical abilities and knowledge to get that good job. It is just reasonable to think that you will be able to work in the field on which you have knowledge and experience. But you may also face the possibility to go through difficult long process to get a suitable job.

14.1 INTRODUCTION

Finding a good job in Canada will be the basis for your and your family welfare. Your life style will depend to a great extend of the quality of the job you may get. On the other hand, a good job, according to your personal expectations, experience and education, will be key aspects for your feeling of achievement or frustration in your new life, both for you and your family.

On the other extreme will be those low-payment jobs, doing something different from your previous profession or craft and performing tasks below your working capacities, for long working hours, to be able to go by with the basic monthly expenditure. That will be the beginning of a period of discomfort and uneasiness. That situation, rather common for newcomers, along with the negative feeling derived from missing your family and friends, your favourite dishes and habits in your birth country, may turn in a heavy emotional burden, and in a feeling of failure that makes it difficult to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Many families go through such difficult situation in Canada and just resist stoically those hard times, seeing how easy it is for their kids to learn the language and get the same education than Canadian children (at least elementary school), with the hope of a better future for them. However, studies have proved that children also suffer the stress related to their parents’ distress and their school performance, temper, self assuredness, motivation and self - esteem are affected in a negative way, in the long run.
For that reason, it is important for you and your family to focus your energies on getting ready to get a good job. And the most effective way is to come ready beforehand for the job market reality you will face in Canada, and its limitations. So bring a plan, a course of actions to be followed at every stage of your settlement process.

It is here when this guide comes into the picture, as it can make a big difference in your and your family's lives. Knowing the difficulties and barriers you will find on your way, you will be able to get ready as best as possible. That is an invaluable help you can now use in your immigration process, which will allow you to get advice in many difficult situations and will help you strengthen your determination upon the decisions you have to make. A course of action based on the experience, the analysis and the results of many other people who have already settled successfully in Canada.

In this chapter I will expand on the Canadian job market, its limitations and some basic requirements for a worker to enter that market.

The plan, which is a summary of the course of actions to be followed to skip the obstacles and achieve your job goal, will be the subject of our next chapter.

14.2 How difficult will it be to get a job in Canada?

It will depend on the type of job you are looking for. Finding a low income job and in non qualified activity is quite easy. To explain the job situation in Canada in the best way, it is necessary to organize the sources of job into three groups, based on a worker’s hourly rates.

1. Low salary jobs

   Salaries between 1 to 2 minimum hourly - (between $10,50 and $20/hour in 2010)

   These jobs are easy to find in Ontario. There are many signs reading "NOW HIRING", "HELP WANTED", and similar.

   In general terms, there are permanent job offers in fast food restaurants like Wendy's, MacDonald's, KFC, Tim Hortons, Taco Bell, etc., and those are the type of jobs housewives and students do in their spare time, or by people with a low level education. There are many skilled workers newcomers (with good education) working in these business too. They offer the minimum salary allowed by authorities, or just a few dollars or cents higher if applicants already have some experience and some degree of responsibility. According to statistics in Canada, between 35 and 40% of Canadian workers work for minimum salaries or for salaries just slightly higher.

   Most jobs offered in Internet newspaper sites, especially the ones offering cleaning, hotel services, chain stores or supermarkets, restaurants, general stores, shops, gas stations, production lines and industries, also offer low salaries.

   In some industrial or building companies a semi qualified worker can get an hourly rate of $14 or more, depending on the type of company, experience, etc.
Even for these types of jobs it is necessary to have a good level of English to get a good position, especially if the post is related to the area of customer care and attention.

2. MEDIUM SALARY JOBS

Salaries between 2 and 4 minimum hourly - (between $20 and $40/hour in 2011)

The Canadian job market for this range of wages is highly competitive and many people apply for these posts. They are usually job positions requiring educated people, excellent communications skills, some sort of special training and specific experience in the corresponding field. These are the type of people an applicant will compete with:

- **Skilled workers.** Canadian in origin, with a Canadian education, unemployed or newly graduated. Some of them are just looking for a change.
- **Veteran Immigrants:** with several years in Canada, well trained and/or who want a promotion in their field.
- **Qualified Immigrants (skilled workers):** newcomers from different countries (especially from India, China, Pakistan, Rumania, Russia, Iran, Korea, Colombia, etc.).

As the reader may suppose, finding a job with such a salary is quite difficult, especially because of the great number of candidates that apply via Internet, by regular post, or face to face. It is estimated that for every ad seeking skilled personnel in the Toronto Star or in Workopolis, companies receive between 200 and 400 applications.

Experts also state that just between 15 and 20% of job positions with that salary level are advertised in mass media like The Toronto Star, The Sun, The Globe & Mail, etc., or specialized Internet portals, such as Workopolis, TheJobBank, CanadaJobs, etc.
Most of these non advertised jobs (80-85 %), are what councillors call hidden job market. Those positions are usually covered by, or created for candidates known by employers by direct contact with the applicant or his/her friends, via recommendations by other employees, recruitment agencies, or the employer’s environment. This web of contacts is called NETWORKING, and it is the key to get a job in Canada.

For newcomers who lack of contacts or NETWORKING, getting a skilled worker job is more difficult. However, if they set time aside and make the effort to follow the advice given in this guide, overcoming that initial drawback will be possible little by little.

**IMPORTANT**

As a newcomer, you must start creating your own NETWORK as soon as you arrive in Canada. NETWORKING is the key to find a job in the hidden job market, where most skilled worker jobs belong to. In other words, you must know the contacts that would be related to an employer’s contacts.

### 3. HIGH SALARY JOBS

**Salaries Higher than 4 minimum (minimum hourly) - ($40,00 / hourly and up)**

The Canadian job market with this range of wages is a little more demanding regarding communication skills, technical training, academic education and experience. To apply for such a job it is usually necessary to have a professional license issued by a Canadian professional association, and several years of experience in North America.

Contrary to what most people may suppose having a university degree isn't necessary to get that type of job. Some technical 3-year courses which need a license to exert the profession are likely to allow applicants to get such job position. For example electricians, Tool Makers, Chefs, Gas Technicians, Plumbers, Food Technicians, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Technicians, Computer Programmers and Operators, Drivers, Building Carpenters, Home Inspectors, etc. Many skilled workers in the building field reach these types of salaries, such as concrete, roofers, landscapes, etc. In some cases they don't even need a license, but they need a great deal of experience instead.

On the other hand, the great majority of those job positions (90 - 95%) are part of the hidden job market. These are usually taken by candidates who are promoted by domestic opposition company selections, or through people the employers know by direct contact, other employees’ recommendations, recruiting agencies, etc.

**IMPORTANT**

The lack of NETWORKING, of Canadian job experience, and poor communication abilities are the great initial disadvantages that may make getting a job a difficult task for Skilled Workers.

Among the candidates with whom an applicant may have to compete, we find: Skilled Workers of Canadian origin and experience, Skilled Veteran Immigrants, and Skilled newcomer Workers.

To apply for a job with a high salary, most drawbacks for newcomers are the lack of NETWORKING, a deficient communication, lack of Canadian experience, and the lack of a professional license or professional certification.
RECOMMENDATION

Experience has shown that the best decision a professional or skilled worker can make to get a good job position is to study a specialization in his / her area of interest or a course of technical training in a University or College. The benefits of such courses are various:

1. Sound improvement of English command
2. A Canadian diploma or certificate, easily recognized in the job market, which will add credibility to your education or training.
3. It will facilitate your professional certification process related to your occupation.
4. You will count on the College or University's support to get a job, internships, etc.
5. You will enhance your NETWORK considerably.

STUDYING IN CANADA AND GETTING A DIPLOMA OR CERTIFICATE IS THE BEST WAY OF GETTING A PROFESSIONAL JOB.

14. 3 OBSTACLES YOU WILL FIND

According to surveys and research studies among Canadian employers and newcomers, there are several problems immigrants must face to enter the job market:

According to Canadian employers, there are several negative factors in newcomer workers, among which these are the most outstanding:

- Communication and language obstacles
- Not being acquainted with the Canadian way of dealing with matters.
- Not having diplomas or reliable job experience
- No licensing by the Local Associations
- Lack of training or academic upgrading
- Different standards (unities, regulations, technical regulations, etc)
- Racism and Discrimination
- Ignorance
- Difficulty in certifying the first job experience
- Lack of Canadian experience
- Lack of knowledge of the different assistance services available for the community
- Lack of knowledge of the worker’s rights.
- Disinformation (wrong or incomplete information from friends, relatives, community, etc.)
- Inability to carry out a successful job interview

The main obstacles for hiring newcomers are:

- English! English! English! (writing, speaking, listening)
- Lack of experience in the Canadian way of working
- Many newcomers will be temporary workers who will move to different cities.
- Lack of abilities to work in a team.
● Frustration because of working in offices under their real capacity or degree.
● Cultural difference (religion, costumes, etc)
● More difficulty to integrate themselves into a work team
● More difficulty to assess knowledge and abilities.

On the other hand, Canadian employers know that newcomers have some advantages to be employed. The most outstanding are:

● Good Workers
● Respectful and eager to work
● Loyal
● Usually very well qualified (often over qualified)
● They add diversity to the work place.
● New ideas
● Flexible in their timetable
● They usually work for lower salaries
● They may be useful for the business or company because of their native language

14.4 CRITICAL SKILLS REQUIRED OF THE CANADIAN WORKFORCE

Independently from experience, or hard skills required for a certain craft, you should have some other characteristics to work successfully in some job positions. These personal abilities or soft skills are related to your personal communication skills, problem solving capacity, positive attitude and the ability to work in a team. In general terms, they could be defined as the personal abilities that will give you employment possibilities, as they are the ones employers want in their employees.

Through several studios and research, the Canadian government has defined, classified and assessed 9 basic skills required for a worker to have in different degrees to enter the job market successfully, which are highly valorised by Canadian employers when they are to hire an applicant.

A. Text Reading Comprehension
Text reading comprehension refers to understanding sentences and paragraphs. That includes understanding notes, letters, memos, manuals, specifications, regulations or technical requirements, books, reports, and newspapers. It also refers to the understanding of forms, labels, printed and non-printed media (computer texts, micro tags, etc), graph texts, tables and graph information. For example: information to use a product, supervisors’ memos, detailed job orders, notes form co-workers, training manuals, computer manuals, safety and security industrial regulations, product specifications in plain, building and electricity codes, reference books for the profession, technical magazines, etc.

B. Document Use
Use of documents related to the tasks implying a variety of information in the form of words, numbers, icons, lines, colours, Shapes, etc. Also graph conventions, drawings and plans. Examples: production graphs, content or comparative tables, blueprints, signals, universal usage labels, forms filling out, Geography maps, etc.

- Writing
It includes writing texts, filling out documents, both handwritten and computer typed. Example: writing a memory minder note for a co-worker, filling application forms, making a valorisation order or purchase order, etc.

- Numeracy
It refers to the various uses of numbers and the ability to think in quantitative terms. That ability will be based on the ability to do and apply numeric calculations to everyday life and at work, such as money calculations, writing and handling with a budget, take measures with an instrument (verniers, metric tapes) and arithmetic calculations, analysing numeric information, etc.

Other examples: Bank operations, payroll, handling with time, and money, take measures to buy furniture or floors, make calculations in foreign currency, calculate and deduct taxes, calculate material or power consumptions, etc.

C. Oral Communication
It refers to the ability to speak and interchange thoughts and information with other workers in a work team. There are four levels, from basic interaction to extended use in a variety of complex communicative situations. The level of oral communication has been developed to be compatible with the one set by the Canadian Language Benchmarks, English as a Second Language for Adults, 1996. The assessment is performed through some tests determining the level of English “speaking” and “listening” of every candidate.

D. Thinking Skills
Thinking skills are divided into 6 areas:
● Problem Solving: Seek, find, and implement the course of actions leading to the solution of a problem.
● **Decision Making**: Choosing among different solutions available. Although decision making is part of the problem solving process, the solution is not the decision making itself.

● **Critical Thought**

● **Planning and Organising** tasks at Work

● **Significant Use of Memory**

● **Searching and Finding Information**: It implies the use of diverse sources such as people, texts, Internet, computer data, or Information Systems.

**Working with Others**
It refers to the ability to work along with other workers.

**E. Computer use**
It is related to the abilities and skills in the use of different application software on a computer, to perform a task in a modern efficient way.

Examples: A mechanical Engineer must be able to design a mechanic device by using an AutoCAD program, Mechanical desktop, or Catia. He/she must also be able to draw the plains, print them, and send them to an external provider by regular post or via Internet as compressed files. They must also be acquainted with receiving and transferring AutoCAD or Mechanical Desktop, files containing designs on to third parties, or exporting them to a different format, such as those of Pro-Engineer or Solid Works, apart from operating worksheets (Excel /Lotus) efficiently, as well as word processors (MsWord, Word Perfect), e Internet (MsOutlook) to communicate with clients and providers everyday.

A graph Designer creates and edits graphs by the use of programs such as Corel Draw Photo Shop or Illustrator, ensembles text and graph on pages, with applications like Page Maker or Quark Express. They must be able to do their job in a variety of application programs and graph resources, to choose the proper fonts, colour schemes and the best format for the final printing of the design.

**F. Continuous learning**
It relates to the attitude and capacity to update knowledge constantly and acquire new techniques. Most jobs require constant upgrading and workers must keep on learning with the aim to grow up along with their own profession. Thus, they will get the essential skills that will help them to get employed.

### 14.5 HOW TO INCREASE YOUR POSSIBILITIES

**● PREPARATION BEFORE COMING TO CANADA**

The fact of getting a visa as a "skilled worker" in Canada doesn’t imply that you will get a good job in this Country. You go through a required score system, which is just a preventive and selection measure based on the information you turn in. It is almost sure that nobody is waiting for you to give you a decent job.

Many newcomers are successful. Many others are - and will be - frustrated when they try to find a job easily and are unable to do so. It is no easy task, as finding a good job is difficult even for well educated native Canadians. There is some assistance, but there is no guarantee of a good level job position.

You must know that skilled workers and professionals, need a level and knowledge assessment in most cases (of the ones brought from their countries of origin) for them to be recognized and homologated in Canada by the professional councils that certify that the knowledge and experience you have are equivalent to the ones here.
On the other hand, you should learn enough about the immigration process, adaptation and job searches. You should know about the obstacles and limitations to get a job before hand, you must know what it is expected from you as worker, how to get a job, and many other related aspects of you life as a newcomer in Canada.

In conclusion, if you want to be successful in your immigration project to Canada and get a better future for your family, YOU MUST know the challenges, difficulties and opportunities you will find on your way, and should mainly HAVE A PLAN, concrete and organised, of activities TO DEVELOP, focusing on your goal. You must study English, as much as possible and take technical upgrade courses in your country, before and during the period of application for your visa, and perform other related activities before coming. If you choose the uncertain path of coming with no planning, preparation or research on these subjects, your future will be uncertain.

To help you to plan your immigration process to Canada, we have prepared a PLAN thoroughly, which has been followed and tried successfully by other Professionals and Skilled Workers in their moving and job searches in Canada. This PLAN is found in Chapter # 8, THE PLAN.

● NO CANADIAN EXPERIENCE

There are several ways of getting some Canadian experience for Professionals and skilled workers to write in their résumés.

One way is being a volunteer and offer yourself to work for free for a short time in a company in a job position where you could perform successfully. That practice will make you confident in what you expect from your performance and will provide you with some contacts with other people in your field.

Another way is applying for an internships to get experience in your field. You can get this kind of practice by looking for direct contact with some companies. Your letter asking for an internship must be clear regarding your aims and on what you may offer the company. You must include your résumé, where your educational details and job experience will be highlighted, especially those that may be relevant for that company. Make sure your résumé, and application letter are read through and analysed by experts before sending them.

As hundreds of people from all over the world arrive in Canada everyday, it is necessary to persuade your possible employers that you are efficient to do a job, and an honourable, intelligent, reliable, adaptable and easygoing person. Saying that is not enough, you will have to prove it with sound examples and references about your experience, and talk of your best achievements. You must get organised, write your memories, and rehearse what you would say in an interview. Even though you may have some limitations in your command of English, if you organise your script and practise it many times, you will improve your performance in interviews and you will see the good results quite soon.

IMPORTANT

To work as VOLUNTEER or to get an INTERNSHIP you should to take a job preparation course for newcomers, in the training centres recommended in Chapter 13 THE PLAN, in this book.

● NETWORKING

As a newcomer, you may face the disadvantage of lacking of a good networking that is to say, a net of friends or acquaintances who may refer you to possible employers. You will have to start building your own networking by meeting more people, enrolling on courses and diverse activities, knowing your community, and joining sport, cultural, or professional groups, etc.

● LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES

The best way of learning English is by the courses LINC or ESL with instructors, and by the constant practice in everyday life. TV, and radio broadcasts will help you improve your listening comprehension abilities, reading magazines and newspapers improve your grammar and reading comprehension. The mastery of a language is an ability that requires time to be acquired. If you have a real interest, by the daily usage, the use of dictionaries and books, and the true desire to improve, you will reach the necessary level to communicate efficiently at work in a short time.

● SEEK HELP!

It is advisable to get the assistance of experienced qualified people to be competitive and skilful in the preparation of resumes, cover letters, interviews and in the different stages in the job search. If you have difficulty in defining your technical abilities or your job profile, look for the advice of a professional career counsellor who will advise you according to the Canadian Job market. There are many agencies offering
training courses and group support for newcomers, in order to get confident and self-assured while you get the advice of those who know the Canadian environment.

14.6 ASSESS YOURSELF AND WRITE YOUR JOB PROFILE

Before you start looking for a job, moreover, even before applying for a visa to live in Canada, you should honestly and clearly assess your abilities, interests, education and aims. Independently from the fact that the Canadian government may give you a permanent resident visa, you must be sure about your own job skills and abilities, which you will offer to Canadian employers.

Remember that having a technical education and job experience in a certain field is an essential requirement to come to Canada as a Skilled Worker. Moreover, the basis of the immigration system is to bring people who have experience and transferable skills, that will allow them to integrate into the Canadian job market and facilitate the progress of the country.

Although a technical university degree and some years of job experience may give you the opportunity to come to Canada, they don't ensure you a job like the one you had in your country. Owing a degree in your country doesn't guarantee that you will work as a professional in Canada. For example, some engineers wrongly believe that they will get a job just because they say that they are engineers. In reality, they may not even be able to identify themselves as such, or sign documents as engineers until they don't get the certification and homologation of their degree by the Canadian engineer professional council. However, there are many occupations in industries that may be taken by engineers or technicians with no need for a license, where what the employer requires is a certain extent of experience, knowledge, and the necessary hard and soft skills.

As a professional or skilled worker newcomer in Canada you may find out that you are not immediately able to work in the same field or occupation than in your country. The importance of recognising your own transferable skills necessary to perform a certain job, may be useful for a different job or activity.

IMPORTANT

Statistics show that about an 80% of professionals who come to Canada end up working in non qualified occupations and many in crafts that are not related to their profession. Moreover, it is against the Canadian law identify yourself as engineer, doctor or lawyer, although you may have a degree from your country, if you have no Canadian license.
14.7 ASSESS YOUR ABILITIES AND TRANSFERABLES SKILLS:

You should know and assess your own abilities and skills, know what you want, what you would like to do, and above all, what you have to offer a Canadian company or employer. It is also time to revise your own goals and to take technical upgrade or training courses in any area of your interest, if necessary.

Make an inventory of your main transferable abilities and skills. Think of your past experience and analyze how you could transfer them into the Canadian market. These are some of the many examples of transferable skills:

- ANALYZING, situations, events, problems or data
- ASSEMBLING, equipment or information
- CALCULATING, Math computations or risk assessments
- CONSTRUCTING, objects or buildings
- CREATING, artistic creations, inventions, new ideas, products.
- DESIGNING, products or systems, using computer and CAD software.
- ESTIMATING, costs, money, physical space.
- INSPECTING OR EXAMINING, physical objects, products, financial statements
- INTERPRETING, engineering drawings, technical terminology, other language.
- INVESTIGATING, information, causes, sequence of events
- MEETING THE PUBLIC, receptionist, salesperson, product representative, etc.
- OPERATING equipment, machines or vehicles.
- PROGRAMING, equipment or activities.
- REPAIRING equipment, furniture, vehicles, accessories, appliances.
- RESEARCHING, obtaining information from libraries, internet, surveys.
- SELLING products, ideas, houses, cars
- TEACHING, formal or informal, your own language, etc.
- TROUBLESHOOTING, equipment, situations, productions.
- USING INSTRUMENTS, measuring, engineering, medical or scientific.

Once you made the inventory of your “transferable skills” make a list of the most outstanding skills that make you a good candidate for the job you would like to do.

This evaluation will help you assess you education, experience, interests, employability skills, etc, and will be useful to know whether you are ready to start your job search in Canada or if your plan will need some adjustments and more preparation time.

STAGES FOR YOUR OWN SELF-ASSESSMENT

1. CONSIDER YOUR OWN CHARACTERISTICS. According to the previous point, state which are the main personal characteristics you have, which are essential for being successful in certain occupations. You should know which essential features are most required for the employers in your area. This knowledge will be really useful when you search in what industrial sectors you may be employed.

2. MAKE A LIST OF YOUR ACADEMICA RECORD, EXPERIENCE AND TRANSFERABLE SKILLS. Assess the list critically to state what training you may be missing. How updated your technical knowledge in your area is, etc. Write what upgrade or training you would need to be competitive in your field, to give your career a new whole direction. Look for information, check the requirements for the certification of your qualifications, its restrictions, and the most desirable job profile for Canadian employers.

3. MAKE A LIST WITH YOUR COURSE OF ACTION. The best way to make sure you will achieve your goal is to make a plan in several stages. You should focus on levelling the most relevant weak points. Set realistic aims and devote you effort, money and time to reach them, especially English, and Technical upgrading courses. Your future, and your family’s future in Canada will depend to a great extend on the effort you make in this regard.

Identifying your skills and abilities is an essential part of the whole process. You should be aware of your own skills, and you will have to show you have the necessary knowledge and abilities to do a specific job to your possible employers. You must be aware of and self-assure of these skills, before telling somebody else about them.

Getting a job won't be easy for most newcomers. Nobody will give it to you for free. You will have to compete with other qualified applicants to get the job position. To do that, you must give the employer enough reasons to hire you.

You should have the ability to market yourself to an employer. You must show him/her that you have the skills, attitude, temper, and interest that will make you successful in that company or organisation. You
must practice and achieve a profile showing the following aspects:

- **VALUES**, what things are important for you (punctuality, respect, etc.)
- **BELIEFS**, what set ideas guide your actions and how you live your whole life.
- **INTERESTS**, what the things you enjoy and gratify you are.
- **TEMPER**, the way you react and interact with the world around you.

Beyond getting that specific job, knowing those aspects will facilitate you to know how you work, what the best work place for you is, the type of job you enjoy most, and the kind of people with whom you work best. To sum up, they show to a great extent who you are.

**IMPORTANT**

While you make the assessment of you transferable skills you may find that you need a certain specific training, that you are no updated in your career, or that you may want to change the direction of your profession. In some cases newcomers find out that their low level of English is a drawback, and should improve a lot to reach an acceptable communication level.

In these case, it is **ADVISABLE** to make the decision to study English as much as possible and do technical upgrade courses in your country, before and during the time of application for your visa. Follow that good idea and come when you are ready.

On the other hand, we know that the best decision a professional or skilled worker may make is to start studying as soon as he/she arrives in Canada. May be a specialisation in your area of interest, or a technical training course in a University or College (if your economical resources and level of English allow you to do so). This is the most effective way in the medium term to integrate successfully to the job market. The benefits of doing training or specialisation courses are various:

1. You will dramatically improve you command of English
2. You will get a Canadian diploma or certificate, easily recognised in the job market and which will give credibility to your education and training.
3. It facilitates the process of professional certification
4. You will be backed by your University or College for job searches or internships.
5. You will really enhance your NETWORK.

**STUDYING IN CANADA AND GETTING A DIPLOMA OR CERTIFICATE IS THE BEST WAY TO GET A PROFESSIONAL JOB EVENTUALLY.**

If you have the resources and the capacity to study don't hesitate for not even a second, this is the best way to ensure your future in Canada.

It is obvious that money is a limiting factor to pay for university or college and to support your family as you study and get a job, especially if you have several children.

The Canadian government offer educational credit to assist you to pay for your education and part of your family expenditure. These loans are given through the OSAP in Ontario. For further information on those credits visit the following web site: [General OSAP Information](#)

To get information about the different educational programs or specialisations in Ontario, consult the Colleges and Universities at the end of the chapter.
Professionals and skilled workers need an assessment of the level and content of their studies in their countries of origin, in most cases. Thus, they can be recognised and homologated in Canada. The assessment of your credentials, - certificates, diplomas or academic grades -, is made for several different purposes:

Employment. To certify your educational level in comparison with the Canadian one and integrate to the job market.

Academic. For academic purposes, such as being admitted in educational programs, post high-school institutions admission (post-grades, professional specialisation, etc.)

Professional Licensing. To get the recognition of your profession and be admitted in the professional organisations.

Immigration. For immigration purposes. This assessment is advisable to start the process to get a Permanent Resident Visa.

As a result, you must take an assessment of your academic studies and a comparison of those credentials to the educational standards in Ontario. The first stage is to have your educational certificates and grades translated into English and/ or French in Quebec by a certified translator. To get a certified translator in Ontario, you can contact the Association of Interpreters and Translators of Ontario.

If your certificates are in Spanish, you must use the services of a certified translator through the following centres in Toronto:

- **Centre for Spanish-Speaking Peoples**
  (Centro de Ayuda para Gente de Habla Hispana)
  Teléfono: 416-925-2800
  E-mail: aidscssp@spanishservices.org
  Address: 2141 Jane Street, 2nd floor, Toronto, ON, M3M 1A2
  (Jane St-Wilson Av)

- **Latino-Canadian Community Association of Scarborough**
  Telephone: 416-492-5128 / 416-516-0851
  Email: gapar@rogers.com
  2190 Warden Ave, Suite 212 (Warden Ave-Sheppard Ave)
  Scarborough, ON

There are several organisations where you can go to get the assessment of your educational credentials. This is a paid service. Most of those organisations assess your diplomas and certificates just for employment, academic or immigration purposes.

Every professional organisation is usually in charge of assessing the candidates’ credentials in order to issue the necessary licenses or to certify their credentials. Those organisations have their own regulations and ways of assessment.

**IMPORTANT**
Verify what organization is the one in charge of recognising you professionally or academically before you start the assessment process.

**ONTARIO COMPARATIVE EDUCACION SERVICE**
University of Toronto
315 Bloor Street West - Toronto
Tel: 416-978-2185
Evaluation of high-school and post-high-school credentials for employment and immigration purposes.

**WORD EDUCATION SERVICES**
45 Charles Street East, Suite700
Toronto, Ontario 7
Tel: 416-972-0070
866-343-0070
fax: 416-972-9004
canada@wes.org

Assessment of credentials for employment, immigration, academic and certification purposes, for licensing in some professional fields.

To get specific information about the assessment of academic credentials in any field consult:

**Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials - CICIC**
The CICIC doesn't offer assessment services. This institution just assists people who would like to know how the assessment process is, with the aim to ask for professional credentials. They will tell you specifically to what association or professional council you must resort.

14.9 GUIDE OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSIDADES IN ONTARIO

UNIVERSITIES
- Brock University
- Carleton University
- University of Guelph
- Lakehead University
- Laurentian University
- McMaster University
- Nipissing University
- University of Ottawa
- Queen's University
- Ryerson University
- University of Toronto
- Trent University
- University of Waterloo
- University of Western Ontario
- University of Windsor
- Wilfrid Laurier University
- York University

COLLEGES
- Algonquin
- Boreal
- La Cité
- Cambrian
- Canadore
- Centennial
- Conestoga
- Confederation
- Durham
- Fanshawe
- Georgian College
- George Brown
- Humber
- Lambton
- Loyalist
- Mohawk
- Niagara
- Northern
- Ontario College of Art and Design
- St. Clair
- St. Lawrence
- Sault
- Seneca
- Sheridan
- Sir Sandford Fleming
DISCLAIMER

The information and recommendations of this Guide must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depend only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.
PLAN TO LOOK FOR A JOB
(FOR SKILLED WORKERS)

IMPORTANT

If you want to be successful in your immigration project to Canada and get a better future for your family, YOU MUST know the challenges, difficulties and opportunities you will find on your way, and should mainly have an organised and specific plan of activities TO DEVELOP, focused on the achievement of your goal, and perform every necessary activity.

If you choose the uncertain path of coming without plan or research on those related subjects, get ready for the worst of circumstances (or you’d rather not come).

-THE PLAN -
BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

• STUDY AS MUCH ENGLISH AS YOU CAN
• KNOW WHAT YOUR OBSTACLES AND LIMITATIONS ARE - IN YOUR PROFESSION AND AS A NEWCOMER
• KNOW THE CRITICAL SKILLS REQUIRED OF THE CANADIAN WORKFORCE REQUIREMENTS TO BE EMPLOYED IN CANADA
• RESEARCH ON THE DEMAND FOR WORKERS/EMPLOYEES IN YOUR PROFESSION OR CRAFT IN CANADA
• DEFINE AND ASSESS YOUR PERSONAL SKILLS
• DEPICT YOUR JOB PROFILE
• UPDATE THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS RELATED TO YOUR PROFESSION
• WRITE YOUR RESUME (in the Canadian way)
• SEND YOUR RESUME TO CANADIAN EMPLOYERS
• STUDY THE TECHNICAL ENGLISH RELATED TO YOUR PROFESSION AND SPECIALISATION
• BRING YOUR WORK TOOLS “READY”

NOTE: TAKE ALL THE NECESSARY TIME TO ACHIEVE THE PREVIOUS AIMS IN CANADA

- ALTERNATIVE #1. Start your job search.
  • TAKE THE BEST COURSE TO LEARN TO LOOK FOR A JOB
  • ENROLL TO GO ON YOUR ENGLISH LANGUAGE STUDIES.
  • ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS ASSESSMENT
  • MAKE YOUR JOB SEARCH YOUR FULL TIME JOB
  • GET TECHNICALLY TRAINED AND UPGRADED (Canadian Market)
  • EXPAND YOUR NETWORK (Friends ands Acquaintances)
  • CONTACT RECRUITMENTS AND HEADHUNTERS
  • SEARCH - SEARCH - SEARCH !!!
- ALTERNATIVA #2. Start a Specialisation, Upgrade or Training.

RECOMMENDATION: STUDYING IN CANADA AND GETTING A CANADIAN DIPLOMA OR CERTIFICATE IS THE BEST WAY TO GET A PROFESSIONAL JOB IN THE FUTURE. IF you owe some resources and can study, don’t hesitate a second, this is the best way to ensure your future in Canada.

15.1 BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

Your preparation process should start from the very moment you apply for the Permanent Resident Visa, or even before. As you wait for your application to be assessed and your trip to Canada, which Can last about two years, you should get ready constantly.
● STUDY ENGLISH AS MUCH AS YOU CAN

You should have a 65% of command of English on your arrival to Canada. Remember that you can study Grammar and vocabulary on your own. The starting point from which you will start your career will depend on your level of English.

● KNOW WHAT YOUR OBSTACLES AND LIMITATIONS ARE - IN YOUR PROFESSION AND AS A NEWCOMER

Regulated Professions

Being admitted by the Canadian government to live in Canada doesn't mean that you will allow to work freely in your career. There is a great number of regulated professions that you can only exert if you get a license or professional registration fee.

Some professions and crafts can be "validated", so that you get Canadian credentials after some examinations and upgrading courses, as in the case of engineering, and other technical careers. In general terms, both engineers and technicians in certain fields can get a job without a compulsory license, but in this case there are certain legal and economical constraints.

However, the 80% of workers in Canada work in non-licensed occupations. In those positions, it is the employer who assesses the applicant and decides who will be hired, according to his/her skills and experience.

For further information about your profession, consult the following list. If you cannot find your profession or craft, consult the Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) website. You will learn on the requirements to get a professional license in Ontario and the rest of Canada through these links.

1. Accountants [1111]
2. Actuaries [2161]
3. Acupuncturists and Practitioners of Traditional Chinese Medicine [3232.2]
4. Aerospace Engineers [2146]
5. Agricultural Engineers [2148.1]
6. Agricultural Representatives, Consultants and Specialists [2123]
7. Air Pilots, Flight Engineers and Flying Instructors [2271]
8. Air Traffic Controllers [2272]
9. Aircraft Instrument, Electrical and Avionics Mechanics, Technicians and Inspectors [2244]
10. Animal Health Technicians and Technologists [3213]
11. Architects [2151]
12. Audio and Video Recording Technicians [5225]
13. Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists [3141]
14. Bailiffs and Sheriffs [6461]
15. Cardiology Technologists [3217]
16. Chemical Engineers [2134]
17. Chemists [2112]
18. Chiropractors [3122]
19. Civil Engineers [2131]
20. Computer Engineers [2147]
21. Dental Assistants [3411]
22. Dental Hygienists [3222]
23. Dental Technicians and Technologists [3223]
24. Dentists and Dental Surgeons [3113]
25. Denturists [3221]
26. Dietitians and Nutritionists [3132]
27. Educational Counsellors [4143]
28. Electrical Engineers [2133]
29. Electroencephalographic and Other Diagnostic Technicians and Technologists [3218]
30. Engineering Physicists [2148.4]
31. Engineers [2130]
32. Environmental Engineers [2131.1]
33. Estheticians, Electrologists and Related Occupations [6482]
34. Financial Planners [1114]
35. Foresters, Forestry Professionals [2122]
36. Funeral Directors and Embalmers [6272]
37. Geological Engineers [2144]
38. Geologists, Geochemists and Geophysicists [2113]
39. Geomatics Engineers [2131.2]
40. Graphic Designers [5241]
41. Health and Safety Officers [2263.1]
42. Hearing Aid Consultants and Audio Prosthetists [3235.1]
43. Home Economists [4164]
44. Industrial Engineers [2141]
45. Insurance Adjusters and Claims Examiners [1233]
Some of the regulated professions or technical careers requiring a compulsory license to work are:

- Alignment and Brakes Technician
- Auto body and Collision Damage Repairer (Branch 1)
- Auto body Repairer (Branch 2)
- Automotive Electronic Accessory Technician
- Automotive Service Technician
- Electrician (Construction and Maintenance)
- Electrician (Domestic and Rural)
- Fuel and Electrical Systems Technician
- Hairstylist
- Truck-Trailer Service Technician
- Mobile Crane Operator (Branch 1)
- Mobile Crane Operator (Branch 2)
- Motorcycle Mechanic
- Plumber
- Steamfitter
- Tower Crane Operator
- Transmission Technician
- Truck and Coach Technician
- Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Mechanic
- Sheet Metal Worker

For further information on these jobs and to know the process to get a LICENSE for newcomers in Ontario, See Regulated Technical Professions in Canada.

In some occupations, a License or an educational certificate is not compulsory (you may have it or not). Examples of these occupations:
- Air-Cooled and Marine Engine Mechanic  
- Arborist  
- Assistant Cook  
- Automotive Machinist  
- Automotive Painter  
- Baker  
- Boat Motor Mechanic  
- Brick and Stone Mason  
- Cement Mason  
- Construction Boilermaker  
- Construction Millwright  
- Cook  
- Electronics Service Technician  
- Farm Equipment Mechanic  
- Fitter (Structural Steel / Platework)  
- General Machinist  
- Glazier and Metal Mechanic  
- Nursery Greenhouse Worker  
- Industrial Electrician  
- Industrial Mechanic (Millwright)  
- Industrial Woodworker  
- Ironworker  
- Junior Baker  
- Lather  
- Marine and Small-Powered Equipment Mechanic  
- Mould maker  
- Painter and Decorator (Commercial and Residential)  
- Painter and Decorator (Industrial)  
- Patissier  
- Pattern Maker  
- Printer  
- Small Engine Technician  
- Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer  
- Tool and Die Maker

**MAIN LIMITATIONS**

- English (Writing, Speaking, listening)  
- A lack of experience in the Canadian way of working  
- Lack of information (wrong or incomplete, from friends, relatives, community, etc)  
- Lack of ability to carry out an efficient interview with an employer.  
- Lack of abilities to work in a team  
- Frustration for working in crafts below your actual abilities or degree.  
- Cultural differences (religion, habits, etc)  
- Major difficulty to integrate to team work.  
- Major difficulty to assess knowledge and skills.

**KNOW THE CRITICAL SKILLS REQUIRED OF THE CANADIAN WORKFORCE**

The Canadian government has defined, classified and assessed 9 critical skills required for a worker to enter successfully the job market and that are required by Canadian employers from applicants.

A. Text Reading Comprehension  
B. Document Use  
C. Writing
D. Numeracy  
E. Oral Communication  
F. Thinking Skills  
G. Working with Others  
H. Computer use  
I. Continuous learning  

● RESEARCH ON THE DEMAND FOR WORKERS/EMPLOYEES IN YOUR PROFESSION OR CRAFT IN CANADA  

You can watch continuously your job possibilities in the different regions of Canada via Internet. The advisable Internet sites are:  

Job Bank - Where do you live?  
  Alberta Jobs  
  AllStarJobs  
Canadian Newspaper "Help Wanted" Ads  
  Career Owl  
  Hot Jobs  
  Job Port  
  Jobshark  
  La Toile du Quebec (French only)  
  Monster.ca  
  Technogénie Ressources Inc  
  Working Canada  
  Workopolis  
  Youth.gc.ca  

On these sites you will know the job demand, their requirements, the salaries offered, specific necessary knowledge, experience required, etc.  

On the other hand, researching on what the regions or provinces of Canada have the higher demand for professionals in your field are, will also give you a sound idea on the best place in Canada for you to live.  

● DEPICT YOUR JOB PROFILE  

Canada is a highly industrialised and developed country where it is expected that every worker will have enough training and experience to do successfully certain specific job. You should make an account of your skills, knowledge, likes, expectative, interests, experience, etc. And depict your own job profile for the Canadian job market.  

In some cases, this is an opportunity to make some changes in the direction of your career, and with some training courses and upgrading, to try and take a new path.  

● UPDATE THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS RELATED TO YOUR PROFESSION  

In many careers and professions, there is a steady updating in technology and specially in specific software for every area, which makes the constant training and updating a necessary point to be competitive in the job market.  

For example, the versatile and efficient operation of design programs such as AutoCAD, Mechanical Desk, Mastercam, etc., should be part of the knowledge of an efficient mechanical engineer, whose aim is to get a decent job in Canada. If you are an industrial, mechanic, electronic or civil engineer don't wait until your arrival in Canada to start doing AutoCAD or Excel courses. The lack of this specific knowledge may make you lose a lot of job opportunities. Some may be really good.  

Computing professionals, Systems Engineers, Programmers, and other related professionals have always had a good start in Canada, provided they are ready in specific areas and have Microsoft certifications – MSCE, COMPTIA certifications, of technical support A+, Worknets N+, CISCO, JAVA,
The following are the basic programs that professionals of any area should learn to operate before coming to Canada:
- Excel
- MSWord
- PowerPoint
- Internet Explorer
- Windows
- Outlook Express

WRITE YOUR RESUME (in the Canadian way)

A resume is a brief summary containing basic but important information about who you are and what you have done in your different jobs. This is the first impression you will give a possible employer, so the fact of being called for an interview or not may depend on a good preparation of your resume.

A good resume will not ensure you a good job by itself, but a poor resume will stop you from getting an interview, and you won't have the opportunity to get a job without it.

In out chapter 16 - Resume and Cover Letter, you will know the technique to write your own resume. Devote all the necessary time and research to achieve an attractive resume, clear and objective. That will be the key to the door to the interview room.

An employer will assess your RESUME in 20 or 30 seconds, and will decide if he /she accepts or rejects your application. In consequence, your RESUME must have all the features and the information to "persuade" the employer and be placed in the list of candidates.

You should then fulfill the following requirements:
- Write it according to the employer's requirements
- A professional layout
- Addressed to a specific position or organisation
- Written in a perfect manner, without grammar or spelling mistakes
- Show your skills, experience, knowledge and achievements in a clear honest way
- State your offer clearly

SEND YOUR RESUME TO CANADIAN EMPLOYERS

Start your job search in Canada a couple of months before you came to settle down. Write a Cover Letter, explaining that your are in your immigration progress and that you would like an interview to offer your services as soon as you arrive. Sending your resume over Internet is a cheap comfortable way to make contact with companies or employers. Faxing your resume may also be effective.

Many people have managed to contact Canadian employers who offer them a job and help them with their settlement, especially to work in small cities. This will help you in a significant extent to devise your written material.

STUDY THE TECHNICAL ENGLISH RELATED TO YOUR PROFESSION AND SPECIALISATION

You should learn the technical English related to your profession on your own, with the help of books and dictionaries. The mastery and correct use of those terms will make you confident in an interview and you will find it easier to show a positive attitude.
**BRING YOUR WORK TOOLS “READY”**

The idea is that, your tools (software & hardware) for exerting your profession are ready on your arrival in Canada. Bringing a PC, laptop or hard disk with the programs, files and portfolios you need is a prime priority. Showing that kind of tools is essential to succeed in some interviews.

It is not advisable to get or assemble your PC here, as the technical service and software programs are quite expensive. Apart from that, bring English versions of your application programs, and a keyboard in English.

**TAKE ALL THE NECESSARY TIME TO ACHIEVE THE PREVIOUS AIMS**

In some cases it is better to put off your application or your arrival for some months, that arriving without the necessary preparation to face a job search.

15.2 IN CANADA

Once you have settled down in Ontario or in any Canadian province, you have 2 alternatives to start defining your professional future:

- **ALTERNATIVE #1. Start your Job Search.**

This first option is only advisable if you have a sound education and technical experience, and also a suitable level of English. If this is your case, you may decide that you are ready to face a job search.

In this case you should start you course of action by enrolling on a Job Search Course (see section 17.2 - Training Courses for Newcomers), an English course to improve your level and, at the same time, do the necessary errands to get your certification or professional license. Having your transferable skills, abilities, experience, and job profile well defined will allow you to face the job search process confidently.

- **ALTERNATIVE #2. Start a Specialisation, Upgrade or Training Course.**

You should consider this option if you found out that you are not updated enough when you assessed your technical knowledge, skills, and experience, or if they are nor transferable to the Canadian job market.

In this case, it is highly recommended to find a university, college or technical educational institution offering programs or specialisation in your career and that accepts your academic credentials. You may also start training in any area of your interest. This is an alternative if you owe the funds or the economical support to pay for those courses of studies and get by in the meantime. Another good possibility is to get an educational loan from the OSAP.

**IMPORTANT**

Your economical and job future in Canada may depend on the decision you make at this stage.
RECOMMENDATION

Experience has shown that the best decision for a professional or skilled worker to get a good job and professional position is to start a specialisation in your area of interest or a technical training course in a university, college, or technical institution. The benefits are numerous:

1. You will improve your command of English to a great extent.
2. You will get a Canadian diploma or certificate, easily recognised in the job market and will add credibility to your education.
3. It will facilitate your process of professional or occupation certification.
4. You will count on the support of your University, College or Technical Institution for job searches and internships.
5. You will enhance your NETWORK to a great extent.

STUDYING IN CANADA AND GETTING A DIPLOMA OR CERTIFICATE IS THE BEST WAY TO GET A PROFESSIONAL JOB.

● ENROLL TO GO ON YOUR ENGLISH LANGUAGE STUDIES.

If you consider that you know enough English, do courses to improve your English accent and expand your vocabulary. There is always a way to improve a second language.

● TAKE THE BEST COURSE TO LEARN TO LOOK FOR A JOB

Newcomers need to be competitive not only in their profession, but also in their job search techniques, which includes aspects like resume/cover letter preparation, interview practice, hidden job market searches, etc. There are several courses where you can learn job search techniques, taught by qualified personnel and focused on the educated and experience newcomer’s needs. It is very important for you to enrol on a good course and learn these techniques, with the assistance and advice of experienced and qualified people.
The courses for newcomers or for those who look for a job are supported by the Federal, Provincial Government or by the city of Toronto, and their aim is to help them enter the job market. There are different courses, of different duration and depth: some take just a few days, and others may imply several days or weeks.

**IMPORTANT**

You should take the best course possible to learn how to get a job in Canada. The best ones are those for foreign Skilled workers and Professionals taking several weeks. Some of them will help you do an internship or co-op.

The courses we recommend (of more than two weeks), are taught at the following organisations:

- **SKILLS FOR CHANGE OF METRO TORONTO**  
  Mentoring for Employment Program (International Trained Professional Newcomers)  
  791 St. Clair Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario M6C 1B7  
  Web site: www.skillsforchange.org  
  Telephone 416.658.3101  
  E-mail: sfc@skillsforchange.org

- **COSTI**  
  Employment Programs for Newcomers and Internationally Trained Individuals  
  Address: 100 Lippincott St, Toronto, ON, M5S 2P1  
  Toronto Central (Bathurst St-College St)  
  Office Phone: 416-922-6688  
  E-mail: reception@costi.org  
  Web site: www.costi.org

- **NOW PROGRAM (The Newcomer Opportunities for Work)**  
  E-mail: now@tdsb.on.ca  
  Address: 777 Bloor Street West - Room 120 - Toronto Ontario, M6G 1L6  
  Tel (416) 393-0350

- **ADULT LEARNING CENTRE**  
  Course: JOB OPTIONS BASIC SKILLS (JOBS)  
  (Job search assistance to job seekers with literacy and English difficulties)  
  E-mail: ptpjobs@interlog.com  
  Address: 2944 Danforth Avenue - Room 32 - Toronto, Ontario  
  Tel (416) 686 - 8426

**IMPORTANT**

Taking one of the recommended courses is PRIORITY ONE in your plan to get a good job. After the course you will be able to face your job search more confidently and competitively. You must do it in the first days on your arrival, that is to say, when you have more time to attend. The courses recommended for skilled workers and professionals are the best way to learn the Canadian way of looking for a job, with the personalised assistance of qualified personnel. Moreover, they will also be useful in the future, when you may need to look for another job.

To learn more about these courses, see the section 10.2 - Training Courses for Newcomers

- **ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS ASSESSMENT**

Professionals and skilled workers need, in most cases, an assessment of the level and content of their courses of studies (in their own countries) for them to be recognised and validated in Canada. The credentials assessment (certificates, diplomas or academic degrees) is performed for Job, Academic, Professional License or Immigration purposes. It is essential to get the necessary recognition of your profession and be admitted into the professional organisations.

In order to do that, the first step is to have your educational certifications and degrees translated by a certified Translator. To get one in Ontario, you can contact the Association of Interpreters and Translators of Ontario.
IMPORTANT

Verify which the professional or academic organisation that will recognise you is, before you start your assessment process.

These are some of the organisations assessing academic credentials for job or academic purposes:

ONTARIO COMPARATIVE EDUCACION SERVICE
WORD EDUCATION SERVICES
canada@wes.org
Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials - CICIC.

This institution assists people who want to know how the evaluation process to apply for the recognition of professional credentials is.

● GET TECHNICALLY TRAINED AND UPGRADED (Canadian Market)

The government of Ontario supports economically special projects for foreign professionals from different areas who come to live to Canada. Their aim is to assist them in their job and professional settlement. Some programs include the necessary training leading to the professional licensing in Ontario.

For further information, consult OPENING DOORS for INTERNATIONALLY TRAINED INDIVIDUALS.

● MAKE YOUR JOB SEARCH A FULL TIME JOB

If you decide to start looking for a job in your area, you must devote yourself full time to the preparation and search for a good job.

As stated in previous paragraphs, the prime priority of your arrival is to get a good job. Just finding “a job” isn’t enough, what is important is to get A GOOD JOB. A job where you could have a decent salary, where you are able to use your knowledge and experience, where you can learn the Canadian way of working, where you will be improving your command of Technical English related to your field.

And to get a “good” job (at least with a medium salary, see Chap. # 7 - MEDIUM SALARY JOBS) you will need to get ready and wait for this opportunity to arise.

Most skilled and professional newcomers who arrive in Canada with no knowledge of the environment, are usually advised by other immigrants. Many may have come without a good preparation or education and have survived form job to job, unable neither to exert their profession nor to enter the job market successfully. What they learn is how to repeat the same mistakes with different elements, which eventually leads them to get and keep low paid jobs, below their capacities and expectations, with a permanent frustration deep inside.

Big Canadian cities are full of people who could never start working in the fields they were trained for in their own countries. To compensate their low salaries, these people have can only resort to having more than one job, and a lot of restrictions. From them, newcomers also learn the general idea and the fear that “things are not easy in Canada”... and it is actually not the case. Unless you lack the necessary preparation.

RECOMMENDATION:

DON'T ACCEPT THE FIRST JOB YOU ARE OFFERED, IF IT IS NOT RELATED TO YOUR FIELD AND THIS JOB WILL TAKE UP MOST DAYLIGHT HOURS

Many newcomers are lead by the fear, uneasiness and anxiety passed to them from other immigrants who have hardly survived in Canada or years. As a result, next week, they usually accept the job they are
offered "to make sure", any occupation with a low salary. For example in Wendy's, Mc Donald's, Tim Hortons, cleaning companies or as workers in manufacturing companies and industries. That is the way of "making sure" of staying for ever in a difficult and uncertain environment.

The main reasons for not taking a full time job as soon as a newcomer arrives in Canada are:

1. You will lose the opportunity to get trained in job search techniques, taught to newcomers and useful in the future when you need to look for a job again.
2. You will lose the opportunity to study English and then start working from a better level.
   Once you are busy with your job it will be more difficult to study, due to time constrains. In the courses for newcomers, it is quite often to find people who have lived and worked for 10 years or more in Canada, who haven't had the time to take those courses just because they have been working since their arrival.
3. You will be busy during the day, which will stop you from the possibility to look for a “good job”. This limitation will prevent you from finding good opportunities in your field, with a higher salary, the opportunity to attend interviews, send lots of resumes, deal with recruitments, attend job fairs, etc.
4. You will be more and more busy. Before the possibility of a low salary and increasing expenditure (car, car insurance, rent, utilities, etc.), the most probable resort is to get a second job to support those financial responsibilities.

IMPORTANT: To get a decent job or a job position in your field, you need to get rained and devote full time, with all your energies to your job search. According to statistics, newcomer skilled workers spend an average of 5 or 6 months to get a job in their fields.

NOTE: That is the reason why, based on the statistics above mentioned, the Canadian Government DEMANDS you as a requirement to give you the Permanent Resident Visa to prove that you owe the funds to support you and your family in Canada for 6 months (See Chapter 5, Required Funds)

Right, but what can you do if, for any reason, you need urgently to work and get some funds and not use up the savings you brought from your country?

In this case, the best thing to do is to get a survival job with suitable working hours (after 4 PM or at night, or at weekends), which will allow you to devote the daylight hours to training and job search in your field.

The most common jobs you may get at those times will be in restaurants, fast food or pizza restaurants, banquet halls, hotels, some manufacturing companies having afternoon and night shifts, casinos, discos, etc.

It is a good alternative for engineers, architects, and professionals related to industry to look for a job in their field in medium technical positions, as inspectors, laboratorists, metrologists, quality control agents, etc. In these cases there are afternoon /night shifts that will allow you to have spare time in the mornings, and you will meet people related to that field at the same time, as you acquire some experience in Canada. To see how you should write your resume with a technical profile to get one of those positions, see Section 16.4.2 FUNCTIONAL RESUME.

By our own experience, we have seen that newcomer professionals and skilled workers to whom getting a job takes most (5-7 months), are the ones who get the best positions in the end, compared to other immigrants who get employed in a shorter term. There may be a number of reasons:

- They are more selective. When somebody is self-assured of his /her own personal skills, has a good command of English, and counts on enough resources, he / she has the aim to look for positions that keep up to their educational level and experience, which usually takes more time.
- They will know the job market in a better way.
- They will start with a higher level of English. After 4 or more months immerse in the Canadian environment and studying the language with devotion, the level of English improves to a great extent, especially in listening comprehension and conversation.
- They will be more skillful, both in job search techniques and in the knowledge of the job market itself. Moreover, after several interviews, they get more confident to sell their own personal and professional image.
- They will already have a network. The best way to get a professional job is meeting lots of people, especially in the same job field.
- They have more possibilities. It is just normal that after the three first months you have sent 100 or more resumes to companies, recruitment, classified ads, etc. and still have a whole lot of outstanding places where to send your resume. The more people know you “exist” in Canada, the higher you opportunities will be.
A factor that influences newcomers negatively leading them to take non-qualified jobs in different fields than his /hers, is the pressure, not intentional but psychologically strong, on the part of relatives. In every phone call with family and friends from the country of origin, after greeting everyone, it is very common to hear the question: “and have you already got a job??”. For them, from the distance, their desire and worry (besides, positive) is that you start working soon.

This same question time after time every week, from different people, will make you uneasy and doubtful about your personal situation. And it is more probable that, if you are not psychologically ready, that they make you decide to get employed in any type of job, which will limit your future in the long run.

Note: The concept of immigrant people have in many countries is based on the idea of the immigrant to the USA. However, this is not the same. As in the USA most newcomers don’t have an immigrant visa, or are non qualified workers, immigration in Canada is an organised selective process, in the case of skilled workers. In USA, it is very difficult for those who have neither a visa, nor qualifications or the assistance of the government, to get some training or to seek for help to get a decent job, so they resort to getting a non-qualified job in the first place they find it, which stops them from being selective and improving their command of English. It is because our friends and relatives know this reality that they suppose that it is all vital that you start working immediately.

Remember that what is important is to get a job in your field, not a job in the fields. Don't allow what is URGENT to take you the time you need to do what is IMPORTANT.

“To know how to wait, is the great key to success”.

● EXPAND YOUR NETWORK
(Friends and Acquaintances)

NETWORKING is the web of people who know you and who could be in contact with the contacts of possible employers. NETWORKING is the key to get a job in the hidden job market, that is to say, in those job positions in companies and organisations that are never advertised in mass media. Estimates show that a 75% of available positions in an area are never advertised in newspapers or Internet.

The lack of a NETWORK is a disadvantage of all those who start a new life in Canada. You should start building your own networking, meeting more people, enrolling on courses and diverse activities, knowing your community and joining sport, cultural, or professional groups, etc.

In a job search, a NETWORK is an advantage for both the Canadian and the veteran immigrants, most probably educated here, with relatives and local experience.

More information regarding this subject in Chapter 17.3.3 NETWORKING

● CONTACT RECRUITMENTS AND HEADHUNTERS
Recruitments and Head-hunters can be of great help in your job search, especially if you have a sound education and a broad experience in certain specific field. Recruitment agencies are private companies that find and select people to work in other companies. They provide them with different classes of services such as temporary or permanent workers, employees in different areas, and with different skills, and other qualified members of staff.

Some specialise in recruiting personnel in certain specific fields, such as technology, computers, communications, engineering, oil, or accounts.

The best way to start your relationship with them starts by the agency's assessment of your resume and skills and, according with your job profile, they will try to place you in a company on temporal or permanent bases, for a commission or a minimum percentage of your salary (that is paid to the agency by the company). The advantage is that these recruitment companies know the "hidden job market", those positions that are not advertised neither in newspapers not in any other media. Moreover, most of the time, companies resort to recruitments to get highly qualified skilled workers or professionals who suit certain requirements, and then pay for agencies to make a selection for them. The company who will pay makes the final choice of the new employee among a few candidates the agency refers.

For that reason, it is a good idea to contact those recruitments face to face, for them to take your RESUME into account. Moreover, the interviews with them, will help you to improve your communication skills and performance little by little.

Once you are registered with an agency, you must call quite often to know what jobs are available and make sure they take you into account as a candidate.

IMPORTANT

Once your RESUME is ready, you should contact different recruitments and head-hunters having jobs in your field available for them to try and place you in a company. They will earn money from helping you and you may get a good job opportunity. **Put them to work for you.** Applying for several agencies is not against law. It is important to make several recruitments know that you exist, is in Canada, and want to work!

Also visit the Association of Canadian Search, Employment & Staffing Services (ACSESS) for more information on recruiting agencies in Ontario.

Also consult the Directory of Canadian Recruiters. To contact more than 100 agencies that can help you.

● SEARCH - SEARCH - SEARCH

WORKING IN INTERNET AT HOME

In Canada and USA the use of Internet is rather accessible for the population, given that its relative low cost. Probably you will need to have your own PC with Internet at home, especially when you are looking for a job, communicating via emails and other related information.

There are a lot of advertisements in Internet, newspapers, magazines and other forms of advertising offering a wide variety of "WORKS AT HOME VIA INTERNET". They offer you business opportunities and stable work with good and attractive salaries. Even though some of them sell "secrets to become a millionaire" in short time. The most common ads offer work in the following occupations:
Filling surveys about massive consuming products.
- Packing and sending printed advertisements.
- Selling make-up, beauty products, etc.
- Assembling products like toys, crafts, etc.
- Offering "secrets" to make fortunes in Internet.
- Giving access to lists of "thousands of employers" who need staff and works
- Sending mailing and faxes

We really know that the new immigrants are a vulnerable group of people and run a high risk of being cheated by this kind of "company" and Internet sites. Part of our job is to guide our readers in the economy and care of their money, and we have done a study of many sites, and as a result we have found the following aspects to be highlighted:

- More or less, all of them say the same: "they were going to help me make a lot of money without having any experience";

- Many of the "opportunities" offer access or subscription to work databases online, where companies and persons are supposed to offer work all the time in exchange for a sum of money that should be paid to be member

- More than 90% of these sites charge for the registration and are a complete fraud. They charge a small sum of money for information with little or non value. The clients do not lose much money ($10-$40) but there are thousands of innocent people who send money, and the ones who really make money are the responsible of these sites. Finally, they have a big business (but doubtful) about Internet.

- Later some of them will offer to sell you the real key to make money for a higher sum ($200 or more): a copy of the website they have. They will show you that they have made money and you can make it as well looking for your own clients. In other words, a "pyramid" is made where the first ones who joined the "business" will earn money, which will come from the ones who started the game and the innocent ones who paid for curiosity.

- As a "guarantee" signal and in order to win the public confidence, many "companies" offer a 100% Money Back GUARANTEE, if you are not satisfied with the "product". But few people claim for their money, given that the time explanations should take, the language and the expenses which will be more than the sum of the money sent.

- Most of the websites offering works in Internet at home are directed to "mothers", who due to their family care are at home and have free time during the day.

- Psychological tactics used by these Internet sites are well planned with a good persuasion power. Words are carefully selected in order that the message fits to the needs, feelings and expectations of the reader (easy work, independent, money, comfortable, safe, etc.) They use marketing and advertising techniques with an effective tested power (like how to prevent pain, have stability, pleasure, security, etc.).

OBSERVATIONS

In general terms, "easy" business opportunities and "working in Internet at home" which are offered by many "companies" in USA and Canada (by internet) ARE NOT REALIABLE NOR SAFE. To know about this kind of offers can avoid you a waste of money and time. There are all kinds of "COMPANIES" in Internet which will try to take advantage of the public, especially those who are in need of an occupation or work to afford fixed expenses of his family in Canada.

We believe (as well as many experts) that the real opportunities to make money in Internet "for people who are interested in finding a work at home employment opportunity... or starting an Online Home Based Business" are rare. Maybe as rare as making money playing with the savings in a casino.

REAL WORK IN INTERNET
There are some activities, specialized work and services that would mean an income using this via. Many persons, who have earned incomes in Internet and create a way of working in the net, took advantage of their professional training and dedication. Examples of these works are: phone surveys, photos edition, photos (for websites, car selling, houses, etc.), websites design, translation of texts in different languages, correction of texts and other freelance services.

There are other kinds of jobs that give work and earnings via Internet to experienced people who know the market. Most of them have achieved it with training and after several rehearsals and mistakes. However, in order to afford themselves and be profitable they demand a great dedication (at least at the beginning) and a deep knowledge of aspects such as Internet (tools, websites), marketing, software, design programs, markets, commercial transactions, advertisements, etc. Examples of these activities are virtual stores of different merchandises, on-line stores, shops in e-bay, real states and similar others.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Be careful with those Internet sites offering all kinds of business opportunities and works on-line, and in order to pay you they also request the number of your credit card. In Internet paying with Visa or other credit card can be an unnecessary risk. A recommendable way and with less risk to pay via Internet in USA is to use methods like PAYPAL, 2CO and other similar systems.

2. If you decide to register and send personal information to participate in rewarded interviews, surveys, work sites via Internet, it is NOT ADVISABLE for you to use your main personal e-mail. It is probably that too much publicity and not useful material would be sent to you, so that reading and selecting them would take much time. In this case create a new e-mail.

3. Before to start to give your money or credit card information, look for information in internet about the business. There are many groups where the people put concepts, information, etc. But do not trust if the group do not allow to put questions or information.

**IMPORTANT**

The preparation PLAN to come to Canada should be followed both by you and your wife or permanent partner. Canada is a modern society where women are trained and partake to a great extent in the development and workforce of the country. Moreover, it is almost sure that, to achieve the desired life standard, you must count on her help, even part time. The times when women just stayed at home are over long ago in Canada.

Nowadays women alternate between housework and their little children care with other productive and self-development activities. Even those women who come from thousand-year-old cultures such as India, China, Iran, Africa and many Muslim countries have to make dramatic changes on their arrival to Canada, and adapt rapidly to the Canadian culture and economy to integrate and improve their life standard.
The information and recommendations of this Guide must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depends only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.
RESUME, COVER LETTER AND JOB INTERVIEW

In order to enter the Canadian job market, it is necessary to learn the job search process in detail, as well as the correct way of writing application documents (cover letter, resumes) used in this country.

When there may be a job position available in a company, applicants usually have to send their job profile, experience, abilities, education, expectations, etc., written in two documents: a resume and a cover letter. This chapter describes thoroughly how these essential documents should be written and laid out in Canada and in North America thoroughly.

The Canadian job market is highly competitive and many people apply for a position, especially if it is for qualified people and with a good salary. Since there may be hundreds of resumes and cover letters that arrive at a company for just one position, those documents must be written with a great deal of attention and good technique to reach the initial aim of being called to an interview. What happens, in general terms, in most companies is that the person in charge must choose among lost of candidates, sometimes among 100 – 500 and choose the 8 or 12 he/she envisages as the most suitable applicants for the post. Under those circumstances the person in charge may go through every resume for 10 or 15 seconds and cover letter to decide whether they will be kept in the selection process or are rejected, and it is most probable that he/she keeps just those that, because of their layout and content, result in a way as outstanding in the pile of received papers.

RECOMMENDATION

A RESUME is the basic necessary tool in a job search and its analysis deserves all the extra time you might require to learn to write it correctly.

Apart from counting on what you did in the past, a good resume is that where you show what you can offer the employer for him/her to hire you for a specific job position.

IMPORTANT: Resume is the equivalent to what in many is known as curriculum vitae, or CV, and it is the document where you show what you can offer to the employer, for him to hire you.

16.1 COVER LETTERS

In Canada, every time a resume is sent, it is attached to a cover letter, with the aim to introduce yourself to the possible employer, show him/her your personal interest for the position, and explain in short the main reasons...
why you should be taken as a candidate.

A COVER LETTER must contain the proper words for every position and should be written in a different way according to the needs of every post.

16.1. 1 PARTS OF A COVER LETTER

These are the parts a good cover letter should have:

1. Personal Information
   Name, address, telephone, and e-mail.

2. Details
   Date, name of the company, name of the addressee, and his/her position. If you don't know his name, send it to the manager of the area of your interest, or to the Human Resources Manager of the company.

3. Aim or Reference:
   Write here the position you apply for. Write the number or reference code if any.

4. Paragraph 1 - Why you are writing to him/her
   Name of addressee, where you learnt about the job position available and your offer in this regard.

5. Paragraph 2 - What you have to offer
   Tell about your abilities, technical skills, education and experience for which you think you are the perfect candidate for the post available or probable in the company. Make a short description of your experience and your best characteristics related to the vacant post.

6. Paragraph 3 - Supplementary Information
   Provide the possible employer with additional information to reinforce your job image and profile. (Use an additional paragraph if necessary)

7. Paragraph 4 - Ask for an interview
   End the letter with a paragraph stating that you are very interested in the position and ask to be contacted for an interview. Thank for the time devoted to read your resume.

8. Your name and Signature.

16.1.2 COVER LETTER - Sample
DATE: 02 April 2007

TO: APPLE FOOD EQUIPMENT Inc.
Attn. Vice-President - Manufacturing Division
Mississauga, On.

SUBJECT: Product Engineer

SIR:

With reference to your advertisement in JOBSHARK.COM, I would like to offer myself for this position. I am sending you herewith also my resume with all details related to my education and working experience.

I have a background working in design of electric appliances, in CAD environments. I worked 8 years as Product Engineer in Group SEB Colombia, a global company manufacturer of domestic appliances in design and development of new product from the initial concept to the finished product. I was responsible for the design of products, prototypes, testing design, engineering CAD drawings, material specifications, dimensional accuracy, tolerances, GD&T, correct drafting procedures, bill of materials, technical specifications of components (switches, cords, heat elements, thermostats, wires, motors, bushings, gears, etc) and implementation of appropriate manufacturing processes.

I have an excellent knowledge of sheet metal forming and cutting, stamping, welding equipment and practices, engineering plastics materials, molded injection processes, and metal machining parts. On the other hand, I also have a very good knowledge and experience working QC metrology instruments, laboratory and testing equipment.

For my part I wish to put my skills and experience to work for the benefit of your company. I would like very much to talk with you about the position. Thanks for taking the time to consider my application. I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Sergio Martínez

16.1.3 GUIDE TO WRITE A COVER LETTER

A cover letter is another way of introducing yourself to a possible employer. What you say and your layout may be the difference between having an opportunity or losing it. For that reason have into account the following aspects:

- **Personal information.** It is advisable to start the resume heading with your name, telephone number and e-mail. Never write the words “COVER LETTER.”

- **Adressee.** Every cover letter is addressed to a specific person, using the correct name and position. Pay special attention to write every word correctly. If you don’t know how to spell them, send it to the Human Resources Manager or to the manager of your area of interest.

- **Length:** No longer than a letter-size sheet of paper. Busy people won’t read long letters from somebody who they don’t know.

- **Spelling:** Check spelling and grammar mistakes thoroughly. If you have doubts, just ask for help.

- **Writing style:** Always use a simple writing style. Choose every word carefully. Introduce yourself in a self-assured simple way, not in an affected manner.

- **Original.** Every cover letter must be written individually, personalising it according to every particular case. Never send one of those model cover letters.

- **Key Words:** When you describe your skills and experience, try to use the same terms that appear in the advertisement for the job.

- **Presentation:** It must have a nice layout, as the appearance of a resume is also important. Choose a good
font type, impeccable white paper, and a quality printer. Never send photocopies.

- Don’t include photographs (unless you are applying to be a model or an actor/actress)
- Signature. Don’t forget to sign both your cover letter and resume.

Also keep a copy of every cover letter and resume you send. They will be necessary to prepare the interview in case you are called.


16.2 WHAT IS A RESUME?

A resume is a brief written summary containing important basic information about your skills, abilities, education, work experience and other important aspects about you. This is the first impression that a possible employer will have of you, of what you have done in your different jobs and what position you are looking for.

A good resume won’t get you a good job by itself, but a poor resume will stop you from getting an interview, and you won’t have the opportunity to get a job without them.

The information in your resumes must be exact and true, but every resume you write should be different and highlight the important specific aspects of your job profile, according to the characteristics of every vacant. What you are looking for, for example for a position as quality control engineer, may not be of interest for an employer who is seeking a product or design engineer. That is the reason why it is all vital that, for every job position you apply and want to be called to an interview, your resume must be written with the orientation and the terms the possible employers are looking for.

IMPORTANT

Don’t confuse a RESUME with a Curriculum Vitae (C.V). The latter is a longer version of you life and your whole job and academic history. The CV is used by those with a suitable academic, scientific, and search education and experience to apply for positions accordingly. The CV is written based on the educational and teaching experience, along with the mentions obtained, prizes, recognition, publications, affiliations, etc.

The functions of a RESUME are the following:

- Call the reader’s attention (possible employer) and open you the door to the company
- Help you to get an interview
- Organise your ideas and thoughts, and give a clear path to your career at the same time
- Introduce your transferable job skills in a clear and accurate way
- Help you “sell” your image in the job market.
- Be the suitable means to achieve the goal of being introduced to employers and advertised by a recruiting agency

RECOMMENDATION

Your RESUME must say right to the point what your specific aim is and what are the skills or qualifications you have to achieve it.

Writing a long general resume telling all you have done and describing all the abilities you have is a very common mistake. Those types of resumes fail to aim all that information at a specific goal. Don’t leave the task of deciding what the suitable job for you would be or what you would like to do to your possible employer.

Your RESUME must give the best impression possible of who you are, and that is the key to the door to the interviews you are looking for.
16.3 PARTS OF A RESUME

A. JOB OBJECTIVE

The first and most important element of your resume is to express your job objective or the type of job you are looking for. When you have a clear aim, you can focus your resume on the path that will lead you to that goal.

Examples:

- “Looking for a position as Mould Designer in an automotive company”
- “Looking for a Software Engineering position with Computer Apple Group”
- “Seeking an Administrative position within the medical field”.
- “Seeking employment as Process Engineer in the field of chemical engineering where I can put my education to practical use for the benefit of Pretocanada”
- “Looking for a position as van owner delivery person”
- “To obtain a position with a wholesale, storage or warehousing organisation that would involve the supervision workers activities, shipping and receiving, scheduling, etc.”

B. SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS)

This part is a kind of mini-resume that must contain your most outstanding experiences and achievements. IN a few words, you send here the message that you are qualified and talented. It is your opportunity to do your "self-market" or sell your own personal image. In this part you should include:

- Years of relevant experience in the specific job
- Your education or training and diploma in that field
- Some of your achievements or job success in that field, describe in a short paragraph.
- Your abilities, talents or key skills related to the job position
- A reference to your personal way of working, values, or ways of dealing with your responsibilities. Something like what a good friend of yours would say to describe your job profile before a possible employer

Examples:

- “Over 5 years experience working in mechanical design and development of injection moulds and plastic parts, in CAD/CAM environments”
- “Bachelor degree in Mechanical Engineering with over 8 years experience working in design of plastic products”
- “Excellent knowledge of engineering plastics materials, specifications, machining processes, stamping, plastic injection, metrology, GD&T, blue print reading and mechanical design”
- “Ability to assume technical responsibility for assigned jobs, to supply technical support to manufacturing and handle several tasks to completion”
- “Enthusiastic and committed to professional excellence”
Very often newcomer professionals in Canada have several years of job experience. When in a job the employer asks for a specific amount of years of experience, use the same number for them not to reject you for having too much experience. For example:

**ADVERTISEMENT:** "Looking for Mechanical Engineer, 3 year experience in Quality Control automotive parts".

Although you may have a 12-year experience working in this same position, you should reply to the advertisement by using the same terms in it:

"Mechanical Engineer with over 3 years experience working with Quality Control standards in automotive parts companies."

### C. TECHNICAL SKILLS

This is the core part of your resume, where you must place the abilities, knowledge and experience required by the available position. Write here your best abilities or skills related to that vacancy. Bare in mind the following factors to write this part:

1. State your 3 or 4 best skills and abilities related to the job
2. Make a separate list with every of these abilities and think and write several achievements in your job history to illustrate them.
3. Describe every ability and achievement with persuading words, if possible, in a paragraph where you emphasise the way how your results benefited your previous employer

**Examples:**

- "Great spatial capacity in visualising finished products and converting ideas or samples onto engineered drawings."
- "Technical expertise solving production problems related with design, plastics, sheet metal forming, specifications, engineering materials and manufacturing process."
- "Extensive experience preparing specifications, components and general assembly drawings generation for manufacturing in industries such as automotive parts, household appliances and metal machining products."

AutoCAD2012, Cimatron, Mechanical Desktop, Excel and MSO2010.

### D. WORK HISTORY/EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

You should include a list of your previous jobs in this part, in a maximum term of 10 years. Write your experience in descendant order, from the most recent to the older. Don't forget to write the name and address of the company, the period worked, the position you had, and some of the main activities you performed. Have in mind the following:

- Don't write about an experience longer than 10 years (15 years just if you have a vast specialised experience, in connection with the available job or aim)
- Include and highlight the jobs related to the job available
- Don't write months or short periods. Just express your working periods in years, for example: 2001-2005. This way, you will cover the normal months of unemployment you may have.
- If your history is short, include academic practices, technical training internships, and volunteer jobs that will help you highlight the fact that you are trained and experienced for the vacancy.
- Actions should be described in past tense
- Write your abilities and experiences in a way that communicates positive feeling of achievement, success and satisfaction.

**Examples:**

2002-2006 COMMERCIAL SPRING & TOOLS Ltd. 555 Whitline, Mississauga, On

*POSITION: MECHANICAL DESIGNER.

**Responsibilities:**

- Provided manufacturing technical support for new products and existing product lines.
• Worked closely with industrial engineering team in order to develop and improve the manufacturing processes and to acquire new equipment.
• Worked in design and development of plastic and metal components parts for small electric domestic appliances, from the initial concept to the end product.
• Generated and checked detailed engineering CAD drawings for dimensional accuracy, tolerances, correct material, specifications and correct drafting procedures.
• Provided technical support for existing product lines, bill of materials, mechanical assembly drawings and electric-electronic cable assembly drawings.
• Designed and developed Plastic Moulds, dies, fixtures, gauges and devices for assembly lines.
• Provided technical support for existing product lines, bill of materials, mechanical assembly drawings and electric-electronic cable assembly drawings.
• Responsible for new moulds and dies for production, contracted to external suppliers.

**OPTIONAL:** In some cases it is important to describe briefly the most outstanding characteristics of the company where you have worked, especially if it’s not in Canada. That will help the reader to grasp a better understanding of your past experience.

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**E. EDUCATION / TRAINING**

Under this heading, write your technical or university training courses in connection with the position available, in descendant order, with its main diploma, degree or certificate first. You should also include the name of institution, city, and period or date.

If necessary, separate EDUCATION from TRAINING. In the former place the information regarding your university or professional education and, in the latter, the list of specific technical training courses in the field connected with your job aims.

**F. VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE or PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Add this information, if relevant, to back your resume and emphasise your experience and qualifications.

**G. ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION**

Write any other relevant information that may improve your possibilities. For example:

• **Languages.** Writing that, apart from speaking English you can speak other language can be an advantage in some cases.
• **Availability to work in night or rotary shifts.**
• **Availability to move to other city** (in the province or in Canada).
• **Any special knowledge, affiliation, or experience** (driving license, or to operate certain equipment, forklifter, etc)
• **Personal Interests, hobbies, etc.** That may show the type of person you are.
• **Availability to travel abroad** (if required)

**H. REFERENCES**

Customary, this phrase is written:
“REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST”

However, you should make a list of at least 3 reference people who could testify about your personality, responsibility, and experience. Tell those people and make sure that they know that they are in your reference as references. They may be your former bosses, co-workers, clients, or people who know you well.

What **MUST BE** written in a **RESUME**

- *Personal Information*: name, address, telephone, e-mail
- *Job Objective*: position you apply for
- *Education and Courses*: Listed in order, the most recent on top, and specifying diplomas and grades.
- *Abilities and Job Skills*: The list of your abilities and technical transferable job skills with a brief description explaining every one
- *Job Experience*: Listed in chronological order from the most recent, mentioning the company, your position there, dates, responsibilities and everyday activities.

**WHAT **MUSN'T** BE WRITTEN IN A RESUME**

- Age, height, weight, marital status
- Social Insurance Number
- Religious Group or Political Parties
- Reasons for leaving the previous job
- Desired Salary
- Overall Physical Condition
- Nationality of Origin
- Photographs (unless you apply as an actor/actress or model)

**WHAT IS OPTIONAL IN A RESUME**

- Volunteer Jobs
- Member of Professional Associations
- Special prizes and recognition
- Interests, personal activities and hobbies.
- Description of previous companies
- Courses done in previous jobs
- Languages (if relevant for the field or organisation)
- Driving licenses (G, AZ, DZ welding mechanic, etc.)

**16.4 TYPES OF RESUMES**

There are three types of general resumes used in companies at present. Choose the one that suits every case best, depending on the position available, its requirements, your education, experience and transferable skills.

You will find an example of every type of RESUME in this book, to illustrate and facilitate their understanding. They have been based on the author's experience and published just for being taken as a reference. There are thousands of different ways of writing every RESUME, with different designs, layout, terms, etc.

There are a number of books and specialised publications on the subject showing examples of RESUMES for applying for different types of jobs, which you should read to learn more about it. Consult them in the public libraries and in some Internet sites.

**16.4.1 CRONOLOGICAL RESUME**

In this type of resume, the job experience and professional development are sorted according to your job and position, starting from the most recent job to the first you had.

This is the most conventional format, used by professionals and technicians who have achieved e progressive
development in their field, and would like to go on in the same field occupation. Besides, this is the easiest to understand, as it allows the reader for following your personal history from your last achievements and experiences. That is the reason why it is quite advisable when your previous job(s) or company(es) is(are) really well-known.

On the other hand, a chronological resume may not be suitable in other circumstances. Some employers may easily realise some aspects of your job history that they wouldn't like, as frequent changes of job, or a lack of specific experience. The latter is a problem if you are thinking of the possibility to make a change in the direction of your career.

EXAMPLE OF CHRONOLOGICAL RESUME (with cover letter)

SERGIO MARTÍNEZ
Telephone (416) 222 3344 E. Mail: sergioma@hotmail.com

OBJECTIVE: Seeking a position as Product Engineer for a company where I can utilize my skills and work experience.

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor degree in Mechanical Engineering with over 8 years experience working in design and development of products, plastic, synthetic and metal parts.
- Excellent knowledge of manufacturing processes, engineering plastics materials, plastic injection, metal stamping, shop machines, motors, controls, switches, engineering materials, parts production, electricity, and UL, IEC and ISO-9000 standards.
- Strong mechanical engineering background with expertise in mechanical design, testing products, manufacturing processes and CAD drafting.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Extensive experience preparing specifications, components and general assembly drawings generation for manufacturing in industries such as automotive parts, household appliances and metal machining products.
- Great spatial capacity in visualizing finished products and converting ideas or samples onto engineered drawings.
- Technical expertise solving production problems related with design, plastics, sheet metal forming, specifications, engineering materials and manufacturing process.

Personal Skills: Adaptable, team player, resourceful and dedicated.

WORK HISTORY

1999–2006 GROUPE SEB COLOMBIA. Bogotá, Colombia
* PRODUCT ENGINEER.
Responsibilities:
- Worked in design and development of plastic and metal components parts for small electric domestic appliances, from the initial concept to the end product.
- Generated and checked detailed engineering CAD drawings for dimensional accuracy, tolerances, correct material, specifications and correct drafting procedures.
- Responsible for development of products according with different international safety and quality standards (UL, CSA, IEC, BS, ISO, etc) in order to obtain approvals to export.
- Responsible for prototypes, new parts, materials and plastics to use, design testing, packing, users manuals and for maintaining existing CAD files in the company.
- Provided technical support for existing product lines, bill of materials, mechanical assembly drawings and electric-electronic cable assembly drawings.
- Designed and developed jibs, fixtures, gauges and devices for assembly lines.
- Responsible for new moulds and dies for production, contracted to external suppliers.
- Worked with manufacturing personnel to ensure low cost of production and product manufacturing ease.

SERGIO MARTÍNEZ continued.
The Company: The Group SEB (www.groupeseb.com) is a global producer of domestic electrical appliances. It trade under the international brands Rowenta and Tefal, and under strong local brands which are leaders in their local markets in many other countries (T-Fal in Canada).

The Products: Small domestic appliances with motor for household (blenders, food processors, mixers, orange juicers, etc), dryers, fans, coffee makers, washer machines and irons (made in SEB-Colombia).

1994-1998 INDUMIL - Military Industries of Colombia       Bogota - Colombia
* MECHANICAL DESIGNER.

Responsibilities:
- Responsible for the elaboration, actualization and supply of CAD drawings, technical information, machining parameters and processes and bill of materials.
- Provided manufacturing technical support for new products and existing product lines.
- Created and checked all new engineered CAD drawings for dimensional accuracy, tolerances, correct material specifications, and correct drafting procedures.
- Worked closely with industrial engineering team in order to develop and improve the manufacturing processes and to acquire new equipment.
- Responsible for testing of new product as well as technical standards and check-lists referent to tools, goods, new technical parts and products to be acquired from abroad.

The Company: INDUMIL is a government industrial company associated with the Colombian military forces, where weapons, metal machining products and military equipments are manufactured.

* PROCESS ENGINEER

Responsibilities:
- Responsible for the manufacturing processes of different automotive parts such as: breaking systems, pistons, cooling systems and body parts.
- Designed and developed new attachments, gauges and devices for production.
- Provided manufacturing technical support for new products and existing product lines.

The Company: Manufacturer and supplier of assemblies, components and parts for automotives companies. (Renault, Mazda, Fiat and Chevrolet)

EDUCATION

- Mechanical Engineer. Bachelor Degree 1987-1992
  National University of Colombia.
  Bogota - Colombia
- Mechanical Technician 1987
  Instituto Técnico Industrial Centro Don Bosco.
  Bogotá - Colombia


Languages: English, Spanish.

AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY

WILLING TO RELOCATE IN ONTARIO

References available upon request

2/2

16.4.2 FUNCTIONAL RESUME

This type of resume focus on the specific experience or the knowledge in connection with a particular craft or field. When employers read through a candidate's resume, they usually want to find those - knowledge and experience. The lack of specific experience is easily detected in a customary chronological resume. By a functional resume you can make your experience appear as applicable in general terms, and it facilitates changes from an industry to other, or between different fields in your profession.

A functional resume can be really effective and it usually helps candidates to get at least an interview. However, the staff members in charge of hiring personnel may know that it is easy for applicants to hide some aspects of their
job profile, and they prefer having candidates fill in their own company forms or write a chronological resume.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Use this type of resume when you want to get a “survival” position as a technician, focusing on persuading the employer that you know how to perform the specific tasks required for certain specific qualification. For example, if you are an engineer but would like to get a well-paid position or in a good company where you may have the opportunity to work at the beginning in Quality Control, Production Supervision, design, Metrologist, Laboratories, Quality Inspection, etc.

**EXAMPLE OF FUNCTIONAL RESUME (with cover letter)**
Sergio Martínez

250 Cassandra Blvd, North York

Telephone (416) 222 3344

Mail: sergioma@hotmail.com

OBJECTIVE

Seeking a position as Quality Inspector for a stamping industrial company where I can utilize my skills and work experience.

EDUCATION

- Mechanical Engineer / Bachelor Degree - National University of Colombia, 1990
- Mechanical Technician - Instituto Técnico Industrial Centro Don Bosco, Bogota - Colombia, 1984

TECHNICAL SKILLS / EXPERIENCE

- Several years experience working in industrial environments and machining industries
- Long experience working with verniers, micrometers, gauges, optical comparators, operating of CMM and interpreting of their results.
- Excellent knowledge of tolerances, specifications, machining processes, stamping, plastic injection, stamping and shop machines.
- Strong mechanical engineering background with expertise in mechanical design, metrology, GD&T, blue print reading and interpretation.
- Long experience testing production parts and new products.
- Technical expertise in the understanding and use of statical process control SPC.
- Extensive experience preparing and checking complex part CAD drawings for components and general assembly drawings for manufacturing in industrial projects.
- Ability to work with minimum supervision and professional quality from complex engineering drawings, method sheets, tests plans and process sheets.

Personal Skills: Adaptable, team player, resourceful and dedicated.

WORK HISTORY

1998 – 2006 GROUPE SEB COLOMBIA. Bogotá, Colombia
- Design Department.

The Company: The Group SEB (www.groupeseb.com) is the first-ranking world producer of domestic electrical appliances. It trade under the international brands Rowenta and Tefal, and under strong local brands witch are leaders in their local markets in many other countries (T-Fal in Canada).

1994-1998 INDUMIL - Military Industries of Colombia Bogotá, Colombia
- Engineering Division.

The Company: INDUMIL is a government industrial company associated with the Colombian military forces, where weapons, metal machining products and military equipments are manufactured.


Languages: English, Spanish.

WILLING TO RELOCATE IN CANADA

References available upon request

- COVER LETTER
DATE: 01 March 2011

TO: Spring and Metal Process Inc.

Attn. Brian Clark

Peterborough, Ontario

SUBJECT: Quality Inspector

Mr. Clark:

With reference to your advertisement in The Toronto Star, I would like to offer myself for this position. I am sending you herewith also my resume with all details related to my education and working experience.

I have a mechanical and quality background working in industrial environments. I worked 8 years in Group SEB Colombia, a multinational company manufacturer of electrical domestic appliances in design and quality control of plastic and metal products, from the initial concept to the finished product. I was responsible for detailed CAD drawings for components and assemblies, prototypes, dimensional accuracy, tolerances, technical material, bills of materials, specifications and material specifications. I worked closely with quality inspector and metrology equipment related. I have excellent ability to set-up and read manual checking instruments, laboratory instrumentation and testing equipment, measuring devices, gauges and fixtures, accurately and confidently. I have a long experience making and interpreting complex part drawings, geometric dimensioning and tolerances (GD&T), first inspection and internal auditing practices.

For my part I wish to put my skills and experience to work for the benefit of your company. I am a mechanical inclined person and I possess good decision making capabilities and experience. I would like very much to talk with you about the position. Thanks for taking the time to consider my application. I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,
Sergio Martínez

16.4.3 COMBINATION RESUME

A mixed resume uses the most important aspects of both the functional and the chronological resume, to make the best impression of your job profile and history. It has a section containing your abridged experience, abilities, qualifications and special personal characteristics, relevant for the position you are looking for. The job experience is shown in chronological order or in the functional way, according to what is more convenient for every particular case.

EXAMPLE OF COMBINATION RESUME

OBJECTIVE: Seeking a position as Mechanical Designer or Mould Designer for a company where I can utilize my skills and work experience.

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Over 5 years experience working in mechanical design and development of injection moulds and...
plastic parts, in CAD/CAM environments.

- Excellent knowledge of plastic injection moulds, standard parts, engineering plastics materials, general tool machines, engineering materials, electricity, manufacturing processes and QS-9000 standards.
- Extensive experience preparing specifications, drawings for components, general assembly drawings and detailing parts for injection moulds.
- Ability to assume technical responsibility for assigned jobs, to supply technical support to manufacturing and handle several tasks to completion.
- Strong mechanical background, with expertise in design of injection moulds, using 2/3D Cimatron 11 (surfacing, modeling, solid, drafting and NC programming).
- Great spatial capacity in visualizing finished products and converting ideas or samples onto engineered drawings.
- Technical expertise solving production problems related with design, plastics, injection moulds, specifications, engineering plastic materials, manufacturing process, project planning, ISO QS 9000 and Quality Control standards.

Team player, Logical, Resourceful, Problem Solver, Adaptable and Professional.


EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

* MOLD DESIGNER
2004 – 2006 RIEBNER TOOL & MOLDS. 999 Keele Street, Concord, ON

Responsibilities:
- Working in design and development of injection moulds for plastic parts, using 2/3D Cimatron 12 surface modeling, solid, drafting and NC programs.
- Responsible for the detailed CAD drawings, correct tolerances, standard components, dimensional accuracy, correct material, specifications and correct drafting procedures.

The Company: Canadian company specialized in mould for plastic injection for automobiles, appliances, barbeque and cosmetic industries.

* QUALITY ASSURANCE INSPECTOR
2002-2003 COMMERCIAL SPRING & TOOLS Ltd. 555 Whitline, Mississauga, ON

- Responsible for performing first off inspection to metal stamping products in the press shop, according to customer’s requirements, following and interpreting GD&T, general specifications and according with quality plans.
- Responsible for maintaining and monitoring SPC charts at process centers to ensure that processes are stable and reaction plans are followed.
- Identify, record and report nonconformances to supervisory and production personnel.

The Company: Canadian company ISO9000 certificated specialized in precision sheet stamping and forming parts for automobiles and general industries (Tier 2).

SERGIO MARTÍNEZ continued.

* PRODUCT ENGINEER - PLASTIC PRODUCTS
1998-2002 GROUPE SEB COLOMBIA. Bogotá, Colombia

- Worked in design and development of plastic parts for small electric domestic appliances, from the initial concept to the end product.
- Generated and checked detailed engineering CAD drawings for dimensional accuracy, tolerances, correct material, specifications and correct drafting procedures.
- Provided technical support for existing product lines, bill of materials, mechanical assembly drawings and electric-electronic cable assembly drawings.
- Responsible for design of new moulds, materials and plastics to use, design testing, and highly accelerated life testing of products.
- Responsible for new moulds and dies for production, contracted to external suppliers.
- Responsible for packaging, technical data, modifications and for maintaining existing CAD files in the company.
- Designed and developed jibs, fixtures, gauges and devices for assembly lines.

The Company: The Group SEB (www.groupeseb.com) is the first-ranking world producer and trader of domestic electrical appliances. It trade under the international brands Rowenta and Tefal, and under strong local brands which are leaders in their local markets in many other countries (T-Fal in Canada).

The Products: Small domestic appliances with motor for household (blenders, food processors, mixers, orange juicers, etc), dryers, fans, coffee makers, washer machines and irons (made in SEB-Colombia).

EDUCATION
Sergio Martínez
250 Cassandra Blvd, Apt. 432, North York, ON M3A 1V1
Telephone (416) 222 3344     E. Mail: sergioma@hotmail.com

FAX: 905 677 7888

DATE: 28 January 2011

TO: EXTREMEOULDS Ltd.

Attn. DONALD MICHELESEN

Markham, Ontario

SUBJECT: Mould Designer

Mr. Michelsons:

I would like to offer myself for a possible position as Mould Designer in Extreme Moulds Ltd. I am sending you herewith also my resume with all details related to my education and working experience.

I have a background in mechanical design and mould design in CAD environments. I have worked in design and detailing of moulds using Cimatron-12 (modeling, surfacing, solids and NC). I have experience working as Designer of injection mould from the initial concept to the finished product in companies manufacturer of plastic injection moulds and parts for automotive, cosmetic and other industries. I have been responsible for the engineering CAD drawings, material technical specifications and bill of materials. In addition, it was my duty to make and check CAD engineering drawings for dimensional accuracy, correct drafting procedures, mould standards and manufacturing process.

I have an excellent knowledge of different types of injection moulds, molded injection processes, engineering plastics materials, GD&T (ANSI14.5), gages, fixtures, jibs, production and metal machining processes. I am very capable in AutoCAD-14/2000 and Cimatron 12 (Solids, Modeling and CN programming).

For my part I wish to put my skills and experience to work for the benefit of your company. Thanks for taking the time to consider my application. I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Sergio Martínez
• It is advisable to start the resume heading with your name, phone number, and email. Never write the word "resume".
• Don’t write personal details such as date of birth, marital status, height, weight, gender, SIN, etc.
• A resume should be one or two pages long, maximum. Make good use of the spaces available in such a way that there are no unnecessary blanks.
• Don’t include information neither on your previous salary nor on the one you would like.
• Don’t include pictures or list of references.
• Never include photocopies of diplomas, certificates, etc..
• Never write on the causes why you left a job
• Avoid mentioning religious, ethnic or political matters.
• Don’t use exact dates. Years and months, or just years are enough.
• Don’t write your elementary or high school if you have a university degree of more than ten years experience.
• All you write about must be positive. Avoid negative comments.
• DON'T TELL LIES !!

RECOMMENDATION

Always check and address your resume for every position you apply for. Write your job objective according to the description of the position vacant.

If possible, use the same terms and words they are looking for, according to your position and experience in the post.
VERY IMPORTANT

When you were looking for a job for the first time in Canada, it is best trying to get a position in your own field, in connection with your experience. To achieve this goal you should write and send a lot of resumes, replying to newspaper ads, or to specialised Internet sites, offering your services directly to companies or asking for assistance in recruitment agencies. You should bare in mind these possibilities to look for a job in your area:

- **AS A PROFESSIONAL OR SKILLED WORKER.** (Engineers, technologists, architects, etc.), in this case, it is advisable to write “chronological resumes”. This type of resume allows for highlighting your educational level, experience and professional development in your field or specialisation.

  **Note:** This should be the first option of a skilled worker. However, in practice, there may be some obstacles making difficult to get these kinds of jobs from the beginning, such as your level of English, professional license, lack of certifications, lack of Canadian experience, etc..

- **AS A TECHNICIAN** (Supervisor, Quality Inspector, Designer, laboratorist, Inspector, metrologist, Operator, draughtsman, programmer, Engineer Assistant, Maintenance Technician, etc.)

  This may be an effective way of getting your first job in your area. A “functional” or a “combination resume” helps you to highlight the specific experience or the knowledge in connection with a certain craft or position. In this type of resume you can make your experience and education appear as applicable in general terms, facilitating your change from a type of industry to another, or between different fields in your profession.

  A simple way of writing your resume showing this average profile is thinking in the positions and functions of the people who worked below you or in a lower hierarchy in your previous jobs. Most probably, you sometimes supervised and trained them. You may perform here the tasks they did in your country, and that would keep you in your profession or craft. This is the way of, with the passing of time, getting promoted to a better position or to achieve the goal of entering the Canadian market in your profession.

  **Note:** What is important is to start and stay in jobs related to your craft or specialisation. To achieve an outstanding technical or professional job position in the market, it is usually necessary to have certain Canadian training, specialisation, or enough Canadian experience in the field.

  **COMMENT:** In the examples shown in this chapter and the description of every type of resume (chronological functional, and combination) it is clearly shown how to aim and handle with the writing of a resume to look for a job in different positions and job levels. (Professional, Technical, or supervisor). Those are based on the personal experience of the author and were "successfully" tested, achieving the goal in the tree cases.

16.6 INTERVIEWS

The purpose of the resume and the cover letter is to take it to a personal interview with a potential employer. Being called for an interview means in practice that you already have a great possibility to achieve the position, depending on the number of candidates called. Therefore, the interview is the most important step in your job search process and in order to have good chances, you must train yourself as best as possible. It is the great opportunity to offer and ‘sell’ your personal and job image.

The quality of your answers, your personal appearance, your confidence and presentation are the key facts in an interview. This will be what makes the difference among the candidates to the position.

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In order to achieve a good preparation and improve your success possibilities, we will analyse the interview process in three different stages: what should be done before, during, and after the interview.

16.6.1 BEFORE THE INTERVIEW

It is always advisable to find out about the company and the position available. It is possible to get a lot of valuable information on Internet about the type of company, its mission, the type of business, competence, etc. Check out the resume you sent for that position and keep in mind what you wrote, since this will possibly lay the foundation for several questions they will ask you. Find the company address in a map and estimate the way and the time it take up to arrive there.

Learn about the requests they are asking for the post and prepare your explanation about the reasons why you may accomplish the expectations needed for that position. Check out their job description for the post and if your experience and education suits them. If you do not have the specific experience they look for, prepare how to say you may accomplish that function, based on your best qualities (experience and education).

Have a list with at least two reference people they may contact by phone or e-mail ready. When you have no Canadian job record, it is most probable that they may try to verify your experience and performance.

During the interview they will tell you to ask any questions or expose any concerns you may have about the company or the position you want. Making a couple of good questions ready before hand will serve to show that you have searched and are very interested in the post and the company, which is quite positive in your aspirations.

The last stage of the preparation is to rehearse for the possible interviews, with a friend or some other person. In the preparation courses for job search advised in this book (see chapter 17) you will have the chance to practice interviews with people that will help you to improve your performance. Many of these courses include interviews that are video taped and then analysed for you to specifically see how you are doing it, your possible mistakes, and in which aspects you may improve.

Make sure you sleep well the night before the interview and to arrive fresh, clean and neat. Do not forget to take the map in order to arrive on time, one or two additional resumes, a list with your questions and your references.

**IMPORTANT**

- Check out the post description and analyse how your experience and education fit in.
- Be ready to answer the first five questions pointed in 16.6.4.
- Get ready to answer how and why you may be a good candidate for the position.
- Find out about the company, its products, finances, competitors, etc.
- Prepare your answers explaining how your experience, education and objectives may suit the company's needs.

16.6.2 DURING THE INTERVIEW

A good resume will be useful to make it to the interview hall, but the interview itself is what will allow you to achieve the job you are looking for. That is why it is highly recommended to practise and get ready for it.

An interview has normally four (4) stages: the introduction or presentation, the interview or the questions to the candidate, the questions by the candidate, and the closing, or end.

Remember that the first minutes of the interview are the most important ones, because of the impression you give. Your good introduction and manners of well educated person are very important, as much as your answers and experience. Show good taste, enthusiasm and friendship.

The introduction must be the opportunity to set the tone for your interview, so you must be professional when introducing yourself and shake hands firmly. It is the first chance of establishing trust between you and the interviewer.

Almost all interviews start with the same question: ‘Tell me about yourself’. And right away... ‘Why have you come to Canada?’ Although they may look simple, the answers you give to this couple of personal questions, will allow the interviewer to know who you are. He usually wants to know how you are and how you may fit in the position and the company.

When answering these basic questions, do not forget to emphasise these three aspects:

- First, what kind of job you would like to do or which type of job you are looking for.
- Second, your qualities (strong points) and achievements that may help you to succeed in the vacant position.
- And last, you should evidence interest and a desire to get the post. In order to be hired you must show real interest to obtain the position.

In other cases the interviewer will be interested in knowing your character and skills to solve problems or conflicts. The typical question in this case is: ‘Tell me about a situation in which you had to handle an unhappy client or a
conflictive worker’. To answer these questions, follow an advisable order: Give your answer an order, dividing your story into four parts:

- **Situation.** Describe how the situation you had to solve was, along with its most relevant and specific facts.
- **Solutions proposed (duties) to solve the situation.**
- **The actions undertaken**
- **The specific results achieved.**

Try to explain the situations as best as you can (without getting off subject) to keep the attention of the interviewer, but giving a short answer. Remember that you may possibly have to explain some typical vocabulary of your field or some technical terms to be understood.

For sure, another question will be about your studies and degrees. Try to explain, emphasising the duration and content of the programs. The degree by itself does not say much, when it is obtained in a different language and country. The explanation must aim at explaining the equivalent degree in the Canadian system.

The last part will be the opportunity for you to make questions. Avoid to start with 'What does this company do?'. You must show you are interested, you did some research, know their products and their quality, as well as some facts of the company.

In the last minutes of the interview try to sum up your skills and job skills, and how they will accomplish the requirements in the vacant position; and your great interest of being hired. If it is possible, you should make a date for your next contact, to know the employer’s decision.

**IMPORTANT**

- Always arrive 10 minutes before the set time.
- Avoid to say very little or too much in your answers
- Bring a written copy of your resume
- Assume a relaxed and calmed corporal position
- Ask for clarification in any question you do not clearly understand
- Ask at least two own questions and get to know how the following step in the selection process is
- Keep eye contact with your interviewer, along with a positive attitude and always answer with enthusiasm.
- Be positive every time you have to talk about past experiences
- Talk about your job skills and experience (hard skills) but also emphasise your personal qualities soft skills) such as responsibility, performance, maturity, stability, flexibility, enthusiasm

**16.6.3 AFTER THE INTERVIEW**

In Canada it is customary to send a letter to the interviewer the day after. Make sure you thank the time and the opportunity you had. It is also the occasion to tell some interesting facts you have learned about the company or the position during the conversation. This letter may also be useful to add some interesting facts you may have forgotten to say in the interview and may be relevant for the position. Seize the opportunity to conclude that you are convinced (if it is true) that your qualifications and experience will meet the expectations for the post.

**IMPORTANT**

- Take notes about the important things of the interview; ideas, good and bad points that you must improve for a new one
- Send a thanks letter or e-mail in the following days.
- Phone the company within the two following weeks to know the status of the selection process.
- Through the experience of several interviews, you will acquire self-confidence progressively both in what to say and in the language to use.
- Through the experience of several interviews, you will acquire self-confidence progressively both in what to say and in the language to use.

**16.6.4 THE 20 MOST FREQUENTLY QUESTIONS IN JOB INTERVIEWS**
There is a group of questions that, due to their nature and common sense, are very usual and became a standard for people who make interviews. Following, the most used ones in the selection process:

- Tell me about yourself
- Why did you come to Canada?
- Why did you choose this career?
- Tell me about your experience
- Do you have any work experience in this field?
- Tell me about a big work problem you have had in your last job and how did you solve it.
- How would you describe your ideal job?
- Do you have Canadian experience?
- What have been your best achievements in your career?
- Describe a job situation in which you were successful
- What goals do you have in your career?
- How do you plan to achieve these goals?
- What are your short-term goals?
- What accomplishments have given you the most satisfaction in your life?
- Would you rather work with information or with people?
- Do you handle conflict well?
- Tell me about some of your recent goals and what you did to achieve them.
- Have you ever had a conflict with your boss or supervisor? How did you solve it?
- Why should I hire you?
- How do you describe yourself?
- Do you handle pressure well?
- What do you see yourself doing five years from now? Ten?

16.6.5 YOUR QUESTIONS

It is important for you to have some prepared questions. In general, once your interview finished they will ask if you have any doubts and you must show your great interest asking properly one or two questions. These have to be focused and well prepared with anticipation. See the following examples

- Why this position is open?
- How often has it been filled in the past five years?
- What are some of the objectives you would like to see accomplished in this position?
- What are some of the more difficult problems one would have to handle in this position?
- How is one evaluated in this position?

IMPORTANT: Some questions may be important but others may not be appropriated for interviews.

16.7 THANK YOU LETTERS

In the job search protocol in Canada, it also usual to send a thank you letter to show your gratitude for being called for an interview.

This type of letters are quite simple and it is advised to send them right away after having the interview, or even after knowing that the company has chosen other candidate for the position and you are not the one.

The reason to write this letter and send it, in this last case, is to leave the doors open for a possible opportunity in the future.

16.7.1 THANK YOU LETTERS - For interview - SAMPLE
TO: EXTREME MOULDS Ltd.  
Attn. DONALD MICHELSON  
Markham, Ontario  

SUBJECT: Mould Designer  

Mr. Michelsons:  

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for interviewing me for the Mould Designer position on Friday, 2006-08-13. It was a pleasure meeting you and I enjoyed the tour in Extreme Moulds facilities.  

As we discussed, I have long experience in design of mould for automotive and plastic companies, using Cimatron-E software. In my previous job, I made more 80 different mould from de initial concept to the final parts in production. In addition, I am a mechanical inclined person and a good team player.  

I am very interested in the Extreme Moulds position as Mould Designer. I look forward to hearing from you soon. Again, thanks for your time.  

Sincerely,  
Sergio Martínez  

16.7.2 THANK YOU LETTERS - Not chosen for the position
SERGIO MARTÍNEZ  
250 Cassandra Blvd, Apt. 432, North York, ON M3A 1V1
Telephone (416) 222 3344    E. Mail: sergioma@hotmail.com

FAX:        905 677 7888
DATE:        28 January 2011
TO:          EXTREME MOULDS Ltd.
Attn.        DONALDS MICHELEN

Markham, Ontario

SUBJECT: Mould Designer

Mr. Michelsons:

Thanks again for taking time from your busy schedule to assess my qualifications and interview me. It was a pleasure meeting you and I enjoyed the tour on Extreme Moulds facilities.

Although the available Mould Designer position has been filled, I would appreciate your retaining my resume for a possible future assignment. As we discussed, I feel that my hands-on experience and educational background would enable me start work on your current projects immediately, using Cimatron-E software, without any further training. For this reason I feel that I could make an immediate contribution to Progressive Moulds Ltd.

I will call you in the future to see if there are any new positions available.

Sincerely,

Sergio Martínez
RECOMMENDACIÓN

Experience has showed that the best decision a professional or qualified technician can take to reach a good job and professional position is to start studying a specialization in his area, or technical training course in a Canadian college or university. The benefits of a training course or a specialization are several:

1. You will improve or perfect your English considerably.
2. You will obtain a Canadian degree or certificate that will be easily recognized in the working market and will give credibility to your education.
3. It will make your process of professional certification or occupation easier.
4. You will count on the back up of the university or college for working occupation, jobs, co-op, or internships.
5. You will considerably open your network.

STUDYING IN CANADA AND OBTAINING A DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE IS THE BEST WAY OF FINDING A PROFESSIONAL JOB.

PRÉVIOUS NEXT

DISCLAIMER

The information and recommendations of this must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depends only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.

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LOOKING FOR JOB - Tactics & Tips
Resources - Companies

When you are admitted as a Skilled Worker and entitled your Permanent Resident Visa, the Canadian government expects that you arrive, get a good job, and contribute your experience to the development of the country. However, achieving that goal is not so easy, at least in the beginning, especially when one doesn’t know the path to follow, and the correct course of actions to undertake. It is also difficult to find a good job if the newcomer doesn’t count on some timely advice, and proper suggestions to start his/her path in the correct direction.

This chapter was written to help you in your goal to find a job in Canada, and it is part of THE PLAN described in Chapter 8, which this book suggests to follow in the best way, to achieve your job, psychological, and financial stability in your new country. In this chapter I will describe the most common job search techniques, the recommended actions to undertake and a broad collection of recruitment companies, agencies and organizations you may find useful.

17.1 OVERALL CONSIDERATIONS

Finding a good job in Canada is the base of your and your family’s welfare state. Your lifestyle will depend, to a great extent, on the type of job you find and the salary earned. On the other hand, a good job according to your personal expectations, experience and education will be the key to your sense of achievement or frustration in your new life, both for you and for your family members.

Just finding "a job" isn't enough - what is important is to find and achieve A GOOD JOB. May you find a job with a decent salary, where you use your own knowledge and experience, where you can learn the Canadian way of working, where you can improve your command of the technical English in connection with your specialisation. In other words, a job allowing you for a good economical position and a sound professional development in Canada.

To achieve this goal we recommend you to study every point developed in this book in detail, especially the actions recommended in THE PLAN - Chapter 15. The most important part for you in your immigration project is to get ready, look for, and find A GOOD JOB, focusing all your effort on it, and undertake the recommended actions as best as possible.

Many people come to Canada trying to find a job. Most of them are immigrants from many different parts of the world with a good command of English and a broad job experience. Others were born in Canada, with a Canadian education and experience and no language constrains. The latter, moreover, count on the training
and the support of the government for them to enter again the job market.

Being a newcomer, it is just logical feeling as the last in the queue. The good piece of news is that you can also get trained and learn the necessary techniques in job search. The key for a newcomer is to get trained in these techniques and be competitive, not only in his /her profession or craft, but also in those techniques, including aspects such as resume and cover letter writing, interview practice, job search in the hidden market, etc.

17.2 JOB SEARCH TRAINING COURSES

IMPORTANT:

Taking one of these courses ALL VITAL in the PLAN to get a good job. After you finish them, you will be able to face your job search with more confidence and competence. You should do them as soon as you arrive in Canada, when you have the necessary time to learn. The recommended courses are for professionals and skilled workers, and they are the best way to learn the Canadian way of looking for a job, with the customised assistance of qualified staff. Moreover, they will be useful in the future as well, when you may need to look for a job again.

Those courses may take a day, several days or weeks or even months. They focus on educated and experienced newcomers or people who look for a job and are supported by the Federal or Provincial or by the Municipal Government in Toronto. They aim at training participants in suitable job search techniques.

The advantages of taking those courses are many, especially the following:

- They will help you determine what your transferable technical and job skills are, according to the Canadian job market.
- With the help of experts, you will find the bests way of writing your resume, scripts, cover letters, thanks letters, etc. According to the Canadian parameters.
- You will meet people from different cultures and countries in a similar situation to yours in connection with your expectations and hope. At the same time you will understand that the stage of looking for a job in Canada is just normal within the immigration process to this country and that it is very much the same for thousands of professionals and skilled workers who arrive in Canada every year to settle down.
- You will have the opportunity to get trained in facing INTERVIEWS with personnel who will advice you regarding vocabulary, body language, techniques, speech, possible questions according to your specialisation, etc. For you to be ready for a real interview and improve your possibilities to get the job.
- It’s the best opportunity to improve your listening, writing, and speaking skills in English. Moreover, you will have the opportunity to speak before an audience, among people who will support to one another.
- During those courses and some weeks after, you will have the opportunity to count with the permanent advice of people who know on the subject and you will also have free access to the use of a computer, INTERNET books, newspapers, telephone, etc, apart from receiving printed materials about that valuable course.
- You will be busy, which will prevent you from worrying too much for not having a job or an income, which you may have not experience since long ago. At the same time, the course will help you improve your command of English and increase your self-confidence.

Depending on the duration of every course, the student will learn and practice some interview techniques, which are in the end, the key to getting a job.

There are different courses, 1 day long, 3 days, 1 week, 2 weeks and even 2 months long.

The most advisable courses for newcomers (professionals and skilled workers) in Canada, are the ones longer than 3 weeks, in the following organisations:

- **SKILLS FOR CHANGE OF METRO TORONTO**
  791 St. Clair Avenue West
  Toronto, Ontario M6C 1B7
  Web site: www.skillsforchange.org
  Mentoring for Employment Program (International Trained Professional Newcomers)
  Telephone: 416.658.3101
  Fax: 416.658.6292
  E-mail: stc@skillsforchange.org
  Information Line 416.658.7090

- **COSTI**
  Toronto Central (Bathurst St-College St)
  Web site: www.costi.org
  Employment Programs for Newcomers and Internationally Trained Individuals
  Address: 100 Lippincott St, Toronto, ON, M5S 2P1
Office Phone: 416-922-6688  
E-mail: reception@costi.org

● NOW PROGRAM - (The Newcomer Opportunities for Work)  
Address: 777 Bloor Street West - Room 120 - Toronto Ontario, M6G 1L6  
Tel: (416) 393-0350  
E-mail: now@tdsb.on.ca

● ADULT LEARNING CENTRE  
Curso: JOB OPTIONS BASIC SKILLS (JOBS)  
(Job search assistance to job seekers with literacy and English difficulties)  
Address: 2944 Danforth Avenue - Room 32 - Toronto, Ontario  
Tel: (416) 686 - 8426  
E-mail: ptpjobs@interlog.com

IMPORTANT
It may be necessary to produce evidence of your level of English for some of these courses. It may be the TOEFL (minimum 173/300), or a Certificate from the Canadian Language Benchmark Assessment - CLBA with minimum marks of 6 in all categories, or having finished the LINC Program, or the Advanced Level, courses 7, 8, or 9 of ESL.

Other short courses in the city of Toronto are taught in the following locations:

● Welcome Centre - Immigrant Services  
- http://www.welcomecentre.ca/  
- 9100 Jane St - Building H - Vaughan, ON (Intersection Rutherford Rd - Julliard Dr)  
- info@welcomecentre.ca  
- View MapQuest Map

● KENNEDY EMPLOYMENT RESOURCE CENTRE  
Curso: JOB SHOP for FOREIGN TRAINED PROFESSIONALS  
(A one week intensive program on Canadian Employment Techniques - for Newcomers only)  
Web Site: www.tcet.com/ercs  
Address: 2425 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 300 - Scarborough - Ontario  
Tel: (416) 285-9180

● LAWRENCE SQUARE EMPLOYMENT RESOURCE CENTRE  
Address: 700 Lawrence Ave. West, Suite 435 (In Lawrence Square Shopping Centre)  
North York, Ontario

● SAINT CLAIR WEST EMPLOYMENT RESOURCE CENTRE  
Address: 1345 St. Clair Ave. W, 2nd floor  
Toronto, Ontario

● DUFFERIN MALL EMPLOYMENT RESOURCE CENTRE  
Address: 900 Dufferin Street, Suite 101, Toronto, Ontario  
Web Site: dufferin-erc.cnd.com

● CHESSWOOD EMPLOYMENT RESOURCE CENTRE  
Address: 3701 Chesswood Drive, Suite #100  
Tel 416 – 395 – 42 80  
North York, Ontario

Para obtener más información, consulte HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT CANADA y el TORONTO DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

17.3 JOB SEARCH METHODS IN CANADA

The methods used for job searches in Canada by newcomer professionals and skilled workers are:

● NEWSPAPER AND INTERNET ANNOUNCEMENTS  
● EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES  
● CONTACTACTING COMPANIES  
● THROUGH RELATIVES AND ACQUAINTANCES - NETWORKING

From the vacant jobs the may exist in a field, it is estimated that at least 75% are not announced in mass media such as newspapers, Internet, etc. In other words, when you look for a job in the newspapers, on Internet, or...
via employment agencies you may be covering just a 25% of the total amount of possible jobs available. Those types of jobs that are never advertised in mass media are known as the hidden job market.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHERE TO SEARCH</th>
<th>CHARACTERISTIC</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE (Of the total amount of Vacancies)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADVERTISING (Newspapers, Internet, etc)</td>
<td>PUBLIC (not hidden)</td>
<td>5% - 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES</td>
<td>HIDDEN, with help</td>
<td>10% - 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IN THE COMPANIES (Visiting, Phoning, Writing)</td>
<td>HIDDEN</td>
<td>5% - 15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NETWORKING (By the personal contact with friends, acquaintances, etc)</td>
<td>HIDDEN</td>
<td>60% - 90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17.3.1 SEARCH IN THE ADVERTISED JOB MARKET

This is the traditional search in newspapers, specialised web sites and employment/recruitment agencies. They are the most common ways of looking for a job among newcomers to Canada. You will find announcements asking for personnel at different levels and occupations.

The problem is that, as they are used for so many people, the possibilities are minimum, because of the great amount of responses an announcement may get. Even having a good résumé, meeting the requirements and with a well written COVER LETTER, the possibilities of being called to an interview are low, usually between 5% and 10%. In other words, in the best of cases you will have to send between 10 and 20 resumes to newspaper announcements or internet web sites to get at least one interview.

The other negative aspect is that just between a 5% and a 10% of the job market is announced by those means (newspapers, internet, etc.). Moreover, the best positions, whichever may be your idea of “best”, are not usually announced in newspapers or Internet.

The positive thing is that by means of Internet, you can look for a job and have many opportunities. For example, apart from looking for those positions in newspapers and job portals, you can easily reach a great amount of EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES and the MAIN COMPANIES web sites, where you can apply for the existing vacancies or send your résumé offering your job services.

**RECOMMENDATION**

By the correct use of Internet, you may have access to hundreds of company web sites in Canada, which may be in the need for employees in your field and specialisation. With them, you will increase considerably the probability of an interview and the possibility to get a job in your field.

The key is to search, look for a job in the greatest number possible of places. Also bare in mind the possibility to apply in companies in areas different from Toronto, in small cities in Ontario, where the job market may be less competitive and you have more possibilities. Ten cost of life, especially housing, is less costly far from the great Canadian cities.

17.3.2 SEARCH IN THE HIDDEN JOB MARKET

More 80% of all the job positions are met without announcements in mass media. Those are the ones fulfilled, and sometimes created for, candidates who employers know through the contact with the applicant, by recommendations by other employees, recruitment agencies, or somebody who is close to the employer and knows a possible good candidate.

To get a job in this hidden market, the candidate doesn't need to know the employer. It is just necessary to be recommended by somebody who knows the employer.
The net of all these people who may facilitate this goal is known as **NETWORKING**. In other words, it is all about having contacts who may be in contact with the employers’ contacts. **NETWORKING** is the key to a job in the Hidden Job Market, where most available jobs are.

**How to Reach the Hidden Job Market.** The main tested techniques by experience of many people are the following:

1. **NETWORKING**
2. **COLD CALLS**
3. **INTERNET**

The entrance to the Hidden Job Market may be via a phone call, an email, chatting with a neighbour, the encounter with a person of your same country in the bus, or the visit to an acquaintance. Your contacts and those you reach through their contacts may help you to know about the positions, projects or needs that will never be announced in newspapers or on the Internet.

**IMPORTANT**

Don’t undermine any possibility, you never know where the key information to get a job will come from. In life, you never know where the next surprise - good or bad - will come from.

**17.3.3 NETWORKING**

As explained above, **NETWORKING** is the net of people who know you and may be in contact with the contacts of your possible employers. **NETWORKING** is the key to find a job in the Hidden Job Market and it’s also the most effective way - and the less stressing - of getting a job.

As a newcomer, you will have to start your own **NETWORKING**. That is a disadvantage of those who start a new life in Canada. In a job search it is an advantage that the Canadian and the veteran immigrants already have, with their relatives, a local job experience and their Canadian education.

The lack of a **NETWORKING**, the lack of Canadian job experience and some communication problems are the **greatest initial disadvantages** that make it difficult to get a job in Canada for professionals and skilled workers.

**NETWORKING** is a powerful tool to build relationships in your profession. According to a report by the Wall Street Journal in 2004, the 94% of successful employees reported to have got their jobs thanks to **NETWORKING**.

A newcomer’s **NETWORKING** must be built daily, constantly. It is really important to meet a lot of people, especially among the ones speaking your own language and those related to your same job field. You must make it known to everyone that you’re looking for a job, and bout your experience, profession, and specifically what you are looking for. Give the most accurate information as possible, for your acquaintances to be aware of it and be able to give you suitable contacts.

As many of us have been newcomers and have went through the same initial stages on our arrival in Canada, it is just normal to find some help and valuable advise from other people. That is a solidarity ring where those who have received valuable assistance in the past will pass it on to you, and then you will eventually pass it on to the following newcomers. PEOPLE ARE HAPPY WHEN THEY CAN HELP OTHERS.

**HOW TO START YOUR NETWORKING**

- Make contact with and take part in organisations of your interest, such as church, sports, cultural academic, people from your country of origin, etc.
- Try to meet as much as people as possible. Be friendly, sincere and kind.
- Don’t miss the opportunity to meet new people and talk to them. For example your neighbours, in the shops.
the gym, doctor’s office, etc., and even with people you don’t know (shop attendants, in the bus, bureau, etc.) Sometimes, the important help or the key data for a job come from the person you expect less!!

● Enrol on English and training courses.

TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE YOUR NETWORKING

The techniques used to make people know who you are and that you have the possibility to be assisted are:

1. Personal Card:
2. Commercial Personal o Script

Personal Cards: You can do them on your computer and then print them on a suitable paper. Basically, they must contain abridged information on the position you want to achieve, your experience, the type of industry, academic level, and main skills, along with any other relevant information. See the following example of a personal card for somebody who is looking for a job:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SERGIO MARTÍNEZ</th>
<th>416-222-444</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:sergioma@hotmail.com">sergioma@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mechanical Designer

- Over 6 years experience as Mould Designer and plastic products for automotive and appliance companies.
- Strong mechanical engineering background with expertise in design and development of new products.
- Excellent knowledge of mechanical design using Autocad 2006, Mechanical Desktop and Solid Works.
- Technical expertise in solving production problems related to design engineering and machining process.

TEAM PLAYER ★ ADAPTABLE ★ RESOURCEFUL

NOTE: This card is just an example to be used as a reference. Don’t forget to write your own 3 or 4 personal abilities (soft skills). Make sure the card presentation is impeccable.

17.4 PERSONAL ADVERTISEMENT (YOUR 20-SECOND ADVERTISEMENT OR SCRIPT)

It’s a brief account of your education and experience (background) you should write it in order to offer your services to possible employers or to tell the people you know in your networking. It has two main aims. The first one is to raise interest in your abilities and experience, and secondly, it will help you show your communication skills in English.

This short summary should contain the main points you want to make. If your education is not to remarkable, focus on your experience. If you lack of experience, put the emphasis on your education and personal abilities. A PERSONAL ADVERTISEMENT or SCRIPT must contain the following information:

- A few starting words describing your job objective
- A brief description of:
  - Education (qualifications)
  - Experience (in the field)
  - Soft skills
  - Personal aims
- Any achievement remarkable in your experience.
- Mention of the field of your interest.

The following is an example of SCRIP:

It's a brief account of your education and experience (background) you should write it in order to offer your services to possible employers or to tell the people you know in your networking. It has two main aims. The first one is to raise interest in your abilities and experience, and secondly, it will help you show your communication skills in English.

This short summary should contain the main points you want to make. If your education is not to remarkable, focus on your experience. If you lack of experience, put the emphasis on your education and personal abilities. A PERSONAL ADVERTISEMENT or SCRIPT must contain the following information:

- A few starting words describing your job objective
- A brief description of:
  - Education (qualifications)
  - Experience (in the field)
  - Soft skills
  - Personal aims
- Any achievement remarkable in your experience.
- Mention of the field of your interest.

The following is an example of SCRIP:
COMERCIAL DE 20 SEGUNDOS O SCRIPT (ejemplo)

SERGIO MARTÍNEZ - Mechanical Designer

I have several year in design of product and mechanical design. I have worked in different industries as automotive parts, domestic appliances and metal machining products.

I have a bachellor degree as Mechanical Engineer. I am expert in detailing and mechanical design using Autocad, Mechanical desktop and Solid Works. I have worked with different interstational quality standards applied to products and materials as ASTM, UL, AISI, CSA and ISO 9000.

I my last job in Group SEB-Colombia, a global appliance company, I worked in design and development of new products, from the initial concept to the finished product, in close cooperation with another departments. I was responsible for the engineering CAD drawings, prototypes, material technical specifications, GD&T, dimensional accuracy, correct drafting procedures, bill of materials, cost of raw materials and implementation of appropriates manufacturing process. I worked in design and development of more 20 new small appliances as domestic irons, fans, blenders, food processor, washer machines and mixers.

I have proved capacity to convert ideas and concepts in exact engineering drawings, Using Autocad, Mechanical Desktop or Solid Works. I am a mechanical inclined person, with great capacity spatial to visualize forms and designs.

On the other hand I have long experience as Mould Designer for injection plastic parts, in automotive industries. I have excellent knowledge of programming, set up and running of CNC machines, I also have a very good knowledge and experience working with dies, tool and general machines shop equipment, lathes, milling machines, welders, surface grinders and EDM equipment.

I am fast learner, adaptable, team working, responsible, dedicated and resourceful person. My native language is Spanish.

I am interested currently in furthering my career in Canada as Mechanical Designer o Product Engineer in a company where I could use my education and experience.

Once you have set your script. Read it and practice it the necessary times until you know it by heart and are able to express it naturally. This way you will make the best impression, regarding your level of English.

Bare in mind that this script is the one you will have to repeat many times in your job interviews, and your basic tool to persuade the employer. Being employed or not may well depend on your good script writing and practice.

17.5 COLD CALLS

A very common technique, highly recommended to look for a job in the hidden job market in Canada is to analyse companies which, due to their characteristics, may employ workers like you. After that, you call the personnel department or talk to the manager of the area of your interest to offer your services and your résumé. If you know the name of somebody in the company or have any contact, although they may be non significant, you will have better opportunities.

Although, as an immigrant, I know how difficult it may be those phone calls, they are advisable for being highly effective. The technique to facilitate COLD CALLS is to prepare a SCRIPT with the information you want to say, practice it many times, and keep it handy when you call.

IMPORTANT

Through Internet or in specialised books (Sccot’s Directory and others) you may find public libraries or human resources centres. You will be able to find the company details, such as address, activities, amount of employees, etc. That is the basic information you will need to make the call and offer your services (cold calls).
**SAMPLE COMPANY COLD CALLING**

*(Cold Calling)*

"Hello, Mr. Rogers, my name is Sergio Martínez, I have 6 years of experience working as a mold designer in plastic industries. I am new in Canada, I’m looking for a job and I would like to meet with you to see the possibility of a job at CNC Industries."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IF YES</th>
<th>IF NO:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Set date and time, confirm address</td>
<td>&quot;I understand that you have no openings right now, but I would still like to come and discuss the possibility of future openings with you company.&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IF YES</th>
<th>IF NO:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Confirm name of the company and contact person.</td>
<td>&quot;I see, in that case may I drop my resume off at your office for future possibilities and possibly see you for a few minutes?&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IF YES</th>
<th>IF NO:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;I see, do you know of any other companies that might benefit from my experience and skills?&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IF YES</th>
<th>IF NO:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;One final thing, Mr. Rogers. May I call you back in two months’ time in case there have been any changes? Thank you.&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** This is just an example to illustrate the way you may prepare a call, and you should get ready according to your own case. In case you don't know the name of the person in charge of the area of your interest, call and say to his/her secretary the reason for your call and ask kindly the manager's name. Secretaries and attendants are in general terms willing to co-operate with this information.

To make more effective calls keep in mind these recommendations:

- **PREPARATION:** Practice the words you intend to say. The more self-assured you are, the more spontaneous you will be.

- **PRONUNCIATION:** Speak clearly and slowly, in a suitable tone. Think of the message you want to convey.

- **MAKE DOWN NOTES:** Making down every phone call will help your search and to make the résumé or cover letters. Write the names of Secretaries and other people, just in case you need to phone them again.

- **GET READY FOR EVERY CALL.** Make every call just when you are ready, mentally prepared and have paper, pencil, electronic translator and any other necessary element.

- **DEFINE YOUR BEST TRANSFERRABLE SKILLS INTO THE CANADIAN MARKET.**

- **TAKE THE NECESSARY TIME TO LOOK FOR A GOOD JOB.**

Finding a good job takes time. Even for those who were born and educated in Canada. There is an amount of assistant available to facilitate your job search, but there is no guarantee of where or when you will get it.
STUDY ALL THE TIME, AND IMPROVE YOUR COMMAND OF ENGLISH

MEET THE GREATEST AMOUNT OF PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE (NETWORK)

17.6 CLASSIFIEDS IN ONTARIO NEWSPAPERS

- Barrie Advance - Barrie, Ontario
- Barrie Examiner - Barrie, Ontario
- Belleville Intelligencer - Belleville, Ontario
- Bracebridge Examiner - Bracebridge, Ontario
- Brampton Guardian - Brampton, Ontario
- Brantford Expositor - Brantford, Ontario.
- Brockville Recorder - Brockville, Ontario.
- Chatham Daily News - Chatham, Ontario.
- Collingwood Enterprise-Bulletin - Collingwood, Ontario
- Cornwall Standard Freeholder - Cornwall, Ontario
- Durham Region - Oshawa, Pickering, Ajax, Ontario
- Fort Frances Times - Fort Frances, Ontario.
- Goderich Signal Star - Goderich, Ontario
- Guelph Mercury - Guelph, Ontario.
- Halton Region - Oakville, Flamborough, Milton, Burlington Ont.
- Hanover Post - Hanover, Ontario
- InsideToronto.com - Toronto, Ont.
- Kenora Daily Miner - Kenora, Ontario. Select 'Help Wanted' from the classified menu.
- Kingston Whig Standard - Kingston, Ontario
- Kitchener Waterloo Record - Kitchener, Ontario.
- Lindsay Daily Post - Lindsay, Ontario
- Mississauga.com - Mississauga, Ontario.
- MyKawartha.com
- Niagara Falls Review - Niagara Falls, Ontario.
- North Bay Nugget - North Bay, Ontario.
- Orillia Packet & Times - Orillia, Ontario.
- Ottawa Citizen - Ottawa, Ontario
- Ottawa Sun - Ottawa, Ontario.
- Owen Sound Sun Times - Owen Sound, Ontario.
- Peterborough Examiner - Peterborough, Ontario.
- Port Hope & Cobourg - Port Hope & Cobourg, Ontario
- Sarnia Observer - Sarnia, Ontario
- Simcoe County - Several communities including Barrie, Midland and Orillia, Ontario.
- St. Thomas Times Journal - St. Thomas, Ontario.
- Stratford Beacon Herald - Stratford, Ontario.
- Strathroy Age Dispatch - Strathroy, Ontario
- Sudbury Star - Sudbury, Ontario
- Temiskaming Speaker - Temiskaming, Ontario
- Tillsonburg News - Tillsonburg, Ontario
- Toronto Star - Toronto, Ontario
- Toronto Sun - Toronto, Ontario
- Trenton Trentonian - Trenton, Ontario
- Welland Tribune - Welland, Ontario.
- Windsor Star - Windsor, Ontario.
- Woodstock Sentinel Review - Woodstock, Ontario

17.7 60 IMPORTANT COMPANIES IN CANADA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biomedical Laboratories Inc.</td>
<td>Surrey, B.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janssen-Ortho Inc.</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Name</td>
<td>Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flight Centre Ltd.</td>
<td>Toronto/Vancouver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Jones Canada</td>
<td>Mississauga, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EllisDon Corp.</td>
<td>London, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crystal Decisions Inc.</td>
<td>Vancouver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rothmans Benson &amp; Hedges</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intuit Canada Ltd.</td>
<td>Edmonton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chubb Insurance of Canada</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercedes-Benz Canada Ltd.</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aventis Pharma Inc.</td>
<td>Laval, Que.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCL Construction Group Ltd.</td>
<td>Edmonton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golder Associates Ltd.</td>
<td>Burnaby, B.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise Rent-A-Car</td>
<td>St. Louis, Mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer Canada Pharmaceutical Group</td>
<td>Kirkland, Que.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta Hotels Limited</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JTI-Macdonald Corp.</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.C. Johnson &amp; Son Ltd.</td>
<td>Brantford, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Maritime Life Assurance Co.</td>
<td>Halifax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc.</td>
<td>Dorval, Que.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starwood Hotels &amp; Resorts Worldwide Inc.</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDS Sciex</td>
<td>Concord, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AstraZeneca Canada Inc.</td>
<td>Mississauga, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Express Canada Ltd.</td>
<td>Mississauga, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GlaxoSmithKline Inc.</td>
<td>Mississauga, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The CUMIS Group Ltd.</td>
<td>Burlington, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QLT Inc.</td>
<td>Vancouver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudson’s Bay Company</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ericsson Canada Inc.</td>
<td>Mount Royal, Que.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMS Health Canada</td>
<td>Pointe-Claire, Que.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACNeilsen Co. of Canada</td>
<td>Markham, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Tire Corp.</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McDonald’s Restaurants of Canada</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennett Jones LLP</td>
<td>Calgary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eli Lilly Canada Inc.</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company</td>
<td>Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shell Canada Ltd.</td>
<td>Calgary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nexen Inc.</td>
<td>Calgary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Aero Ltd.</td>
<td>Winnipeg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keg Restaurants Ltd.</td>
<td>Richmond, B.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unilever Canada</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dofasco Inc.</td>
<td>Hamilton, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dundee Realty Corp.</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemco Electrical Contractors</td>
<td>Edmonton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Arts (Canada) Inc.</td>
<td>Burnaby, B.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RBC Financial Group</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accenture Inc. Canada</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Envision Financial</td>
<td>Langley, B.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dun &amp; Bradstreet Canada</td>
<td>Mississauga, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maritz Canada</td>
<td>Mississauga, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xerox Canada Inc.</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT:**

The preparation PLAN to come to Canada should be followed both by you and by your spouse. Canada is a modern society where women are trained and are an important part of the development of the job forces of the country. It is almost sure, besides, that to achieve the necessary life standard it will be necessary to count on the job participation of the main applicant's wife, at least in a part time job. The times when women stayed at home in Canada are long ago gone. Nowadays they alternate their housework and little children care with other productive and self development activities. Even women coming from thousand-year-old traditional cultures like China, India, Iran, Africa and many Muslim countries have to make dramatic changes on their arrival in Canada, and adapt rapidly to the Canadian economy and culture to achieve their integration and improve their life standards.
17.8 RECRUITMENTS AND EMPLOYMENT COMPANIES

The following are the most important employment and recruitment companies in Ontario. Many of them have specialised areas in skilled workers job searches in specific fields, such as Engineering, Communications, Computing, etc. Other specialise in temporary jobs with many production companies.

- **DRAKE International (Recomendado)**
  Address: 2323 Bloor Street West, Suite 218
  Toronto M6S 4W1
  Ontario
  Canada
  Email: torontowest@na.drakeintl.com
  Phone: (416) 762 4414
  Fax: (416) 763 0823

- **Waterford Staffing**
  [www.waterfordstaffing.com](http://www.waterfordstaffing.com)
  Address: 1515 Britannia Rd. East
  Suite 236 - Mississauga, Ontario L4M 4K1
  Phone (905) 564-0558
  Resumes: resumes@waterfordstaffing.com

- **CADRE**
  10 Four Seasons Place, Suite 604
  Toronto, Ontario M9B 6H7
  Phone: (416) 849-4994
  Toll Free: 1-866-332-2373
  Fax: (416) 622-3731
  Toll Free: 1-866-402-7717
  Email: careers@cadrestaffing.net

- **PEOPLESOURCE STAFFING SOLUTIONS INC.**
  [http://www.peoplesource.ca/](http://www.peoplesource.ca/)
  Head Office:
  151 CITY CENTRE DRIVE
  SUITE 300
  MISSISSAUGA, ON
  L5B 1M7
  Telephone: (905) 277-4455
  Fax: (905) 277-5198
  Email: mississauga@peoplesource.ca

- **ATS Reliance Technical Group**
  200 Yorkland Blvd, Suite 600
  Toronto, Ontario M2J 5C1
  Telephone: 416-482-8002
  Fax: 416-482-1210
  E-mail: ats@atsrecruitment.com

- **IAN MARTIN CORPORATE HEAD OFFICE**
  465 Morden Road, 2nd Floor
• SPHERION - STAFFING SOLUTIONS

www.mspherion.ca

5450 Explorer Drive, Suite 102
MISSISSAUGA ON L4W 5N1
Tel: (905) 361-1550
Fax: (905) 212-7550
corporate@spherion.ca

North York
4950 Yonge Street, Suite 1010
NORTH YORK, ON M2N 6K1
Tel: (416) 250-1500
Fax: (416) 250-1760
northyorkresumes@spherion.ca

• Kelly Services, Ltd.
http://www.kellyservices.com/
1 University Avenue, Ste. 500
Toronto, ON M5J 2P1
Tel: 416 368 1058
Fax: 416 368 3987
Conf. Fax: 416 368 0871 (HR)

• Wellington Headquarters
Wellington Partners International Inc.
508 Riverbend Dr., Suite 302
Kitchener, Ontario N2K 3S2
Tel: (519) 744-2444
Toll Free: 1-800-283-4242
Fax: (519) 744-0913
E-mail: info@wellingtonpartners.com

• Design Group Staffing Inc.
Suite 101, 2010 Winston Park Drive
Oakville, ON L6H 5R7
Tel: (905) 829-4848
Fax: (905) 829-8888
E-mail: toronto@dg.ca

• Human Resource Group Inc.
Head Office:
(519) 888-0004
90 Frobisher Drive
Waterloo, Ontario, Canada
N2V 2A1
info@humanresourcegroupinc.com

• ROEVIN (Head Office)
Engineering - Recruitment
6860 Century Avenue #2002
Mississauga, Ontario
L5N 2W5
T: 905.826.4155
F: 905.826.5336
E: resumes@roevin.ca

• ARMOR - A Professional Employment Organization
69 Bramalea Road, Unit 7
Brampton, Ontario
L6T 2W9
Toll Free: (800) 426-0976
Tel: (905) 459-1617
Fax: (905) 459-0132
E-mail: bramalea@armorpersonnel.com
• AppleOne - Canada
Employment Services
Mississauga - Ontario
33 City Centre Drive, Suite 16

(905) 277-2770

• AMEC
Office   Brampton, ON (Monserco)
Address  Monserco Limited
         190 Wilkinson Road
         Unit 2
         Brampton, Ontario L6T 4W3
         Canada
Tel     +1.905.450.3507
Fax    +1.905.450.8523

• ADECCO INTERNATIONAL
1600 Steeles Ave. W., Unit 31
Vaughan, ON L4K 4M2
T: (905) 695-0202
F: (905) 695-0212
Toll Free: 1-866-695-0202

• BRAINHUNTER
Toronto - International Head Office
2 Sheppard Avenue East, Suite 700
Toronto, ON M2N 5Y7
Tel.: 416.225.9900
Fax: 416.225.9104
Toll Free: 1-877-432-7246

• Barrett Rose & Lee
Airway Centre
5915 Airport Road, Suite 610
Toronto, Ontario, L4V 1T1
TEL: (416) 363-9700
FAX: (905) 678-8899
TOLL FREE: 1-866-917-9700
Email: sbyrd@barrettrose.com

• BLUE SKY - Personnel Solutions
Toronto Office
4950 Yonge Street, Suite 506
Toronto, ON M2N 6K1
(416) 236-3303

• Brunel Canada
200 Ronson Drive Suite 200
Toronto, ON M9W 5Z9
Tel: (416) 244-2402
Fax: (416) 244-6883
E-Mail: toronto@brunelmultec.ca

• CARTEL Inc. - Staffing Consultants
One, First Canadian Place, Suite 2680,
100 King Street West,
Telephone: (416) 359-9000
Fax: (416) 359-9500
E-mail: info@cartelinc.com

• CNC GLOBAL
Toronto - Head Office
60 Bloor Street West, Suite 1400
Toronto, ON M4W 3B8
Tel: (416) 962-6262
Toll Free Tel: 1 800 540-3594
Fax: (416) 962-4489

• Collins Recruitment Group (CRG)
The Exchange Tower
130 King Street West
Suite 1800
• **Computer Horizons Canada**
  2700 Matheson Blvd East
  Suite 701, East Tower
  Mississauga, Ontario, Canada
  L4W 4V9
  Phone: (877) 474-5627
  Fax: (905) 602-7613
  Web: [www.computerhorizons.ca](http://www.computerhorizons.ca)

• **ECE Group**
  205 Lesmill Road
  Toronto, Ontario M3B 2V1
  Phone: (416) 449-1030
  Fax: (416) 449-2876
  Contact: Dave Kueneman

• **Cronos Consulting Group**
  4195 Dundas Street West
  Suite 230
  Toronto, ON M8X 1Y4
  Ph / 416 537-7244
  Fx / 416 537-7248
  E / [recruit@teamcronos.com](mailto:recruit@teamcronos.com)

• **David Aplin Recruiting**
  Suite 905, Cibinbank Place
  123 Front Street W.
  Toronto, ON CANADA
  M5J 2M2
  Tel: 416.367.9700
  Email: mmejsak@aplin.com

• **DEAN GROUP**
  20 Adelaide Street East, Suite 800
  Toronto, Ontario
  M5C 2T6
  Phone: (416) 368-6446
  Fax: (416) 368-6463
  Toll Free: (866) 725-8880
  E-mail: [manager@deangroup.ca](mailto:manager@deangroup.ca)

• **DESIGN GROUP – Staffing Inc**
  Suite 101, 2010 Winston Park Drive
  Oakville, ON L6H 5R7
  Tel: (905) 829-8888
  Fax: (905) 829-8888
  E-mail: [toronto@dg.ca](mailto:toronto@dg.ca)

• **EAGLE PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES**
  67 Yonge Street, Suite 200
  Toronto, Ontario M5E 1J8
  Tel: (416) 861-1492, Fax: (416) 861-8401,
  [EagleNESST@eagleonline.com](mailto:EagleNESST@eagleonline.com)

• **Grand River Personnel Limited**
  842 Victoria St. North, Unit 16
  Kitchener ON Canada - N2B 3C1
  Phone: (519) 576-0920 or 1-888-576-0920
  Fax: (519) 576-0099
  E-mail: [sales@grandriverpersonnel.ca](mailto:sales@grandriverpersonnel.ca)
  E-mail: [recruit@grandriverpersonnel.ca](mailto:recruit@grandriverpersonnel.ca)

• **Hays Specialist Recruitment Canada**
  5775 Yonge Street,Suite 1802
  North York, Ontario
  M2M 4J1
  Tel: (416) 223-HAYS (4297)
• **HEC GROUP**  
 69 John St. South, Siute 400  
Hamilton, Ontario  
Phone: 905-527-7761  
Fax: 905-727-9937  
e-mail: hec@hec-group.com

• **HR CONNECTIONS**  
1200 Eglinton Avenue E, Suite 808  
Toronto, Ontario, M3C 1H9  
Telephone 416.444.4060  
Fax: 416.285.8969  
e-mail: info@hrconnects.com

• **HUMAN RESOURCE GROUP INC**  
Tel: (519) 887-0004  
90 Froebisher Drive  
Waterloo, Ontario, Canada  
N2V 2A1  
e-mail: info@humanresourcegroupinc.com

• **Hunt Personnel / Temporarily Yours**  
Tel: (416) 860-0016  
Fax: (416) 860-0029  
Toronto Office  
toronto@hunt.ca

• **Keith Bagg Group**  
85 Richmond Street West  
Suite 700  
Toronto, ON M5H 2C9  
(416) 860-1800  
e-mail: info@bagg.com

• **Levert Personnel Resources Inc.**  
P.O. Box 2727, Station A  
1771 Old Falconbridge Rd  
Sudbury, Ontario P3A 5J2  
Phone: (705) 525-8367  
Toll Free: 1-800-461-5934  
Fax: (705) 525-2451  
Email: info@levert.ca

• **MANPOWER Services (Canada) Ltd.**  
4950 Yonge Street  
Suite 700  
Toronto, Ontario M2N 6K1  
Telephone: 416-225-4455

• **NATIONAL RESOURCE PARTNERS INC.**  
185 The West Mall, Suite 1005  
Etobicoke, Ontario, M9C 5L5  
PHONE: (416) 620-4545  
FAX: (416) 620-7091  
EMAIL: info@nrpsearch.com

• **NORAMTEC/GSA SEARCH CONSULTANTS**  
MECHANICAL DESIGN ASSOCIATES  
Montreal Office, 2055 Peel Suite #625  
Montreal, Quebec, H3A 1V4  
Phone: (514) 861-2341  
Fax: (514) 861-0307

• **NEXSTAF**  
116 Spadina Avenue Suite 300, Toronto  
TEL: (416) 203-1711  
info@nexstaf.com  
resumes@nexstaf.com

• **OEM Search International**
17.8 SOME TECHNOLOGICAL AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS IN CANADA

Advanced Card Technology Association of Canada (ACT)
An international association for the advancement of smart, optical, capacitative and card technologies.
Telephone: (905) 420 3520
Email: info@actcda.com

Association for Media and Technology in Education in Canada (AMTEC)
Canada's national association for educational media and technology professionals, providing national leadership through annual conferences, publications, workshops, media festivals, and awards.
Email: rmutton@ccs.carleton.ca

Association of Web Professionals
A not-for-profit association dedicated to enhancing the value and credibility of Web professionals through on-going development and communication of standards, a code of ethics and professional development.
Telephone: (905) 673 0003
Toll free telephone: 1 888 INFO-AWP (1 888 463-6297)
Email: ismith@a-w-p.org

CATA Alliance
A national technology trade association with a commitment to members' business growth.
Telephone: (613) 236-6550
Email: inquiry@cata.ca

Canadian Association of Internet Providers (CAIP)
Fostering the growth of a competitive Internet service industry in Canada through collective and cooperative action on issues of mutual interest.
Telephone: 613 232-CAIP (2247)
Canadian Council of Professional Engineers (CCPE)
The national organization of the provincial and territorial associations that govern the profession of engineering in Canada and license the nation's 152,000 professional engineers.
Telephone: (613) 232-2474
Email: info@ccpe.ca

Canadian Information Processing Society
Canada's association of Information Technology professionals.
Telephone: (905) 602-1370
or (toll free) 1-877-ASK-CIPS (275-2477)
E-mail: info@cips.ca

Canadian Interactive Digital Software Association
Providing a voice for the rapidly expanding Canadian interactive software industry, including major Canadian video game manufacturers, software developers, distributors and retailers.
Telephone: (416) 413-1218
Email: knightin@hillknowlton.ca

Canadian Telecommunications Consultants Association (CTCA)
Canada's only professional association of independent telecommunications consultants, ensuring competent, capable, knowledgeable, experienced and ethical telecommunications consulting.
Telephone: (416) 495-7761
Toll free telephone: 1 800 463-2569
Email: office@ctca.ca

Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association
Effecting government policy and public opinion on behalf of the wireless communications industry in Canada and fostering a positive economic environment for the wireless industry.
Telephone: (613) 233-4888 ext. 111
E-mail: pbarnes@cwta.ca

Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA)
Provides a unified voice in the areas of public policy, workforce development and electronic commerce standards for the computer hardware and software manufacturing, sales, training and service industries.
Telephone: (905) 947-4263 Ext. 2087
E-mail: rcohen@comptia.org

Electronic Frontier Canada (EFC)
Ensuring that the principles embodied in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms remain protected as new computing, communications, and information technologies are introduced into Canadian society.
Email: efc@efc.ca

Information Resource Management Association of Canada
A non-profit association of information management professionals, providing a forum for exchange of information and ideas involving all aspects of data administration and information resource management.
Telephone: (416) 289-7937
E-mail: kvetro@hotmail.com

Information Technology Association of Canada
The voice of Canada's Information Technology industry, representing more than 1,300 Canadian companies in the computing and telecom hardware, software, services and electronic content sectors.
Telephone: (905) 602-8345
E-mail: info@itac.ca

Interactive Multimedia Arts & Technologies Association (IMAT)
The voice of Canada's interactive New Media industry, fostering the growth of the industry through lobbying activities that actively represent and support producers and distributors of New Media.
Telephone: (416) 926-9301
E-mail: imat@imat.ca

The Software Human Resource Council (SHRC)
A non-profit council that provides labour market intelligence, life-long career development and quality education and training for Canadians active in software fields.
Email: info@shrc.ca

Wired Woman
Creates an open environment that encourages women to explore opportunities in technology and to build successful careers that will allow them to play a positive role in the growth and development of the information age. Telephone: (604) 605-8825

Calgary Council for Advanced Technology
Provides a forum to enhance technology awareness, business development and networking for Calgary's advanced technology community.
Telephone: (403) 282-4759
Email: Info@ccat.org

British Columbia Internet Association
A non-profit society representing the interests of the Internet industry in British Columbia.
Telephone: (604) 434-8254
Email: info@bcia.bc.ca
British Columbia Technology Industries Association
The province's largest technology industry association composed of a broad range of information technology companies and professionals.
Telephone: (604) 683-6159
Email: info@bctia.org

Independent Computer Consultants Association of British Columbia
Offers members a full range of programs and benefits to meet their business and professional development needs.
Telephone: (604) 734-2747
Email: icca@paralynx.com

New Media BC
Representing companies in Canada's "Digital Rim" who create, design, develop, and distribute new technology.
Telephone: (604) 739-9878
Email: info@newmediabc.com

Okanagan High Technology Council
A team of community leaders from business, government, education, and R&D institutions promoting the growth of the high technology industry in the "Silicon Vineyard" - BC's Okanagan Valley.
Email: info@silicon-vineyard.com

Communitech
A partnership of technology service companies, educational institutions, and all levels of government working together to bring real enterprise to Canada's Technology Triangle - Cambridge, Guelph, Kitchener, and Waterloo.
Telephone: (519) 888-9944
Email: info@communitech.org

ITAC Ontario
Developing the Ontario Information Technology industry to its potential via representation to the provincial government and the sponsoring of development programs for members.
Telephone: (905) 709-1602
Email: info@oacett.org

Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (OACETT)
A non-profit, self-governing, professional association promoting the interests of engineering and applied science technicians and technologists in industry, educational institutions, the public and government.
Telephone: (416) 621-9621
Email: info@oacett.org

SMART Toronto
Toronto's "technology Chamber of Commerce," promoting and developing the Greater Toronto Area as a centre for information industries.
Telephone: (416) 926-8926
Email: webmaster@sto.org

Toronto Internet Developers Association (TIDA)
An association dedicated to promoting the interests of professional Internet developers in Toronto.
Email: info@tida.com

Le Centre de promotion du logiciel québécois (CPLQ)
Le plus important regroupement de producteurs de logiciels au Canada. Les producteurs de logiciels québécois sont reconnus à l'échelle mondiale pour la qualité et la flexibilité de leurs solutions.
Téléphone: (514) 874-2667
Adresse électronique: info@cplq.org

**RECOMMENDATION**

Experience has shown that the best decision for a professional or skilled worker to get a good job and professional position is to start a specialisation in your area of interest or a technical training course in a university, college, or technical institution. The benefits are numerous:

1. You will improve your command of English to a great extent.
2. You will get a Canadian diploma or certificate, easily recognised in the job market and will add credibility to your education.
3. It will facilitate your process of professional or occupation certification.
4. You will count on the support of your University, College or Technical Institution for job searches and internships.
5. You will enhance your NETWORK to a great extent.

**STUDYING IN CANADA AND GETTING A DIPLOMA OR CERTIFICATE IS THE BEST WAY TO GET A PROFESSIONAL JOB.**
DISCLAIMER

The information and recommendations of this Guide must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depend on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.

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PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION & MAPS
IN TORONTO & ONTARIO

RECOMMENDATION: To start your normal life in any city in Canada, one of the first thing to do is to get familiar with maps of the province, city and the area where you live. Different maps can be purchased in gas stations (pump stations) and supermarkets (Walmart, Canadian Tire, Home Depot, etc).

Maps are indispensable to find addresses in this country. In Canadian cities, every street has a specific name, i.e. Yonge Street. Often there may be several streets with the same name (Yonge) but of a different denomination, such as Avenue, Crescent, Road, Boulevard, Circle, etc. Thus, Yonge Street (St) is a different place from Yonge Avenue (Av) or Yonge Road (Rd).

Once you are in your new home, you must get a map of the public transportation service in the city where you are living. They are free of charge and can be obtained in transportation stations.

All the main cities in Ontario have public transportation services by bus, streetcars or train. There are also some trains connecting cities, or different points within the same city.

18.1 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN TORONTO

In Toronto there is a modern and efficient service of subterranean train or SUBWAY, known as TTC (Toronto Transportation Commission) which covers efficiently most part of the city.

IMPORTANT:
You can consult a map of Toronto city by clicking on the following link
http://www.map.toronto.ca/imapit/iMapIt.jsp?app=TOMaps
18.1.1 THE TTC.

In Toronto City, the TTC (Toronto Transit Commission) is the only company encharged to offers public transportation services. The TTC has the following systems:

- Buses
- Streetcars (electric buses moving on rails)
- Subway (underground trains).

To use the public transportation service, you can pay cash for every ticket. In this case you should have the exact amount of money to pay, and deposit it in a transparent box before the driver if you get on the bus in a station, or before the attendant in the station, if you are to pay in a cash register machine, to enter the TTC in Toronto.

NOTE: You should have the exact amount to pay. Bus drivers will never give you change, or return your money, as they don't handle with money. Their job is driving the bus and checking that you deposit the corresponding money for the ticket.
If you need to take the bus, streetcar, or train more than once to go to a certain place, you don't need to pay every time. In this case you must get a small piece of paper called TRANSFER, which will indicate the following driver that you have already paid and you won't have to pay again. This transfer must be asked from the driver in the first bus or streetcar. In some stations you can find a transfer dispenser machines. Transfers are valid just for a limited time (30 or 60 minutes).

If you are to use the public transportation often, it would be a good idea to buy several tickets (pre-printed cardboard), tokens (special coins to register at the entrance) or daily / monthly passes. Passes are cards which allow the passenger to use the transportation system an unlimited number of times for some days or a whole month.

Tickets, tokens and monthly passes are purchased in any TTC station or in some specific shops.

To get information about the TTC use the following link:

http://www.toronto.ca/ttc/index.htm

NOTE: The most economical way of using the public transportation system often is purchasing a monthly pass (metro pass), which allows for using the service as many time as you need, for a fixed weekly or monthly price.

- Cost of Public Transportation in Toronto (TTC)

TTC Fares - PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COST in Toronto (TTC) (Effective January - 2010)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th></th>
<th>Students - Seniors</th>
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<th>Children (12 Years or under)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 trip</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 trip</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>1 trip</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 week</td>
<td>$28.00</td>
<td>10 Tokens/Tickets</td>
<td>$5.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>(multiple trips)</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>(Weekly Pass - Transferable)</td>
<td>$89.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 unlimited month (Metropass - Transferable - Monthly)</td>
<td>$111.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 Tokens/Tickets</td>
<td>$16.50</td>
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"© TTC (Toronto Transit Commission). All rights reserved."
The following chart shows the location and name of the TTC stations of subways in the city of Toronto.

The following chart shows the green and yellow lines of the subway in the downtown of Toronto. Bloor-Yonge is the principal and the largest station because of being the intersection of the two train lines and due to its location in the commercial center of the city.
In order to see the routes, maps and timetables of the transport service of the TTC (Toronto Transit Commission) in Toronto use the following link: http://www.toronto.ca/ttc/schedules/index.htm

Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) will operate eleven routes in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, with a total length of 305.8Km. They are generally located in the downtown near the waterfront of the lake of Toronto. Many of the steel rails of these routes have been there for more than 100 years. The street cars are moved with electricity and share the streets and traffic with normal vehicles.

18.1.3 HOW TO USE THE TTC IN TORONTO

The following example will illustrate how to use the TTC in Toronto:

- Suppose that you have to go from point A (Victoria Park/Finch) to point B (Exhibition Place). In order to arrive to this point B you will have to do the following:
NOTE: These information charts for the public can be found in each TTC stop. They are not maps and they are not drawn according to a scale.

A. Take a bus in Finch bus stop (routes #39A, B, C, D, E or F) with Victoria Park and it will take you to the subway station in Finch (yellow line, first station to the East). You should pay the right price and deposit $2.75 (2006-2007) in the case of the bus (drivers do not handle money). Buses only stop and pick up passengers in the indicated stops.

B. In Finch station walk from the buses parking (within the station) to the underground station to take the train towards the south. There get on the subway (yellow line) to Toronto downtown, where you will travel all over different stations up to Bathurst station.

C. Get off the train in Bathurst station and walk to the street cars parking within the station. Do not go out from the station to the street, if you do it, you will have to pay the entrance to the station again. In the parking take the street car #511 Exhibition - South, which will take you to Bathurst Street in the south direction.

D. In this way you will arrive to the indicated place: Exhibition Place

Note: In order to arrive earlier you can also get off in Yonge/Bloor station and take the subway to the west (green line) up to Bathurst station.

In order to see the traffic in real time in the main rails of Toronto, use the following link:

[www.citynews.ca/traffic.aspx](http://www.citynews.ca/traffic.aspx)
IMPORTANT

There is a great difference between the public transportation in Canada (sometimes just used by a small part of the population) and many countries, where it is used by most people. Study thoroughly the organisation of the local transportation system, schedule, itineraries, routes, etc. to learn to use it correctly and arrive in time when necessary. Check the itineraries you can take in your area, and make sure there will be available transportation at the time you need it. Buses, for example, which will take you to industrial areas where you will most probably have job interviews, may just work in the first hours in the morning and then a couple of hours in the afternoon. If you make an appointment for a job interview in a distant place at a different time and have no other means of transportation, it will very difficult for you to get to the place and then lose your job opportunity. Besides, check if you should pay any additional charges for the area you have to go to (which applies in Toronto if you go to the North of Steeles).

18.2 MUNICIPALITIES AROUND THE CITY OF TORONTO

The city of Toronto, is surrounded by the following regions: Halton and Peel to the west, York to the north and Durham to the east. All this area is known as the Greater Toronto area (GTA).
Use the following links to know and get information about transport, tourism, entertainments, events, etc. of every single region, city and town of this area.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Region of Halton</td>
<td>Region of Peel</td>
<td>Region of York</td>
<td>Region of Durham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Town of Halton Hills</td>
<td>Town of Caledon</td>
<td>City of Vaughan</td>
<td>Town of Ajax</td>
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<td>Town of Milton</td>
<td>City of Brampton</td>
<td>Town of Markham</td>
<td>Township of Brock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Town of Oakville</td>
<td>City of Mississauga</td>
<td>Town of Richmond Hill</td>
<td>Municipality of Clarington</td>
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<td>City of Burlington</td>
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<td>Township of King</td>
<td>City of Oshawa</td>
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<td>Town of Aurora</td>
<td>Township of Scugog</td>
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<td>Town of East Gwillimbury</td>
<td>Town of Whitby</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18.3 TRANSPORTATION IN MUNICIPALITIES AROUND TORONTO

18.3.1 GO TRANSIT

GO-Transit (The Government of Ontario) is the main company which offers the public service from and to Toronto nearest cities (100Km maximum from downtown). This company works with buses and trains to transport passengers.
The central station of GO Transit is Toronto Union Station located in the old center of Toronto. It is connected with the subway station of the TTC to make easier the transhipment of the users in both systems.

Union Station is situated in Front Street, between Bay and University (in front of the street of the Royal York Hotel). The station is next to the Toronto's subway line, and it is near the baseball stadium called Ski dome (Rogers Centre today), the CN Tower, the financial district and several hotels, shops and restaurants of Toronto downtown.

In the morning and in the afternoon (peak rush-hour periods) the trains leave from there to the nearest or next cities to Toronto. The 7 train lines of GO Transit and the main cities are the followings:

A. Lakeshore West (Hamilton, Burlington, Oakville, Mississauga)
B. Lakeshore East (Pickering, Ajax, Whitby, Oshawa)
C. Milton
D. Georgetown (Brampton, Bramalea)
E. Bradford, (Maple, Aurora, Newmarket, Bradford, Barrie)
F. Richmond Hill,
G. Stouffville

For more information about routes and the tickets cost of GO Transit, use the following phone numbers: 416-869-3200 in Toronto or 1-888-438-6646 (Toll-free call in Ontario).

For more information about timetables and routes use the following link: www.gotransit.com

GO Transit offers the service of transport by buses from Toronto Union Station (downtown Toronto) to the following cities:

- Hamilton and Guelph in the west
- Orangeville, Barrie, and Beaverton to the north
- Port Perry, Oshawa, and Newcastle in the east.
GO Transit has a bus service between Pearson International Airport and Yorkdale GO Bus Terminal (station) and York Mills subway (this station is shared with TTC) on east and with Brampton Bus Terminal on west.

More about GO Bus service to the airport and info for Toronto visitors

18.3.2 Mississauga Transit

Mississauga

This company offers the service of urban transport in the city of Mississauga and surroundings. It starts the service in the station of ISLINGTON (border between Toronto and Mississauga), where different routes can be used. You must pay when you get on the train in this station.

18.3.3 BRAMPTON Transit

Brampton

This company offers the service of transport in the city of Brampton and in the north of the Peel region (North-West of Toronto and North of Mississauga)
18.3.4 YORK Region (Markham, Tornhill, Richmond Hill, Vaughan City, Woodbridge) — York Region

18.3.5 DURHAM Region

This transport company (buses) offers the transport service in Pickering, Ajax, Whitby, Port Perry, Oshawa, and Newcastle in the east.
AIRPORT - Taxis and other ways of transport

Several shuttle services offer their service in the airports of Ontario, some of them offer door to door service.

**Airways Transit**, with service between the GTA and Southwestern Ontario;

**Classique Airline Service**, works with the GTA (Greater Toronto area)

**Coach Canadá**, offers the service between the GTA and Southwestern Ontario.

**Niagara Airbus**, offers the service between the GTA and Niagara.

**Pacific Western Airport Express**, offers the shuttle service from the airport to the Toronto downtown.

**Red Car Service**, offers the service to the Greater Toronto area.

**Ontario Coachway**, offers the service to the South Eastern Ontario.

Simcoe County Airport Service / [www.simcoecountyairportservice.ca](http://www.simcoecountyairportservice.ca), offers the door to door service for passengers between Simcoe County and Pearson International Airport (Toronto). It is a service scheduled every half an hour with previous bookings. It is an available private service. Bookings online. Tel 1-800-461-7529 (only in Canada).

GO Transit has a buses route between Pearson International Airport and Yorkdale GO Bus Terminal and York Mills subway in the east, and Brampton Bus Terminal to the west.

**Toronto Transit Commission** has also some buses routes between the PEARSON airport and passengers stations in Toronto. **Airport Express** offers a transport service between hotels in downtown Toronto and Pearson Airport

**RECOMMENDATION**: Given that the timetables of the services and routes vary from company to company, the best thing to do is to request the timetables and services before arriving to the airport.
Bikes In Transit

The TTC allows bikes on all of their vehicles (busses, streetcars and subways) between 9:30 am and 3:30 pm and between 6:30 pm and 6:30 am Mondays to Fridays and all days on weekends and holidays, provided that the system is not overcrowded. There are however prohibitions during some special events. Check the Toronto Transit Commission website for further information.

Mississauga Transit

You can board a Mississauga Transit bus with your bike at the drivers discretion. The decision of the driver shall be final in this regard. In general, this will only be permitted when it can be done safely. There must be enough space on the bus to accommodate yourself and your bike without compromising the safety of yourself or any other passengers.

Although bikes can be taken on any bus travelling any route, provided that safety is maintained, bikes can be best accommodated on "accessible" buses. Your bike will easily fit in the space reserved for wheelchairs. Of course, a user in a wheelchair or scooter has priority on this space. The routes that currently use accessible busses are: Routes 3 (Bloor), 4 (Applewood), 13 (Clarkson), 19 (Hurontario), 23 (Lakeshore), 28 (Confederation), 34 (Eglinton West) and 48 (Erin Mills Parkway). Check the Mississauga Transit website for further information.

GO Trains

Bikes can be taken on GO Trains that are scheduled to arrive or leave Union Station all day on weekends and holidays and between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. and after 6:30 p.m., Mondays to Fridays. Up to two bikes can be accommodated in the vestibules at either end of each car, except for the vestibules on the handicapped access car. Currently, only the Lakeshore GO Train line has service at the times that can accommodate bikes. Check the GoTransit website for further information.

18.4 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN ONTARIO

Most cities and towns in Ontario have a bus or train station. People working at the station can give you information about:

- where the bus or train goes
- what days and times it travels
- what it costs

If you need to take a flight between cities, ask a travel agent for information. You can find the names of travel agencies in the telephone book. Sometimes, taking a bus is the only way to travel to (and from) smaller towns and cities, other than driving. To find local information on bus lines and the nearest bus station, look in the Yellow Pages Directory under "Bus Lines." Greyhound is Canada's largest bus company.
Buses, trains and airlines link most cities in Ontario. A travel agent can provide free expert trip planning services on most forms of transportation. Some travel agencies, however, specialize in travel to specific areas of the world. To find a nearby travel agent, check the local Yellow Pages Directory under "Travel Agencies". To rent a car or truck, check the local Yellow Pages under "Automobile Renting".

In order to go from Toronto to other cities and to travel among different cities in Ontario, Canada and the USA, there are several private companies of public transport. The buses leaving and arriving to Toronto from cities in Ontario, Canada or USA use the Bus Terminal, located at 610 Bay St. For more information phone 416-393-7911 to know the tickets price and timetables of the service.

The followings are some of the most important buses public transport companies in Ontario and Canada:

18.4.1  **Greyhound**

Greyhound Canada is the biggest buses company in Ontario and one of the most important in Canada and the USA. Greyhound offers the buses service among the provinces in Canada with more than 1400 branches, and it also covers routes in the USA and Mexico. To know more information about prices and timetables, phone 1-800-353-3484 (free in Ontario) or 416-367-6747 in Toronto.

You can also use the [Greyhound](http://www.greyhound.com) service from Scarborough Town Centre Bus Terminal, Yorkdale GO Bus Terminal, Hamilton GO Centre, Oshawa Bus Terminal and Guelph Bus Terminal.

18.4.2  **Coach Canada (Trentway-Wagar)**

It covers routes among Ontario, Quebec and the USA. You can take it from Guelph Bus Terminal, Hamilton GO Centre, Burlington Bus Terminal, Scarborough Town Centre Bus Terminal and Whitby GO Station to the south of Ontario, Montreal, and Buffalo (USA). Phone: 416.961.9666. Toll-free: 1.800.461.7661

18.4.3  **Can-Ar Coach Service**

Bus service from Scarborough Town Centre Bus Terminal and Oshawa Bus Terminal to the region of Lindsay, Haliburton and Fenelon Falls. Phone: 416.393.7911

18.4.4  **Ontario Northland Bus Service**

Ontario Northland ([www.webusit.com](http://www.webusit.com), or [www.ontc.on.ca](http://www.ontc.on.ca)) has a bus service from Toronto to the cities of Central Ontario and Northern Ontario. It starts the service in Yorkdale GO Bus Terminal.

18.4.5  **Grey Line**

There are tourists trips to Niagara Falls, Toronto and Ottawa

18.4.6  **Sinton Transportation**

It offers transport services in Barrie and Simcoe County (northern Toronto). It is a service of vans transport, school buses, motor coaches, executive coaches and limousines. Phone. 705-721-4008, Web: [www.sinton.com](http://www.sinton.com)

18.5  **TRAIN TRANSPORT IN ONTARIO**

18.5.1  **VIA Rail**

VIA Rail is the biggest train company in Canada and communicates with Transit in the following stations: Aldershot.
VIA Rail works with trains all over Canada. For more information about the service in Ontario and Canada, visit the website [www.viarail.ca](http://www.viarail.ca).

**VIA Rail Canada** offers passengers service in the Greater Toronto area, Ottawa, Niagara Falls, Southwestern Ontario and Northern Ontario, with available express services among big communities in many routes. Toronto local calling area -416.366.8411. Long distance toll free - 1.888 VIA RAIL (842.7245) or 1.800.268.9503.

**18.5.2 AMTRAK**
Train service from [Toronto Union Station](http://www.unionstation.net) to the USA. Toll-free: 1.800.872.7245

**18.5.3 Ontario Northland Train Service**
[Ontario Northland Rail Services](http://www.ontariornorthland.com) provides four different routes to the north of Ontario with service from and to Toronto. Train service from [Union Station](http://www.unionstation.net) to the north of Ontario. Toll-free: 1.800.461.8558

**18.6.1 DOMESTIC AIRLINES**
The followings are five airlines which offer air transport service in Ontario:
- [Air Canada Jazz](http://www.aircanada.com), covers routes between Greater Toronto Area and Northern Ontario
- [Air Creebec](http://www.aircreebec.com), cover routes between Northern Ontario and Quebec
- [Bearskin Airlines](http://www.bearskinair.com), covers routes between Greater Toronto Area, Ottawa and Northern Ontario
- [Parry Sound Air Service](http://www.parrysoundair.com), offers service in Central Ontario from Parry Sound in Northern Ontario
- [Wasaya Airways](http://www.wasayaairways.com), offers service in Northern Ontario

**18.6.3 AIRPORTS IN ONTARIO**
The followings are the most important airports (international) in Ontario:

**18.7 FERRIES**
The following ferries lines work in Ontario:
- [Chi Cheemaun](http://www.chicheemaun.com), goes along the route between Tobermory and South Baymouth in Manitoulin Island;
- [Glenora](http://www.glenoraferries.com), connects Glenora and Adolphustown in Eastern Ontario
- [Pelee Island Ferry](http://www.peleeferry.com), goes along Leamington, Kingsville and Pelee Island in Southern Ontario
- [Toronto Islands](http://www.torontoislands.ca), leaves from downtown Toronto docks and offers service in Toronto Islands.
- [Wolfe Island](http://www.wolfislandferry.ca), connects Kingston and Wolfe Island in Eastern Ontario

**18.8 RENTING A CAR.**
Car Rental Services
Six car rental companies are located in Ontario, most with locations at major airports:
- [Avis](http://www.avis.com)
- [Budget](http://www.budget.com)
- [Discount](http://www.discount.com)
- [Dollar Rent a Car](http://www.dollar.com)
- [Hertz](http://www.hertz.com)
- [National](http://www.national.com)
18.9 TRAVEL INFORMATION CENTRES

Ontario is a large and diverse province. There are ways to travel within Ontario, depending on your budget, time and need.

The Ontario government operates Travel Information Centres that provide tourist information on the entire province.

Call or drop in for brochures, special-interest publications, maps and directions. Travel Information Centres are open daily. Call 1-800-ONTARIO (1-800-668-2746) for more information.

Click here for a list of Travel Information Centres across Ontario.

18.10 HOW TO FIND ADDRESSES AND MAKE MAPS OF ANY PLACE IN CANADA AND USA

Today there are some tools in Internet that allow you to find addresses and websites in Canada and USA. They also are useful to make maps of any place to plan routes between several places and have the specific indications, time, distance, the fastest or shortest road, etc. These extraordinary and new tools are very useful especially for new people in Canada and USA, who are not accustomed to the regions, roads or addresses.

The followings are the recommended websites by the author to find addresses and make maps in Canada.

18.10.1 USING www.google.com

- To get the map of a place (in Canada or USA).

1. Open the site www.google.com or www.google.ca
2. Click Maps
3. Write the address. In this example we will write the Bus Stop Station in Toronto, 610 Bay street (check that it is complete and well written).
4. Double click in Search the map.
5. Google will show you the map of the area and with an arrow it will point directly the corresponding address.

- You can get closer and also move the map in the direction needed.
- You can also “SEE” the site from the Google satellite clicking in “Satellite”
- You can get an image from the satellite with the names of the streets (see the following pictures) next to the place using the option “Hybrid”.
1. Open the site www.google.com or www.google.ca
2. Click Maps.
3. Click Get Directions
4. Write the initial address. Example: 230 Cassandra Boulevard North York.
5. Write the final address. Example: 610 Bay street Toronto, (verify that they are complete and
6. Double click in **Get Directions**.
7. Google will show you a map with the best route (the fastest) between the two places. With a green arrow it will show you initial address and with a red arrow the place with the address needed. It will also give you the directions needed to follow this route. Note that it will show you where you should change the direction or turn, and the name of each street or highway all along the way. Besides, the program calculates the distance between the two points and the approximate time the trip will last.

- You can get closer and also move the map in the direction needed.
- You can also “SEE” the site from the Google satellite clicking in **“Satellite”**
- You can get an image from the satellite with the names of the streets (see the following pictures) next to the place using the option “Hybrid”. In this example you will see an approach to the initial point 230 Cassandra Boulevard.
Satellite photo of a neighborhood in Toronto obtained with Google.com

Map of a neighborhood in Toronto obtained with Google.com

18.10.2 USING www.mapquest.com

- To obtain the map of a place (in Canada or USA).

1. Open the site www.mapquest.com
2. Click Maps
3. Write the address needed. In this example we will write 230 Cassandra Boulevard North
York (verify that is complete and well written)
5. mapquest.com will show you the map of the area and with a star it will point you the address exactly.

- You can get closer and also move the map in the direction needed.

Map of the route between the two places and directions to drive (in Canada or USA).

1. Open the site www.mapquest.com
2. Click Directions
3. Write the initial address. Example: 230 Cassandra Boulevard, North York, ON
4. Write the final address. Example: 150 Dundas Street West, Mississauga, ON
5. Double click in Directions.
6. mapquest.com will give you a sequence of the directions needed to follow this route as fast as possible or using the shortest distance (you say what you want). Note that it will tell you where you should change the address or turn and the name of each street or highway all along the
way. Besides, the program calculates the distance between the two points and the approximate time the trip will last.

- You can get closer and also move the map in the direction needed.
- For new drivers each direction can be seen in the map.
IMPORTANT

Many modern car models in Canada have satellite devices of navigation (GPS) allowing the driver to see the position of the car in a real map, on the screen.

Some models of these satellite devices can be bought in general stores and they can be adapted and used in any vehicle. The approximate cost is between $100-$400

Other modern systems of positioning for vehicles like ON Star (by GM) are always satellite connected to a central station where always receive, monitor and diagnostic the information of the car. These stations apart from knowing the exact position of the car, they can remotely control some functions of the users like the safety locks of the doors, levels of gasoline, oil, etc. They are especially useful in case of an accident, because the system will report to the central station, where the controllers will inform the corresponding help organization, traffic, etc.
IMPORTANT:
You can see the official maps of the city of Toronto using the following link:
http://www.map.toronto.ca/imapit/iMapIt.jsp?app=TOMaps
The information and recommendations of this Guide must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depends only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.
DRIVING A CAR IN ONTARIO

The Driver's License is a very important identification document in Canada and which is most commonly used to prove your identity (ID). You have to update any change in the information, for example if you change your address. It is highly recommendable to obtain these documents, even if you are not thinking of buying a car or to drive one in short time.

The driver's license issued at the country of origin is valid to drive in Canada for the first 60 days counted from the day of arrival. After that period you need the local license (Ontario Driver License).

Basic criteria to drive in Canada is safety for everybody. In order to achieve it, driver must learn and practice different defensive driving techniques, which let him anticipate what is happening in his surroundings and ahead on the road and react on time, in accordance with each situation. To certify this knowledge, you must approve some exams in order to be authorized to drive a car on Canadian roads.

19.1 DRIVERS LICENSE

According to the Ministry of Transportation, having a driving license in Canada is a privilege that allows the licensee to drive a vehicle in any part of the country. You must carry your license to drive daily. The driver's license in Ontario is a plastic card with the following information:

- Identification and category unique number.
- Your photo
- Your complete name
- Your address
- Your gender and date of birth
- High in cm.
- Your signature
- Code of the class of vehicle you can drive and under what conditions (if you need glasses to drive)
- Magnetic band with your personal information.
19.2 LICENSES CATEGORIES

There are three categories of driver’s licenses to drive a car or family vehicle in Canada:

- **Class G-1** which is obtained by approving an exam of basic knowledge on regulations and transit signals.
- **Class G-2** which is obtained approving a basic driving exam on the road (road test).
- **Class G or Full License**, which is obtained approving a complete driving exam in road and highway.

19.3 LICENSE CLASS G1

19.3.1 DESCRIPTION

It is the first level of license which is obtained approving the following tests:

1. Exam about the knowledge of the driving regulations and transit signals used in Canada.
2. Approve vision exam.

The exam on the knowledge of the regulation and transit signals has around 60 to 80 multiple choice questions and it is done in a PC. This a relative easy exam for a person who has experience driving a car and has read about the regulations and transit signals in Ontario. You must answer correctly around 80 % of the questions to obtain the Drivers License G-1.

In the vision exam, which is taken in a machine in front of the Bureau Office, you may use the glasses your normally use in order to have complete vision. In that case, a note in your license shall indicate that you have to use it.

**IMPORTANT**

You must prepare and study for this exam (driving test –G1) before coming to Canada. You can read the official book on transit regulations and signals (Driver’s Handbook) in the following link:

http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/dandv/driver/handbook/

In that website you may study and prepare on-line and you may also know and practice the test that you will have to take on regulations, symbols and interpretation of the rules and transit signals.

To see the knowledge test and practice the questions, use the following link:

http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/dandv/driver/handbook/section1l.htm

If you approve the knowledge and vision exams, you will be taken a photo, and you will receive an acknowledgement that you have acquired Driving License G-1. The document shall arrive at your address around two weeks later.

19.3.2 RESTRICTIONS FOR DRIVERS WITH LICENSE G-1

- Maintain "0" level of alcohol in blood while driving.
- Can drive only with another person with license G (full license), with at least 4 years of driving experience and with less than 0.05 % of alcohol in blood, just in case he has to drive in case of emergency.
- The driver as be alone in the car with the person with license G in the front seat of the vehicle.
- The number of passengers shall be limited to the number of safety seat belts.
- He could not drive in highways, “400 series” highways or expressways as Queen Elizabeth Way, Don Valley Parkway, Gardiner Expressway, E.C. Row Expressway and Conestoga Parkway.
- He cannot drive between midnight and 5:00 a.m.

**NOTE:** If you are with an Ontario certified instructor, you may drive in any road, including highways.

19.3.3 COST:

$ 125 - G1 License - (March 2011)

The cost includes knowledge test in a computer, road test, and 5 years license.
19.3.4 REQUIRED DOCUMENTS TO APPLY FOR LICENSE G-1

To apply for the first time for the license in Ontario or Canada, you must prove your legal name, date of birth (day, month, and year) and your signature. You must present some of the following documents:

- Passport (Canadian or from your country)
- Permanent Resident Card or Confirmation of Permanent Residence.
- Immigration Temporary Document (Employment Authorization (IMM 1442), Refugee Status Claim (IMM 1434), Temporary Resident's Permit (IMM1442) or another)

If the temporary document does not indicate legal name, birth date or signature, another document may be necessary. You must also have an address to receive the document by mail.

**IMPORTANT**

When you apply in Canada for the Drive's License for the first time, as immigrant, you will be asked "how long is your experience driving".

It is utterly important to answer that question with the larger possible quantity of years, since that driving experience shall be registered in your history and may be important at the moment of buying insurance for your car. Car insurance is expensive in Ontario for immigrants (it is obligatory to drive in Canada). If you have a large driving experience there shall be more possibilities of finding a better price for the initial costs of the insurance in Canadian insurance companies, which will save you lots of money through the years.

With this purpose, it is advisable to bring any document which may support your driving experience, as certificates (translated into English) issued by insurance company or transit department in your country of origin.

19.3.5 WHERE TO TAKE THE EXAM AND APPLY FOR LICENSE G-1

There are several locations of the Ministry of Transportation where you can take the knowledge and vision tests and obtain your license G-1. The following is the Ministry of Transportation office in Toronto, where you can take the test in several languages:

**Queen's Park (Toronto) Driver and Vehicle License Issuing Office**
(MacDonald Block, Room M1-21 900, Bay Street/77 Wellesley Street West)

To see more places in Ontario to take the exam and apply for the driver's license consult the following address:

**DRIVE TEST-Driver Examination Centres**

**NOTE:** Not all the offices offer to take the exam in languages different to English. If you want to do it in your own language, you have to take it only in Queen's Park (Toronto) or in the following locations within the Metropolitan Area of Toronto:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Toronto Metro East</th>
<th>Telephone (905) 793-4340</th>
<th>59 First Gulf Blvd, Unit #9, Brampton, ON L6W 4P9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon-Sat 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Map</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Telephone (416) 757-2589</th>
<th>Victoria Terrace Plaza, 1448 Lawrence Ave E., Unit 15, North York, ON M4A 2V6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon-Sat 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Map</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You will also find the test in English or other language in the following Ontario Cities:

- Belleville
- Windsor
- Brantford
- Chatham
- Espanola
- Guelph
- Kenora
- London
- St. Catherins

Other subjects related to vehicles and drivers licenses may be consulted at the Ministry or Transportation. You may also visit some of the following offices in Ontario:
19.3.6 NOTES

According with the Ministry, the new drivers of passengers vehicles with G-1 must wait a year to apply for the road test and obtain license G-2. This time may be shortening to 8 months if you take and approve a driving course approved by the Ministry of Transportation.

Use the following link to look for a school to take the driving course approved in Ontario:
Ministry-Approved Beginner Driver Education Courses

NOTE: When you have license G-1, you must take the road test for license G-2 before due date. If your license G-1 expires before having the G-2, you must take the knowledge exam again to obtain G-1.

RECOMMENDATION

To succeed in approving the SOLE chance that you will be given by the Ministry of Transportation, the recommended action is to hire some driving lessons with an Ontario certified instructor, with experience in this type of tests. Experience has shown that with at least 4 or 6 hours of driving practice with a good driving instructor, you will have high chances of approving the road test and obtain the license class G. If you achieve it, would be your first great success in Canada.

NOTE: If you want to contact a driving instructor in Ontario who will prepare you for driving in highways for this test, CONTACT US by e-mail and we will recommend you one with experience in this test. This instructor may guide and prepare you at the site where your test shall be taken, may rent to you the car you have been using in the practices, and drive you to the place of the exam.

19.4 LICENSE CLASS G-2

19.4.1 OBTENTION AND RESTRICTIONS

G-2 License is obtained approving a G-1 driving exam (road test) with this license and as you already have driving experience, you will be granted some privileges like driving without company in any road of Canada, including the high speed highways. Nevertheless, you will have the following restrictions:

● Maintain "0" level of alcohol in blood while driving.
● The number of passengers shall be limited to the number of safety seat belts.
IMPORTANT

In Canada, ONLY when you approve driving road test G-1 and obtain license G-2 or G, you will be able to drive alone in your car. In other words, if you are thinking of buying and driving your own car, before you must:

* Approve the road exam offered by the Ministry of Transportation and obtain in the first place the license class G, or in case of lose it.
* Approve the knowledge test to obtain G-1 and then take and approve the road test to obtain license G-2

In this last case, you would have to wait several months for an exams date; time varies according to the delay in the Ministry and Drive Test departments.

19.4.2 COST:

Cost of the exam is $ 40 (Jul-2010)

19.4.3 ROAD TEST G-1

In the driving exam to obtain license G-2 you will be evaluated for your capacity of applying driving rules in the road, and the way in which you apply safety rules while driving. In this first exam a Driver examiner shall ask you to follow basic driving proceedings. Take into account the following basic recommendations for this exam:

* Maintain yourself constantly looking around and alert to see and prevent other persons and cars actions.
* Look at your mirrors constantly (each 5 seconds average) and always turn you head over your shoulders to control blind points before changing lane or turn at a corner (right and left turns) Blind points are those behind you and at both sides that you can not see directly or through the mirrors while you are driving.
* Be conscious that you have to share the road with other drivers and persons. Each one has different needs, for example, buses need to stop and take the lane constantly. Big trucks need to draw big curves to turn on the corners and also need much distance to stop. Cyclists need longer distances, especially in narrow roads.
* The driving test is taken based in the Ontario Transit Rules, and you can prepare yourself studying the Driver’s Handbook (www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/dandv/handbook) or you can also be helped by a Canadian certified instructor's

19.4.4 GUIDE FOR THE ROAD TEST

As a general guide for the reader so he may previously know the exam type to obtain driver license G-2, most important points of the test are: It is recommendable to practice carefully each aspect and remember the advices, in order to approve the test.

* **Turns and Intersections:** Practice the lights of direction, getting near (look in all directions and stop if required) and the action of turning (distance, road lines, speed). Remember that in the corners, traffic and walkers move in different directions. Know the different types of intersections and the meaning of transit signs and signals.

* **Right of way** Practice the right of way rules in intersections and when changing lanes. Stop when it is required (walking cross, when there is a stop signal or in an intersection) and Go when you must go (for example: when you have green light, if you stop, you would stop the traffic, or in the intersections with yellow light).

* **Lane Changes** Practice the correct signals with directional lights, look the mirrors, turn your head over your shoulders to see blind points and choose the right speed to change lanes, maintain the correct speed according to the lane. It is important to car and moto drivers to know and avoid blind points for other vehicle.

* **U Turn and three point turns.** Know when a U turn is appropriate or it is necessary to make a three point turn (turn - reverse - turn) Practice these proceedings, paying constant attention to other vehicles, cyclists and persons.

* **Spacing and speed control.** You must always drive at the speed indicated for each lane. Practice driving at the speed indicated and maintain a safety space with the vehicle in front (at least 3 seconds).

* **Parking and backing up.** Practice parking in a marked parking space, in a street, and between two vehicles (parallel parking). Practice backing up proceedings turning in both directions. Be careful with the space you leave when you park your car. Observe carefully around you, for the sake of other cars and persons.
One way streets
Practice controlled braking before braking, look the mirror to be sure that there is no car near behind you. In a curve, brake to decrease speed before the curve, not in the curve itself, brake carefully and taking enough distance from other cars and persons. In a stop, distance between you and the car in front of you must be between 2 and 4 meters. For larger vehicles, the distance has to be longer. You must take care of being within the other driver’s mirror range.

Overtaking and passing. Verify that there are no vehicles in the contrary lane, when it is safe, accelerate and pass, living enough distance between the cars before returning to your lane.

19.4.5 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TEST

• Go to the test area and see how other people take the exam. If the area is familiar to you and you know how the exam shall be, you will be less anxious the day of the test, and that shall increase your possibilities of success. Observe the proceedings done by the persons taking the exam from the very beginning.

• If it possible, prepare for the road exam practicing with an instructor or a friend living in the area where you will be taking the exam. Thus, you may know in advance signal types, speed limits, lights, obstacles etc. Lot of people practice this way, especially on the week end prior to the exam.

• Arrive early the day of the test. If it is possible, go around the area before de test.

• If the weather conditions are bad for rain or snow, ask the test to be delayed for other day with normal weather conditions.

• Maintain constant attention on the mirrors and in all directions Exaggerate your precautions is better than fail in the exam.

OUR EXPERIENCE

I will tell you my first bad experience in taking the road test to obtain G-2. After hiring and paying several hours during several days of driving practice in Toronto with an “instructor” from Ecuador (whose name I don’t even want to remember), I hire his car to take the test. The day of the test, everything looked normal; I was waiting with optimism to approve my test. When the time came, the examiner gave me the instructions and I started the test going back from the parking lot and taking the road to go out to the normal transit. When I needed to make the first stop, I released the brake to step on the accelerator again (¿?), then the brake bumps and sounded bad. The examiner (an Afro-American woman) felt the bump and said to me “Why do you slam? I have been only a few months in Canada, and without knowing what was happening, I got very nervous, and I didn’t know how to explain that I didn’t know what was happening. Test continued and sound too. To maintain the speed constant within the speed limit in each road it is necessary to accelerate-brake-accelerate, I couldn't stop making such a noise.

Finally, she REJECTED me, for “persistent slam” arguing that I couldn't control brake and accelerator of the car. Disappointed by my failure, I told the “instructor” and he only replied to me that is “was normal” to fail the test the first time, that I needed more practice. He told me to ask for another test date and to pay more instruction hours to him. That day I didn't realized what had happened. After several days, I realized that the car in which I made the practices was not the same as the car given to me the day of the test. Driving Academies cars are “adapted” with other brake at the right, where the instructor usually goes. So they can stop the car if they see any danger or action not well done by the driver who is learning. What I deducted was that the extra brake was not well installed by the mechanic friend of the instructor, and so the brake made a strong noise each time the brake was released. (That noise can only be made by the brake of a car modified by driving schools). They use that car to make naive clients fail the test so they have to hire more practice hours and pay again the rental of a car to take a new exam.

For the following practice hours, I made clear to the “instructor” that I would only hire his services if we used for the practices the car I used before (which did not have that defect) and only if I could use the same car the day of my test. I felt in that tramp and I have to expend around $350 more and wait 4 months to take the test again.
RECOMMENDATION

When you are going to take the road exam G-2, ask your friends or relatives to recommend you an honest and qualified instructor. Besides, be sure that the car that you will hire for the practices are free of defects and that it will be the same that shall rent to you the day of the exam.

19.5 LICENSE CLASS G

With a license class G, you may drive any car, van or small truck, or a combination of vehicles or trailers below 11,000 kgs and to tow cars or trailers below 4,600 kgs.

This license is obtained approving an evaluation of your driving capacities in advanced driving situations. Basically, the test is the same road test, including access, use and exit of high speed highways.

19.6 HOW TO APPLY FOR THE G-2 AND G EXAMS

When you feel sure that you can drive with enough confidence to take the road tests for G-1 and/or G licenses, you may apply yourself to take those exams (appointment with Drive Test). You can do it by phone (interactive) or by internet:

Interactive Road Test Booking Service: 1-888-570-6110 or 416-325-8580


The basic requirement is to have your valid G1 or G2 license number at your hand.

19.7 REQUIREMENTS TO TAKE ROAD TEST

* You must bring your car for the road test. Usually, cars used are rented to an instructor or driving school. You can also bring the car of a friend with license.

* Car must be in good electrical and mechanic conditions.

* Present the drivers license you have. If you are a driver with G-1, you must be accompanied by an instructor or driver with license G and a minimum of 4 years experience.

* You must be early for the test, and make the payment in due time. If you are late for the test, you will lose the money and your exam shall be cancelled.

* Only the driver and the examiner are allowed in the car during the exam. Other persons or pets are not allowed.

The examiner may cancel the exam or deny taking it if:

* Car is not in good conditions or the license is expired.

* Driver has been taking alcohol or has signs of drugs.

* If you commit a severe traffic offense or show very poor driving abilities or put in danger your security, your examiners or other people in the road.

The examiner shall explain to you the test and you have simply to follow his instructions. If you have any question, you have to make it before the test.
When the exam is over (generally between 15 and 25 minutes) the examiner shall give you a complete report of your driving abilities and defects and shall explain to you your mistakes. If you fail, you will have to practice more or take lessons and you may apply again for a test appointment with a minimum of 10 days between tests.

**IMPORTANT**

As in other important situations, you must be mentally prepared for failure. It is rather usual that immigrants fail driving test the first times. The stress and anxiety together with the difficulties to understand a different language lead us to make many mistakes in these tests. The average times that Ontario drivers needed to take test in order to approve it, between 2002 - 2004, was around 2.5 times. For that reason, it is important to study and practice the best that you can.

**DISCLAIMER**

The information and recommendations of this Guide must be taken **ONLY as a reference**. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depends only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.

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In Canada it is necessary to have a reliable and safe car, and probably you will think to have your own in the near future. Nevertheless, there are different important technical and economical aspects which you should know to make a good choice for your first car in Ontario.

### 20.1 INTRODUCTION

The main objective of this chapter is to give you information related to the technical aspects and costs of the cars in Canada. According to my experience and academic studies as Mechanical Engineer, I have included some technical and economic analysis that may help you in your safety and economy. No doubt that some factors are new for you, as the tires for extreme seasons of hot and snow, winter driving, transit rules and precautions, etc.

If you take the necessary time, you may learn to distinguish between different offers and market possibilities and you will finally find the most suitable for your needs.

Nevertheless, as immigrant in Ontario you must have in mind the costs associated to drive your own car. In the case of newcomers in Canada, the most important monthly cost of the car is insurance price, which you must have to drive it. Insurance costs may be even higher than the monthly payment of a new car.

### 20.2 FACTORS TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE CAR

#### 20.2.1 NEW OR USED

There is a huge offer in Canada of new and used cars. When you buy a new car you also pay the right of first user and its fresh aroma. It depends of how much money you want to invest in your first car.

A new car looses its price very quickly in North America. In fact, once it is out of the store, the car will cost $1000 or $2000 less. By the end of the third year, its commercial value shall be between 60 and 70 % of what you paid, and it will gradually loose value at a rate of 10 / 15% per year. See the following example prepared to visualize the typical normal depreciation of a car of $16.000 (new car value) in Canada:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEARS</th>
<th>KILOMETERS (Around)</th>
<th>COMMERCIAL VALUE (Around)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>13,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>10,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>9,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>125,000</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#</td>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Kilometers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>6,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>175,000</td>
<td>5,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>4,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>225,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** This is a table calculated only to have a vision of the typical depreciation of a car in Canada. The cost and kilometers are taken from the average used by car dealers. But it has to be taken into account that when you sell your car to a dealer, he will pay you $1000+ less of the average value, and then he will try to send it at $1000+ above average value.

**NEW CAR** If you are thinking of buying a new car you have to take into account the following factors:

- Your investment shall be more secure, but you will also have to pay higher insurance costs.
- To buy a new car it doesn't mean that you will not have any problem. Sometimes, car manufacturers announce design problems, which are solved by them within the warranty.
- Warranty of new cars are different depending on the manufacturer, usually between 4 and 5 years or 50,000 to 90,000 km.
- When you buy a new car you can choose the one that fits better according to you families needs and your technical expectations.

**USED CAR** If you are thinking of buying a used car you have to take into account the following factors:

- You will pay less for your car, but you will have to invest some money to solve normal problems of the used cars.
- Try to get the advice of a friend expert in vehicles.
- In Canada is very important to take a look in detail to the car before buying it, especially below the car. The most common problem is the high corrosion of the metal bodywork and chassis, caused by the salt used during the winter to dissolve the snow in the roads.

To buy a used car always implies a greater risk. You will have no guarantee that the car had no accidents, that the kilometers are true and that the owner have done to the car the due maintenance. Especially in automatic cars, there is no practical way of knowing the wear of internal pieces in the transmission or the problems in the engine which cannot be detected when you drive the car.

**IMPORTANT:**

As newcomer in Canada, it is predictable that you will find some difficulties in getting a loan to buy a new car. That is because you don't have a credit history. On the other side, probably you will find dealers of used cars that will help you in getting credit, to sell you a car. Be careful, because in that situation you may end buying a low quality car at a high price, just because they granted credit (usually at a very high interest rate).

**20.2.2 SAFETY**

Some cars are safer than others in case of a crash. Some people in North America feel safer driving bigger cars, like vans or USV (Utility Sport Vehicles). Nevertheless, there is no perfectly safe car, especially in the super speed highways of Canada and USA.
Some cars offer especial characteristics and devices to help avoid accidents. To compare the results of safety tests in different cars, you can consult the following websites:

- **NHTSA** - National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, website with information related to safety in cars, crash tests, statistics and related technical information.
- **SaferCar.gov** - Crash Tests made to some models by NHTSA.
- **IIHS** - Website of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety where you can compare the results of the frontal and lateral crashes. You can also find in this site figures and statistics of damages, collisions, stolen cars and accident victims by car commercial brand.

### 20.2.3 RELIABILITY

Some brands and models are more reliable than others, like the Japanese and German cars. Not all the cars are equally reliable. Some models are well known for their frequent problems.

If you are going to buy a used car, probably it will not have the manufacturer's warranty, in that case, is better to buy a reliable model with good reputation. Nevertheless, it is very important to take into account that the performance and duration of a used car depend especially of the periodic maintenance and the correct driving.

To read about models and manufacturer's reliability, see the following websites:

- MSN Cars - Follow the line "Used cars" at the left of the navigation bar.
- **J.D. Power and Associates** - Excellent website where you could find valuable information on models, prices, efficiency, prices etc.

### 20.2.4 FUEL CONSUMPTION

Prices of fuel in North America have been constantly increasing since 2005. You must know that there are free prices for gasoline in Canada, each station puts and changes prices at their will.

You will save much money if you chose an efficient and economic car. For example, remember that engine economy depends on the cylinders. A car with regular cylinders may represent saving of around $1200 to $1600 a year.

In order to achieve the most efficient gasoline consumption, cars recommended must have cylinders from 1.4 to 1.8 liters (1400 to 1800 cm3). Besides, less fuel consumption results in less pollution in the environment...

In Ontario or Quebec there are no mountains or highways with long hills to climb, as in Central and South America, so it is not necessary to have very powerful cars to climb that kind of surfaces.

To compare the economy in gasoline with different cars, search for information in the following sites:

- **FuelEconomy** - North American website with important information on consumptions and models.
- **The Auto$mart Program** - Form the Canadian Environmental Ministry, with valuable information regarding buying and driving a car in Canada.

### 20.2.5 BRAND AND MODEL

The most common question of someone who needs to buy a car is .. Which is the most recommendable brand for the topography, roads and weather of Canada? I personally believe that there is no brand or model perfect for each user. The best car is the one that better fits in your budget and which does not represent extra expenditures. At least in theory, more money invested in a recent model, less possibilities of failures in the car.

Honda, Toyota and Nissan different models have a very good perception among drivers in Canada, based in reliability, gas economy, quality and maintenance costs. Among the models, the most important are: Toyota Corolla, Honda Civic, Honda Accord, Nissan Altima, Toyota Camry, Honda Odyssey, Honda CRV, Nissan Pathfinder and Toyota 4Runner.

In MSN Cars you will find an excellent help to know and compare technical characteristics, gas consumption and price of the different cars.

### 20.2.6 MANUAL OR AUTOMÁTIC TRANSMISIÓN

- **Standard Transmission (Manual)**
These cars are cheaper, use less gasoline and they are a little bit more powerful than the same model in the automatic version. Besides, standard transmission is more reliable and long-lasting than the automatic one. Nevertheless, driving a car with standard transmission is more difficult, especially for beginners, although with the practice it can be achieved.

- **Automatic Cars**

In Canada near 80% of the cars have automatic transmission. The main reason is that there are easier to drive, especially in cities with congested traffic.

On the other side, automatic transmission is a mechanism very susceptible of wear and tear. To repair these transmissions is very expensive. As far as gasoline economy, these cars consume up to 30% more gasoline that the same model with standard transmission.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Your wife shall need to drive a car in Canada (85% of adult women have driver license) to go shopping; pick up the children, work, etc. If she does not know and needs to learn, it is recommendable to do it in a car with automatic transmission. This is a very important aspect and should be taken into account by the time of taking a decision about the car.

### 20.2.7 GASOLINE OR DIESEL

Cars with diesel engines consume almost half of the fuel of the same car with gasoline engine. In Canada, main model of diesel cars are Volkswagen Golf, Jetta and Passat.

On the other hand, diesel cars are much noisy and the odor of the gases stronger that those of the gasoline engines. Also the maintenance cost of the diesel cars is higher, since they require synthetic oils.

### 20.2.8 FOUR / SIX CYLINDERS

In general, cars with four cylinders use less gasoline. Besides, when they have four valves per cylinder, as in Japanese cars, they are more efficient.

The 6 or 8 cylinders are more powerful, compared with only 4 cylinders, and they consume more gasoline.

### 20.2.9 ¿ABS SYSTEM IS IT NECESSARY?

Brake system ABS is a device designed to help maintain control and direction during a violent brake in a slippery condition. The ABS system works in the four wheels of the car, it works as follows: When you brake the car in a slippery road, the system allows turning the wheels several times during the brake, at short intervals. So the car shall not slip without control on the floor. As the tires shall run in intervals, you will have the control on the wheel and the car shall not change direction. The final result is that the car stops with control and in a shorter space.

In many parts of Canada, including Ontario, winter and snow season may last more than 5 months, during that time roads and highways are slippery due to the snow and frozen rain. The ABS braking system, also known as "anti-block brake system" is very useful in these conditions, especially when the driver has no much experience in this kind of weather circumstances.

### 20.3 CAR INSURANCE COST
The insurance cost for newcomers or without driving experience in North America or Canada is very high. This is, perhaps, the first unpleasant factor that you will find in your new country. A new driver in Ontario who has approved the tests to obtain license G-1 and then the road test to obtain G-2, shall be in a position to buy his new car with the respective insurance. In this case, the insurance cost of your first car may be between $350 and $450, depending on the car, brand, model and the place where he lives. The insurance cost also varies from one insurance company to another.

Insurance price also varies according to the brand, year, driver's experience, place where he lives and works, car's number of doors, size of the engine and other factors.

Follow the link Online Auto insurance quotes.

NOTE: Car insurance costs in Quebec are very much lower than in Ontario. (Between 50 and 70% lower)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

You must first ask for an insurance quotation before buying a car. In order to close the deal and register the car, you must have liability insurance. Newcomers frequently pay an advance to secure a car that they like very much, without having an idea of the insurance cost, when they know the minimum cost that they will have to pay ($350 to $450 monthly in Ontario) they see that they cannot support the car without a good job, so they don't close the deal and they lose the money they advanced. Remember that you will have to have a G-2 license to buy a car, take the insurance and drive it alone.

NOTE: Car insurance costs in Quebec are very much lower than in Ontario. (Between 50 and 70% lower)

### 20.4 POINTS TO TAKE CARE WHEN YOU BUY A CAR

With common sense and making some careful observations to specific points of the car you want to buy, you will probably find the car you need.
- Always inspect the car at daylight.
- Verify the excessive wear in the car interior, brake and accelerator. New pedals may indicate that have been too used, exterior painted may indicate that the car has suffered accidents.
- If you drive it, try all the transmission points, to evaluate aligning, direction, brake and eventual noises, especially in the tires axes.
- Verify that the car is not leaking oil below the engine or transmission. Look carefully below the car, and if it is possible, leave a paper there for a while.
- Look carefully for oxidation traces. The salt used during winter to dissolve ice, many cars have strong signs of oxidation.
- Pay especial attention if there is much smoke in the smoking pipe. If the smoke is blue, the engine will soon need an expensive repair.
- If the direction goes to one side while you are driving, it will soon need alignment.
- Verify kilometer meter, a car runs an average of 20,000 to 25,000 km per year.
- If you smell smoke or burn oil odor inside the car DO NOT BUY this car. (See AUTHOR'S RECOMMENDATION at the end of this chapter). After driving several minutes, look for any strange smell or burn oil odor, with doors and windows closed. Then with the fan in different positions.

Before closing the deal, ask a mechanic to revise the car.

Once you close the deal, you will have 6 days to register yourself as the new owner at the Ministry of Transport or Drive and Vehicle License Issuing Office, where you have to bring the UVIP (Used Vehicle Information Package). Buyer must pay taxes calculated over the price and pay for the identification of the vehicle. You must present the Certificate of Drive Clean Program and the Liability Insurance Certificate.

**CAR PLATES:** The identification for the vehicle (car plate) is issued to the owner (not to the car) and he may use it in the future in other cars. When a car is sold to other owner, the identification shall change according to the new owner. In Canada you have the possibility of PERSONALIZED your identification, to ask it with a special word, special combination of letters or numbers, with a maximum of 8 characters. Example: “MYCAR”, “CANADA42”, “15151515”, etc... When this car is sold, you can maintain your identification and you can use it again in your new car.
RECOMMENDATIONS

Don't buy cars from USA which may come from flow zones. These cars are offered at low prices, but they might be under flows and electric and electronic components may fail.

In Ontario and other regions of Canada, even though winter is cold, summer is very hot, with weeks in June, July and August with temperatures over 30 °C and thermal sensation near 40° C due to high humidity. If you can afford it, search a car with air conditioning and verify it works. This recommendation is very important, especially if you have kids.

20.5 COST OF NEW CARS IN ONTARIO (2010)

You will find some indicative values of several new models, very popular in Canada.

A. Vehicles awarded for FUEL EFFICIENCY in Canada - 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>BRAND - MODEL</th>
<th>Engine (Lt)</th>
<th>Gear</th>
<th>Consumption (lt) in 100 km (city)</th>
<th>Consumption (lt) in 100 km (highway)</th>
<th>COMMERCIAL VALUE OF THE CAR (Aprox) CD$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>HONDA Insight</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>5. speed manual</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>26.100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>VOLKSWAGEN New Battle</td>
<td>1.900 Diesel</td>
<td>5 speed manual</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>26.130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>TOYOTA Yaris</td>
<td>1.500</td>
<td>5 speed manual</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>13.600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>HONDA Civic Hybrid</td>
<td>1.300</td>
<td>Automatic</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>25.800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>TOYOTA Prius</td>
<td>1.500</td>
<td>Automatic</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>25.800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>HYUNDAI Sonata</td>
<td>2.400</td>
<td>5 speed manual</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>21.900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>VOLKSWAGEN Jetta Wagon</td>
<td>1.900 Diesel</td>
<td>5 speed manual</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>27.780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>PONTIAC Vibe Wagon</td>
<td>1.800</td>
<td>5 speed manual</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>19.900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>TOYOTA Matrix Wagon</td>
<td>1.800</td>
<td>5 speed manual</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>17.200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>FORD Escape Hybrid</td>
<td>2.300</td>
<td>Automatic</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>33.600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>HONDA Odyssey</td>
<td>3.500</td>
<td>5 speed manual</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>36.400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Other Family Vehicles popular in Canada - 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>BRAND - MODEL</th>
<th>Engine (Lt)</th>
<th>Gear</th>
<th>Consumption (lt) in 100 km (city)</th>
<th>Consumption (lt) in 100 km (highway)</th>
<th>COMMERCIAL VALUE OF THE CAR (Aprox) CD$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>SUZUKI Swift</td>
<td>1.600</td>
<td>Automatic 5 speed manual</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>13.800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>FORD Focus</td>
<td>2.000</td>
<td>Automatic 5 speed manual</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>16.800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3 CHEVROLET Cobalt 2.200  Automatic 5 speed manual 9.5 9.4 6.7 6.1  14.800
4 CHRYSLER PT Cruiser 2.400  Automatic 5 speed manual 11.0 9.8 8.1 7.5  22.000
5 HONDA Civic 1.800  Automatic 5 speed manual 8.2 7.8 5.7 5.7  18.000
6 HYUNDAI Accent 1.600  Automatic 5 speed manual 8.3 7.4 6.2 5.9  14.000
7 NISSAN Sentra 1.800  Automatic 5 speed manual 8.4 8.4 6.3 6.1  16.800
8 PONTIAC Wave 1.600  Automatic 5 speed manual 9.7 9.1 6.3 6.2  13.200
9 TOYOTA Corolla 1.800  Automatic 5 speed manual 7.8 7.1 5.6 5.3  16.800
10 MAZDA 3 CX 2.000  Automatic 5 Speed Manual 9.1 8.4 6.4 6.1  16.500

These values are approximate and may vary. Some extra costs may be added, like certificates, insurance etc.

20.6 ANNUAL TOTAL COST OF HAVING A CAR IN ONTARIO
(APPROXIMATE - Based on statistics expenditures)

You will find an estimate of how much you will have to expend per year in a new or recent model car in Ontario, as follows: The calculation was made just as a reference, and with cars with different number of cylinders, several of them are the most gasoline efficient in Canada. For this calculation I have taken into account the following considerations:

- Depreciation cost: 12 % of the new car value.
- Annual insurance cost is an approximate value of the cost that will pay a driver with license and with little or no experience at all in Canada or North America. Value is only as reference and it is the average which is actually being pay by persons in similar conditions.
- Average gasoline cost in Ontario is 1 l$t=0.98 (July-2010)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>BRAND AND MODEL</th>
<th>Annual Depreciation (12% initial cost)</th>
<th>Insurance Cost Per Year (Around)</th>
<th>Annual Cost Of Gasoline in 12,500 km (city)</th>
<th>Annual Cost Of Gasoline in 12,500 km (highway)</th>
<th>Total Annual Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>TOYOTA Yaris 1.5 litres</td>
<td>1632</td>
<td>3670</td>
<td>845</td>
<td>563</td>
<td>$ 6710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>SUZUKI -Swift 1.6 litres</td>
<td>1656</td>
<td>3780</td>
<td>1114</td>
<td>759</td>
<td>$ 7309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>TOYOTA Corolla 1.8 litres</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>3780</td>
<td>869</td>
<td>649</td>
<td>$ 7314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>F O R D - Focus 2.0 litres</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>3840</td>
<td>1102</td>
<td>784</td>
<td>$ 7742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>CHEVROLET Cobalt (2Doors) 2.2 litres</td>
<td>1776</td>
<td>4482</td>
<td>1151</td>
<td>747</td>
<td>$ 8156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>CHRYSLER - PT Cruiser 2.4 lts.</td>
<td>2640</td>
<td>3720</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>918</td>
<td>$ 8479</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note: This table is only to give the reader a real idea of the costs and no responsibility is assumed for the figures or values detailed. These costs are very near the real costs. To the above annual cost related to the car, you must add other expenses like the sticker, parking, windshields liquid, wash, oil, filters, brakes, tire wear, and other eventual unpredicted costs.

20.7 BUYING USED CARS IN ONTARIO

To know the prices of used cars of different dealers in Ontario, consult following websites: www.canadiandriver.com. Excellent website where you will find prices of new and used cars, technical analysis of used cars, etc.

www.canadianredbook.com

These values are approximate and may vary. Some extra costs may be added, like certificates, insurance etc.

20.8 HOW TO REDUCE COSTS IN YOUR TRANSPORT

● Use Public Service whenever it is possible. You will save fuel, and you will avoid pollution.

● Car Manual To obtain efficiency, change the speeds quickly, and drive always at the highest possible speed (4 or 5) Even at 60 km/h it is possible to drive at the highest gear speed. You will spend much less gasoline.

● In your trunk, Do not load unnecessary things, like salt, sand or water bags.

● In the Highway Close carefully the windows to have a better aerodynamic impact and save fuel. Avoid loading the roof of the car, it affects air resistance.

● Air Conditioning Minimize the air conditioning use in summer, to save fuel. In the cities, open the windows.

● Plan your trips Always consult a map when you are going to places new for you. Plan your trip looking for the quicker ways first and then the shorter. Shorter ways not always are the quickest. Have maps of your area in you car.

● Time Plan your trip with enough time and hear the radio to be informed about the status of the roads, to avoid congested ones.

● Acceleration, Avoid constant and intense acceleration and brake. That was the most expensive way of driving a car, since the fuel consumption and wear of the car are increased. The efficient option is to accelerate smoothly and maintain a stable speed.

● Buying Gasoline: By observation and experience, I came to know that many Gas Stations in Ontario have lower costs at night, after 7.00 pm. You may save up to 10 % buying at night. Avoid buying in the morning, especially on Mondays, when it is more expensive.

● High Speed When you are driving in a highway with a maximum speed of 100 km/h take into account the following: If you increase from 100 km/h to 120 km/h, you will increase consumption in 20 %. If you reduce from 100 km/h to 90 km/h you will save 10 % in fuel expense (even it will take longer to arrive at your destiny).

● Tire pressure During winter, it is better to have the pressure of the tires below normal (20 to 25 psi), for safety reasons and brake easily. But with temperatures over 0, you have to increase the pressure of the tires to normal values (30-35 psi) with efficiency purposes, which will save 10 % in fuel consumption. Verify periodically the pressure of the tires.

● DON'T DO "IDLING"
20.9 DRIVING IN THE CANADIAN WINTER

The following are some basic recommendations to be taken into account when you drive a car in the Canadian winter.

- **Winter Tires** This type of tires have a special grooves and drawing that offers more grip to the floor and the rubber is softer at low temperature (-0 to -30°C) than the rubber of normal tires. These two factors improve braking conditions in a car on surfaces covered with snow or ice, and thus, your personal safety is also improved.

  RECOMMENDATION:

  Use appropriate "winter tires", especially if you live in an area where the roads are covered with snow in winter. Even thought many Canadian drivers use "all-season" tires, for new drivers it is safer to use winter tires with rather low pressure (20 to 25 psi) to increase adherence to the surface. Normal or "all-season" tires do not offer the same adherence at low temperatures below 0°C that winter tires.

  Once the winter is over, change winter tires for normal tires, (keep them in sealed bags, in a fresh and dark place) to avoid wear with heat in spring and summer.

- **Windshield Liquid** Always maintain the deposit full. Never use tap water because it will freeze and will obstruct the conducts. In winter always carry a gallon with extra liquid. The use of this liquid is vital when you are driving and starts snowing, especially in highways, since this is the only way of cleaning the windshield and see the highway.

  WITHOUT THIS LIQUID, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO DRIVE WHEN IT IS SNOWING

- **Snow and Car’s weight** Snow at the roof and other parts of the car shall increase the weight of the car and the resistance to the air (aerodynamics) these factors shall increase normal gasoline consumption. Thus, it is recommended for economy and safety reasons, to always clean the snow from the car before driving.

- **Fuel Consumption** In the cold winter, fuel consumption of the car is higher than in the summer, especially during the first minutes, when the engine needs normal temperature to function. Thus, it is recommendable to program your route and avoid using the car for short stretches.

- **Heating of the Car**. With modern controls and fuel-injected engines, there is no need of heating up cars for long periods, even during winter. Contrary to the popular belief, a car needs only 30 seconds to heat the engine up and be ready to run. The better way of heating a car is by driving it in a highway, because not only the engine needs to be warmed up, but also the tires and transmission. Although it is advisable to take a highway as soon as possible, it is better if the car runs 4 or 5 km before entering into a highway.

- **DISTANCE**. In winter, which is more important in highways is users safety. When it is snowing, speed is decreased and separation between vehicles has to be longer, in order to let drivers to safely brake and stop.

  IMPORTANT

  To put the engine on, and let it warm without moving the car (idling) is PROHIBITED (NOT ALLOWED) in some parts of Canada, since fuel is burnt and air is polluted with no reason at all. If you are found "warming the car" or parked with engine turn on you will be fined for idling. As a general rule, if you have to stop for more than 10 seconds, turn off the engine (except in traffic).
20.10 CAR MAINTAINANCE

Daily, weekly, monthly and by kilometer maintenance of each car varies according to design, brand and model of the car. If you buy a new car, ask for the User's Manual of the car.

If you buy a used car with no manual, you can buy one at especial stores, like for example, **Canadian Tire**, which you may find all over Ontario. There you will find the maintenance manuals for most of the cars marketed in Canada. It is always a good idea to have the maintenance manual of the car to follow maintenance instructions and know parts of the car.

To learn about related aspects of your car maintenance, see the site **Natural Resources Canada**, where you will find very useful information on this subject.

20.11 FINAL RECOMMENDATION TO BUY A USED CAR

If you decide to buy a used car, look for a brand and model of known quality, with a maximum of 200,000 km, 4 to 6 years old and with recent certification and emission test approved. You will find a wide offer of vehicles with those conditions at a reasonable price.

Don't look only to the years or kilometers; try to find a car with known reputation better than a cheap one, with not many kilometers, but of a good brand. Remember that together with the engine status, another important factor that you must look is that it is not excessively **OXIDATED**, which is very common in Canada, when cars were not taken care carefully and were used constantly in winter. A car with oxidation traces loose its value immediately.

It is better to buy a car with some kind of guarantee, than buying one "as is" which means, in the state it is (very likely, in a very bad state). Usually dealers sell those cars at a lower price, but they don't assume any responsibility, nor grant any guarantee and accept no return. Remember that a very used and cheap car generally needs spare parts (brake, electric parts etc) which are expensive; the same as repair shops ($80-95 /hour).

In the case of older cars (more than 250,000 km) the status of the car shall depend more on the care and maintenance received from the prior owner than from the original quality of the brand and model. Experience teaches us that with $4000 to $9000 (the higher the better), with a good analysis and time to see different alternatives, you have to get a decent car to solve your transportation problem in Canada.

---

**FROM OUR EXPERIENCE**

If you are thinking of buying a used car make the following test: Turn on the car and make a normal route using all the transmission points, to evaluate aligning, direction, brake and eventual noises, especially in the tires axes. At the end of this route and in a fresh place with no contamination, with the engine still running, close all the windows and verify during some minutes that **there is no smoke or burnt oil odour**. Test the fan in all positions, but always with doors and windows closed.

If you smell smoke or burn oil odour inside the car DO NOT BUY this car.

If you still think it is a good deal and you decide to buy it, it is URGENT to fix that problem. The mechanic solution generally is to see the engine and change the seals from which the oil is leaking. When the seals fail, the oil escapes and falls over the hot tubes where it is partially burnt generating smokes of different chemical compositions and odours.

When you drive a car in this condition, you are exposed to a high risk and your health is in danger. If you breathe these smokes and gases constantly during a long period they may cause severe problems to your lungs like emphysema or even cancer. (An average Canadian driver stays 300 hours per year in his vehicle) Keep in mind that during the winter season, with temperatures below 0 °C, usually you cannot lower the window glasses of your car, and there is no air an oxygen change within the car.

This problem is common in cars that, even with low kilometers, were exposed to bad driving, long continuous journeys or used in very congested cities, with long periods of over warming of the engine.
You must first ask for an insurance quotation before buying a car. In order to close the deal and register the car, you must have liability insurance. Newcomers frequently pay an advance to secure a car that they like very much, without having an idea of the insurance cost, when they know the minimum cost that they will have to pay ($300 to $450 monthly in Ontario) they see that they cannot support the car without a good job, so they don't close the deal and they lose the money they advanced. Remember that you will have to have a G-2 license to buy a car, take the insurance and drive it alone.

DIFFERENT INSURANCE COMPANIES - DIFFERENT PRICES

Many drivers, specially new immigrants, could pay $100's, even $1000's of dollars annually more than necessary for their car insurance. Perhaps many people believe that if they are paying more, they are getting more. But, this is not true.

All insurance companies sell the exact insurance policy, word per word. It's like buy DIFFERENT DIFFERENT INSURANCE COMPANIES - DIFFERENT PRICES. Same pop, same different price. Same insurance policy, different price.

Look the following rate comparison published by the government of Ontario. There are $1000's of dollars difference between what insurance companies charge for the same policy. Same policy, different prices.

Ontario Government post these charts as warnings. They are telling you that if you don't shop and compare you are in danger of grossly over paying.

RECOMMENDATION:

You must first ask for an insurance quotation before buying a car. In order to close the deal and register the car, you must have liability insurance. Newcomers frequently pay an advance to secure a car that they like very much, without having an idea of the insurance cost, when they know the minimum cost that they will have to pay ($300 to $450 monthly in Ontario) they see that they cannot support the car without a good job, so they don't close the deal and they lose the money they advanced. Remember that you will have to have a G-2 license to buy a car, take the insurance and drive it alone.

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These rates are based on only one profile of a married couple. A 40 years old male driving a Dodge Caravan and a 39 years old female, driving a Dodge Neon. Neither driver has any tickets or accidents. This is only an example to show to the newcomers and immigrants how this business works in Canada.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPANIES</th>
<th>OTTAWA</th>
<th>TORONTO</th>
<th>LONDON</th>
<th>WINDSOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AXA Insurance</td>
<td>2714</td>
<td>5528</td>
<td>3616</td>
<td>3896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AXA Pacific</td>
<td>4714</td>
<td>5530</td>
<td>3615</td>
<td>3897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allstate Insurance</td>
<td>3141</td>
<td>3603</td>
<td>3199</td>
<td>2843</td>
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<td>American Home Insurance</td>
<td>2528</td>
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<td>3019</td>
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<td>Aviva Insurance</td>
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<td>Belair Insurance Company</td>
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<td>5101</td>
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<td>CCA Insurance Company</td>
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<td>COSECO Insurance</td>
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<td>CUMIS General Insurance</td>
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<td>3660</td>
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<td>Certas Direct Insurance</td>
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<td>2714</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chubb Insurance Company</td>
<td>2812</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-Operators General</td>
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<td>Coachman Insurance</td>
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<td>Dominion of Canada</td>
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<td>Echelon General Insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Echonomical Mutual Insurance Company</td>
<td>1953</td>
<td>2703</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elite Insurance Company</td>
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<td>3268</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farmers Mutual Insurance</td>
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<td>4728</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federated Insurance</td>
<td>3394</td>
<td>5050</td>
<td>3321</td>
<td>4033</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**NOTE:** Car insurance costs in Quebec are very much lower than in Ontario. (Between 50 and 70% lower)

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Rate 1</th>
<th>Rate 2</th>
<th>Rate 3</th>
<th>Rate 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federation Insurance</td>
<td>1953</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gore Mutual Insurance</td>
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<td>Guarantee Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zenith Insurance Company</td>
<td>4972</td>
<td>7302</td>
<td>5472</td>
<td>6211</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**DISCLAIMER**

The information and recommendations of this Guide must be taken **ONLY as a reference**. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depend on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.
**21.1 INTRODUCTION**

Quebec Province has its own selection process to select skilled workers and professionals who want to live in it. This Provincial Immigration Program is based in a minimum of 60 points, is different from the Federal Program of Canada, and has the following points as main characteristics.

- Professions or accepted occupations are those needed by the Quebec Province (see 20.6 Accepted Occupations in Quebec)
- Required language is French and accepted level is not very high.
- Points granted for language is not so relevant (8/60) as the English in the Federal Program for the rest of Canada (25/67 points).
- Selection process grants higher points to applicants between 23 and 30 years old.
- Quebec Province takes into account family aspects as number of children and wife's education.
- Interview to the applicant plays a key role in the approval, since during it; the Quebec Visa Officer has the opportunity of evaluating and determine points for the "ADAPTABILITY" factor, based on aspects such as applicant's personal qualities, his motivation, personal knowledge of the province and having relatives or friends in Quebec.

**21.2 PROVINCE OF QUEBEC**

Quebec Province is the second in population in Canada, with aprox 7,600,000 (2005), behind Ontario, which represents near 24 % of the total Canadian population. It is also the larger Province in Canada in extension. Official language in Quebec is French, and together with New Brunswick Province, are the only two in Canada where English is not the official Language.
Main City in the Province is Montreal. It is a modern and vibrant city, especially in the summer, full of history and culture. Meeting Point of different traditions and cultures, where people from all over the world live in harmony. Montreal has its own style between European and American cities, although it is said that it is the most European of American cities. Quebec is the home of people with the privilege of being connected to strong cultural flows.

Fertility rate in Quebec, now a days at 1.48, is one of the lower of Canada. This rate has decreased dramatically from 1960, when it was of the highest among industrialized countries.

For this reason, the Province of Quebec has a strong plan to attract immigrant families from different countries of the world. In recent years, the increase of population in some towns of Quebec was promoted with several families from South America, especially from areas in conflict, like Colombia. The result has been positive and hopefully, this trend shall remain in the future, to continue developing different regions, especially agricultural and industrial zones of the province.

Another way of increasing population in Quebec is by means of international adoption of infants. 42 % of the international adoptions in Canada have been made in Quebec, in 2002. This is a very representative figure, taking into account that the population of Quebec is 24 % of the total population of Canada.

21.3 SELECTION CRITERIA OF QUEBEC

Quebec Government selects candidates based in working experience, profession or occupation, age, French language and ties to the Quebec Province. You must have education, experience and the right working profile to mingle successfully in the labor market of the province. To be elected, you must fulfill the requirements in two stages:

Stage #1 - Working Experience

Stage #2 - Evaluation and General Pointing (Factors of: adaptability, age, language, ties with the province, etc)

21.4 STAGE #1

WORKING EXPERIENCE

To be selected by the Province of Quebec as Skilled Worker you must fulfill ONE of the following requirements:

- Assured Job Program - Have an approved working offer from a Quebec’s employer.
- Occupations in Demand Program - Have a profession or occupation registered in the Demanded Occupations List in the province of Quebec and have at least 6 months experience in your profession.
- Employability and Occupational Mobility Program - You and your wife (if she applies) must have a working profile, experience and education that let you successfully mingle into the working market in the Province of Quebec. Your occupation must be listed in the Favoured Training List.
IMPORTANT
If you fulfill one of the above mentioned pre-requirements, you must approve an evaluation of the factors established by the Province of Quebec for the granting of Permanent Resident Visa, with minimum points. You will have also to demonstrate that you have enough money to start your life in the province.

ALTERNATIVE #1 - Assured Job Program
(Program based on Job Offer)

To be eligible for this program you must have the following requirements:

- Have received a job offer approved from an employer from Quebec.
- Your future employer in Quebec must have demonstrated that it was NOT possible at all to hire to a Quebec resident to fill that job vacancy.

ALTERNATIVE #2 - Occupations in Demand Program
(Program based on the Occupation on Demand List)

To be eligible for this program you must have the following requirements:

- Have a profession or occupation registered in the list of occupations in demand - Occupations in Demand Program
- Have at least 6 month experience in your profession.
- Have enough money to support yourself and your family in Quebec for at least 3 months.

ALTERNATIVE #3 - Employability and Occupational Mobility Program
(Program based in working profile, education and working adaptability)

To be eligible for this program you must have the following requirements:

- Have a profession and working profile which enable you to adapt and be successful in Quebec’s working market.
- Have a profession or occupation registered in the list of favoured occupations - Favoured Training List.
- Have at least 6 month experience in your profession.
- Get at least 30 points (35 if you are married) in the evaluation for EDUCATION, EMLOYABILITY AND WORKING EXPERIENCE.
- Have enough money to support yourself and your family in Quebec for at least 3 months.

21.5 STAGE #2 - POINTS

Applicants that approve the first stage must then be evaluated following the points system. The evaluated factors are:

- Education
- Employability
- Working Experience
- Adaptability
- Age
- French and English Language
- Characteristics of the wife
- Number of children

IMPORTANT
To obtain the Quebec’s selection certificate, the applicant must get a minimum of 60 points (68 if he/she is married) in this evaluation.

21.6 HOW TO CALCULATE POINTS

According to the applicant education, the Immigration Program of the Province of Quebec grants the following points:
EDUCATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Points</th>
<th>Education Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 points</td>
<td>Applicant did not finish secondary school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 points</td>
<td>Applicant has finished secondary school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 points</td>
<td>Applicant has finished, after secondary school a one year program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 points</td>
<td>Applicant has finished, after secondary school a three year program (technician)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 points</td>
<td>Applicant has finished, after secondary school a three year program (technician)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 points</td>
<td>Applicant has finished, after secondary school a one year university program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 points</td>
<td>Applicant has finished, after secondary school a four year university program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 points</td>
<td>Applicant has finished, after secondary school a four year university program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 points</td>
<td>Applicant has finished, after secondary school a four year university program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 points</td>
<td>Applicant has a university degree of second level (Master)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 points</td>
<td>Applicant has a university degree of third level (PhD)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SECOND SPECIALITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Points</th>
<th>Seconds Program of Specialization</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>Applicant has finished a one year program in a second especiality.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 points</td>
<td>Applicant has finished a two or more year's program in a second specialty.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPORTANT
Programs MUST have been taken full time.

EMPLOYABILITY

According to the Selection Process of Quebec, at least 8 points of the following basis must be achieved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Points</th>
<th>Education Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 points</td>
<td>Applicant has at least 6 months of full time working experience in any occupation different than the Professions NOT needed in Quebec and has got 30 points at least (35 if he is married) in the Employability and Mobility Evaluation, at the first stage of the Selection Process of Quebec.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 points</td>
<td>The applicant has at least 6 months full time working experience in an occupation appointed by Quebec’s Government as in High Demand,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 points</td>
<td>The applicant has at least 6 months full time working experience in an occupation appointed by Quebec’s Government as in High Demand, and has a valid job offer - assured employment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPORTANT
If you do not fulfill at least one of the above mention requirements, the application shall be rejected.

WORKING EXPERIENCE
### Number of Points | Working Experience Time
---|---
1 point | 6 months of working experience
2 points | One year of working experience (in the same occupation)
3 points | One year and a half of working experience
4 points | Two years of working experience
5 points | Two years and a half of working experience
6 points | Three years of working experience
7 points | Three years and a half of working experience
8 points | Four years of working experience
9 points | Four years and a half of working experience
10 points | Five years of working experience or more.

**IMPORTANT**

Working experience must have been full time, achieved during the last 10 years and compensated.

---

### ADAPTABILITY

Points are given to applicant for his relevant characteristics useful to successfully establish in the Province of Quebec. Maximum for adaptability is 19 points and shall be granted in the interview by the Visa Officer, in accordance to impression and motivation expressed by applicant in the interview.

The evaluated factors are:

#### PERSONAL QUALITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Max-Points</th>
<th>Evaluated Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 points</td>
<td>Personal qualities of the applicant.</td>
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#### MOTIVATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Max-Points</th>
<th>Evaluated Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>Motivation or interest shown by applicant.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### KNOWLEDGE OF QUEBEC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Max-Points</th>
<th>Evaluated Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>Knowledge of the province of Quebec, (culture, geography, politics, economy, cost of life, etc.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### PREVIOUS STAY AT QUEBEC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Points</th>
<th>Time of Stay in Quebec and activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 points</td>
<td>At least two semesters - studying full time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 points</td>
<td>At least one semester - studying full time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 points</td>
<td>At least 6 months working</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 points</td>
<td>At least 3 months working</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 points</td>
<td>If the applicant has worked in Quebec at least 6 months as trainee or in a working practice within a bilateral agreement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 points</td>
<td>If the applicant has worked in Quebec at least 3 months as trainee or in a working practice within a bilateral agreement.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3 points If the applicant has been in Quebec for at least three months.

2 points If the applicant has been in Quebec between 2 weeks and 3 months.

### RELATION WITH QUEBEC INHABITANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Points</th>
<th>Time of Stay in Quebec and activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 points</td>
<td>Applicant has his father or a brother in Quebec.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>Applicant has his grandfather in Quebec.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 point</td>
<td>The applicant has another relative or friend in Quebec.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### APPLICANT’S AGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Points</th>
<th>Applicant’s age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 points</td>
<td>Between 23 and 30 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 points</td>
<td>31 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 points</td>
<td>32 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 points</td>
<td>33 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 points</td>
<td>34 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 points</td>
<td>35 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 points</td>
<td>36 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 points</td>
<td>37 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>38 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 point</td>
<td>39 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>40 years or more - Less than 23 years.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### KNOWLEDGE OF THE LANGUAGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Points</th>
<th>LANGUAGE LEVEL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 to 8 Points</td>
<td>Maximum points, depending of the comprehension level of French.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 8 Points</td>
<td>Maximum points, depending of the oral expression level of French.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 3 Points</td>
<td>Addition points, depending of the comprehension level of English.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 3 Points</td>
<td>Additional points, depending on the oral expression level of English.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>Additional points if applicant has finished secondary school or further education in French.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### IMPORTANT

Total Points of the applicant are the addition of the totals of each box. Maximum Total 24 points.

### CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WIFE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Points</th>
<th>Education Level - Wife</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 points</td>
<td>Wife has completed secondary education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Points</td>
<td>Working Experience Time - Wife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 point</td>
<td>Wife has at least 6 months of working experience</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Points</th>
<th>Age of Wife</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>Between 20 and 39 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 points</td>
<td>Between 40 and 45 years.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Points</th>
<th>Knowledge of French language - Wife</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Until 4 Points</td>
<td>According to wife’s level of French language.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CHILDREN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Points</th>
<th>Age of the Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>For each child of 12 years or less.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 point</td>
<td>Between 13 and 17 years.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### IMPORTANT

Total Points of the applicant are the addition of the totals of each box. Total Maximum for this factor: 8 points.

### RECOMMENDATION

Before starting your application process of the QUEBEC’S SELECTION CERTIFICATE, verify carefully that you fulfill BOTH STAGES above mentioned, and that you have the required points.

It is highly recommendable to make a Pre-evaluation on-line of your profile in an official site of the Government of Quebec. Use this link:

21.7 APPLICATION PROCESS IN QUEBEC

Step #1 - Verify your possibilities

Verify your possibilities of being considered as candidate for immigration to Quebec. First do it using the above tables. Do it directly in the Quebec Government WEBSITE.

Step #2 - Fill in the Pre-application form

Print and fill in the FORM, which will let you file a NON OFFICIAL immigration application with Quebec Province destination. Answer the questions in the form accurately you don’t have to send any documents; you will have to do it later if you are selected. Send it to the Quebec Immigration Service (SIQ) of your country. (See 20.9 Immigration Offices of Quebec)

Nota: The reply to your application shall arrive within 3 months. If after that period you have not received any answer, you must suppose that your case was not considered for immigration.

The form for initial evaluation and the study of the same are free.

IMPORTANT

If you fulfill working requirements and you reach necessary points to start the process to obtain Resident Visa in the Province of Quebec, your future possibilities shall depend on your level of French language and the result of the interview that you will have with the Visa Officer. Take into account the following:

- Start studying French in an Institute of quality and prestige (Alliance François). It is advisable for you and your wife if she applies.

- The interview with the Delegate of the Quebec Province shall be definitive to be selected. It is of utmost importance that you show an authentic interest in learning the language, in living in this province and in integrating within its culture.

- It is highly recommendable to have studied at least 400 hours of French language by the time of the interview.

- Start preparing and organizing the required documents. Remember that the process may take between 12 to 18 months.

Step #3- Fill in the Form for the Official Application

If you have received a positive reply to your case and you are considered eligible to reside in Quebec, you will have to do the following:

- Fill in carefully the CSD - Certificate of Selection Demand according the instructions.

- Send the CSD together with required documents.

- Pay the required fees for the official study of your documents and send the receipt together with the documents.

APPLICATION STUDY FEES - Government of Quebec
Secured Job (with Job offer) $300
Profession on demand $300
Employability and Professional mobility $300
Additional - For each person in the family $100

**IMPORTANT**
Besides these fees, you will have to pay Canadian Government the due fee for the Permanent Residence Right (see 5.2)

Step #4 - Interview

If the study of the form and documents sent is favorable, you will be appointed for a selection interview with a delegate of the Quebec Government. In the appointment you will be informed the place, date and hour for the interview, as well as the list of documents that you will have to take. This interview may be done in Spanish, French or English, at your request.

During the interview, the delegate of the Quebec Government shall verify the information you sent in the Form or Certificate of Selection of Quebec, related to education, schools, working experience and knowledge of French and English languages. This interview is your best opportunity to show your interest in your immigration project and in the possibility of starting a new life in Canada.

Remember that in that moment you will be evaluated for your ADAPTATION factor, and the capacity you show to live and successfully integrate within Quebec community. The points you will be granted depend in the interest and motivation shown during the interview. Your future and your families’ may also depend on that. You must show great interest in living in Quebec and a good previous knowledge of the province, through investigation and reading about the same. You must show that you know aspects of Quebec as its geography, history, economy, cost of living etc.

If you have a relative or friend in Quebec, show pictures, letters, emails or other evidence. You must also know the address, phone and personal data of your relative or friend. Remember that the best way of adding points in your evaluation is by showing evidence and concrete proofs.

Interview shall be of around 45 to 60 minutes.

By the end of the same, the delegate shall give you the result, whether you are accepted or rejected, based on the points you obtained, according to your documents and interview.

If the answer is positive, the delegate shall inform to you the following steps that you will have to follow in the immigration process to Quebec. If everything is OK, he will give to you the Selection Certificate of Quebec, or it will be sent to you by mail. Additionally, he will give to you documents and information about daily life in Quebec and any other document that you may require. He will also inform you about the next step in your process before the Canadian Embassy and the documents you will have to present.

**IMPORTANT**
In some cases, the Selection Delegate from Quebec can postpone the acceptance; if you need a higher level of French, with the condition of demonstrate a number of hours of French studies or the approval with minimum qualification of an exam in some known institute. This is very frequent, and you will have a maximum term of 9 months to fulfill this requirement and obtain your Selection Certificate. Your selection can also be postponed if the delegate considers you have to present any other document.
Step #5 - Federal Government Approval

If you are approved in the interview by the Quebec Government Delegate, the next step is to send your Quebec Selection Certificate and documents to the Canadian Embassy in your country or region.

You will be informed of the following steps by the Canadian Embassy. You will have to pay the following fees at the Embassy:

RIGHT OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE FEE

This fee has to be paid only if your Visa application is accepted. If you have paid this fee when you file the documents and your application is not accepted or you decide not to take it, the fee shall be returned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERMANENT RESIDENCE FEE</th>
<th># of Persons</th>
<th>Fee per Person</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicant</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>x $490</td>
<td>$490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wife or Partner</td>
<td></td>
<td>x $490</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Step #6 - Medical Examinations and Police Certificate

- You and each member of your family shall approve the medical examinations ordered by the Embassy. These exams shall be taken by physicians authorized by Canadian Government and the results shall be analyzed by the Health Service of Canada.
- Your application can be rejected for medical reasons if you or any member of your family has a contagious decease or that can put other people in danger, or has a decease which treatment and care are very expensive for the health system.
- You must get and present before the Embassy your Judicial or Police Certificate in original, for each member older than 18 years.

Finally, if you and all the members of your family approve the medical examination and other security controls required, the Canadian Government shall issue to all of you an Immigrant to Canada Visa, with the status of Permanent Resident.

Time for the process and issuance of the visa may vary according to your country of origin. All the process may take between 12 to 24 months.

CONGRATULATION

If you and your family have completed the process and received the Quebec Selection Certificate and then the Permanent Resident Visa for Canada, you may have taken the most important decision of your life. A future and a new way full of hope are waiting for you in Canada.
21.8 QUEBEC GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN LATIN AMERICA

México:
This office cover the following countries:

Belice, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, México, Nicaragua, Panamá, Paraguay, Perú, Puerto Rico, Uruguay y Venezuela.

Service d'immigration du Québec
Délégation du Québec
Avenida Taine 411
Colonia Bosques de Chapultepec
11580 Mexico, D.F.
MEXIQUE
Teléfono: (52.555) 250.8208
Fax: (52.555) 250.8332
E-mail: siq.mexico@mri.gouv.qc.ca

Argentina:
Cover to Argentina
Service d'immigration du Québec
Service d'immigration du Québec
Tucuman 1321, 12 Piso
Plaza Los Tribunales
(1050) Buenos Aires, Argentina
Teléfono: (54.11) 4371.6003
Fax: (54.11) 4371.6007
E-mail: qc.buenosaires@mri.gouv.qc.ca

Contact data for Québec's network abroad

General Delegations (Government offices)

- Québec General Delegation in Bruxelles
  Avenue des Arts 46, 7e étage
  1000 Bruxelles
  Belgique
  Phone: (32) 2 512 00 36
  Fax: (32) 2 514 26 41
  E-mail
  Website: www.quebec-europe.be

- Québec Government Office in Londres
  59 Pall Mall
  Londres SW1Y 5JH
  Royaume-Uni
  Phone: (44) 207 766-5900
  Fax: (44) 207 930-7938
  E-mail
  Website: www.quebec.org.uk

- Québec Government Office in Mexico
  Avenida Taine 411
  Colonia Bosques de Chapultepec
  11580 Mexico D.F.
  Mexique
  Phone: (525 55) 250-8222
  Fax: (525 55) 250 2396
  E-mail
  Website: www.quebec.org.mx
• Québec Government Office in Munich
  Diererstr. 20
  D-80331 Munich
  Allemagne
  Phone: (49) 89 2420 87 0
  Fax: (49) 89 2420 8737
  E-mail
  Website: www.quebec-info.de

• Québec Government Office in New York
  One Rockefeller Plaza, 26th Floor
  New York, NY 10020-2102
  United States of America
  Phone: (212) 397-0200 / (212) 843-0950
  Fax: (212) 757-4753 / (212) 376-8984
  E-mail
  Website: www.mri.quebecusa.org

• Québec Government Office in Paris
  66, rue Pergolèse
  75116 Paris
  France
  Phone: 33 (0) 1 40 67 85 00
  Fax: 33 (0) 1 40 67 85 09
  E-mail
  Website: www.quebec.fr

• Québec Government Office in Tokyo
  Shiroyama JT Trust Tower
  32e étage, 4-3-1 Toranomon
  Minato-Ku, Tokyo 105-6032
  Japon
  Phone: 011-81-3-3239-5137
  Fax: 011-81-3-3239-5140
  E-mail
  Website: www.quebec.jp

Delegations (Government offices)

• Québec Government Office in Atlanta
  191 Peachtree Street N.E.
  Suite 3240
  Atlanta, Georgia 30303
  États-Unis
  Phone: (404) 584-2995
  Fax: (404) 584-2089
  E-mail
  Website: www.Quebec-Atlanta.org

• Québec Government Office in Boston
  One Boston Place
  201, Washington Street, bureau 1920
  Boston, MA 02108
  États-Unis
  Phone: (617) 482-1193
  Fax: (617) 482-1195
  E-mail
  Website: www.Quebec-Boston.org

• Québec Government Office in Chicago
  444 N. Michigan Avenue
  Bureau 1900
  Chicago, IL 60611-3977
  États-Unis
  Phone: (312) 645-0392
  Fax: (312) 645-0542
Québec Government Office in Los Angeles
10940 Wilshire Boulevard
Bureau 720
Los Angeles, CA 90024
États-Unis
Phone: (310) 824-4173
Fax: (310) 824-7759
E-mail
Website: www.Quebec-LosAngeles.org

Québec Government Office in Rome
Via Flaminia, 21
Interno 12a
00196 Roma
Phone: (39) 06 3212 0001
Fax: (39) 06 3212 0047
E-mail

Bureaux (Government offices)

Québec Government Office in Barcelona
Avda Diagonal, 420, 3er 1?
08037 Barcelone
Espagne
Phone: (34) 93 476 42 58
Fax: (34) 93 476 47 74
E-mail

Québec Government Office in Beijing
a/s Ambassade du Canada en République populaire de Chine
19, Dongzhimenwai Dajie, District de Chaoyang
Beijing 100600
Chine
Phone: (86-10) 6532-3536 poste 3600
Fax: (86-10) 6532-4072
E-mail

Québec Government Office in Berlin
Pariser Platz 6A
10117 Berlin
Allemagne
Phone: 030 / 59 00 646 0
Fax: 030 / 59 00 646 29
E-mail
Website: www.quebec-info.de

Québec Government Office in Buenos Aires
Édifice Laminar Plaza
Ing. Butty 240, 3e étage
C1001AFB Buenos Aires
Argentine
Phone: 54-11- 4343-2033
Fax: 54-11-4343-2122
E-mail

Québec Immigration Office in Damascus
a/s Ambassade du Canada
38, Autostrade Mezzeh, Mezzeh-Est
Boîte postale 3394
Damas
Syrie
Phone: (963-11) 611-6692 ou 661-6851
Fax: (963-11) 613-1600
E-mail
21.9 OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND PROGRAM - LIST (2007)

According with the Quebec Government, the occupations listed below are currently "in high demand" in the Province of Quebec and therefore represent above-average employment prospects for Skilled Worker/Professional applicants intending to reside in the Province of Quebec.

Skill Level A (Professional)
• Chemists (2112)* - Undergraduate university degree attesting to three years of full-time studies

• Mathematicians, Statisticians and Actuaries (2161)*
  - Mathematicians - Undergraduate university degree attesting to three years of full-time studies
  - Statisticians - Undergraduate university degree attesting to three years of full-time studies

Skill Level B (Technical Education)

• Mechanical Engineering Technologists and Technicians (2232)* - Post-secondary school diploma attesting to three years of full-time studies

• Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Technologists and Technicians (2233) - Post-secondary school diploma attesting to three years of full-time studies

• Drafting Technologists and Technicians (2253) - Post-secondary school diploma attesting to three years of full-time studies

• Butchers and Meat Cutters—Retail and Wholesale (8251) - Professional high school diploma

• Machinists and Machining and Tooling Inspectors (7231)* - Post-secondary school diploma attesting to one year of full-time studies

• Tool and Die Makers (7232)* - Post-secondary school diploma attesting to one year of full-time studies

* The occupations listed correspond to the basic groups defined in the NOC 2001, which is published by Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC). Information concerning the nature of the work in question, the principal duties involved, entry requirements, and other matters pertaining to the evaluation of Skilled Worker applicants is available through Emploi-Québec’s LMI (Labour Market Information) Web site and HRSDC’s NOC 2001 Web site.

This list is authorized by the minister responsible for the Act respecting Immigration to Québec for the purpose of applying the Regulation respecting the selection of foreign nationals (R.R.Q., c. 1-0.2, r. 5). 2007

21.10- EMPLOYABILITY AND OCCUPATIONAL MOBILITY PROGRAM - Favoured Training List

As follows, you will find the official description in English of the professional careers taken into account by Quebec Province for the Employability and Occupational Mobility Program. Use it to obtain precise information on each career requirements, according to the National Occupation Classification (NOC)

• Physicists and Astronomers (2111)* Post-graduate university degree

• Mechanical Engineers (2132)* - Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies

• Electrical and Electronics Engineers (2133)* - Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies

• Chemical Engineers (2134)* - Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies

• Industrial and Manufacturing Engineers (2141)* - Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies

• Computer Engineers, except Software Engineers (2147)* - Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies

• Other Professional Engineers, n.e.c. (2148)* Engineering Physicists - Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies.

• Information Systems Analysts and Consultants (2171)* - Undergraduate university degree attesting to three years of full-time studies

• Software Engineers (2173)* - Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies

• Computer Programmers and Interactive Media Developers (2174)*
Programmers - Undergraduate university degree attesting to three years of full-time studies

- Chemical Technologists and Technicians (221)* - Post-secondary school diploma attesting to three years of full-time studies
- Mechanical Engineering Technologists and Technicians (223)* - Post-secondary school diploma attesting to three years of full-time studies
- Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technologists and Technicians (2241)* - Post-secondary school diploma attesting to three years of full-time studies
- Electronic Service Technicians (Household and Business Equipment) (2242)* - Post-secondary school diploma attesting to three years of full-time studies
- Industrial Instrument Technicians and Mechanics (2243)*
  - Maintenance Analyst Technicians - Post-secondary school diploma attesting to three years of full-time studies
- Aircraft Instrument, Electrical and Avionics Mechanics, Technicians and Inspectors (2244)* - Post-secondary school diploma attesting to three years of full-time studies
- Industrial Designers (225)* - Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies

- Agriculture and forestry
- Administrative science - Management information technology
- Food sciences and technology, Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies
- Architecture, urban planning and design
- Industrial design, Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies
- Fine arts and applied art
- Graphic design or communications, Undergraduate university degree attesting to three years of full-time studies
- Pure and applied science
- Biochemistry, Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies
- Chemistry, Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies
- Chemical engineering, Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies
- Civil engineering, Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies
- Electrical and electronics engineering, Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies
- Industrial engineering, Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies
- Information technology engineering, Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies
- Mechanical engineering, Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies
- Physical engineering, Undergraduate university degree attesting to four years of full-time studies
- Microbiology, Post-graduate university degree
- Information technology sciences, Undergraduate university degree attesting to three years of full-time studies
- Translators with specialty in technical and scientific fields and mastery of French and English, Post-graduate university degree
- Management information technology, Undergraduate university degree attesting to three years of full-time studies
- Speech therapy and audiology, Post-graduate university degree
- Nursing science, Undergraduate university degree attesting to three years of full-time studies
- Library and archives science, Post-graduate university degree

- POST SECONDARY LEVEL (Requiring three years of full time studies)

- Administration, commerce and information technology (Information technology techniques)
- Agriculture and fishing (Animal health techniques, Animal production technology, Agricultural equipment technology)
- Food and tourism (Food transformation technology, Hotel management techniques)
- Chemistry-biology (Water purification, Analytic chemistry techniques, Biology chemistry techniques)
- Electrotechnical (Physical technology, Computer systems technology, Electronic design technology)
- Motorized equipment maintenance (Aircraft maintenance)
- Mechanical fabrication (Industrial engineering technology, Mechanical engineering techniques, Welders, Plastics transformation techniques, Aircraft construction)
- Forestry and paper (Paper mill techniques)
- Health techniques (Radio oncology techniques, Visual orthosis techniques, Nursing care)
RECOMMENDATION

It is highly recommendable to make a Pre-evaluation on-line of your profile in an official site of the Government of Quebec. This is the best way to be sure that your profession will be accepted. Use this link:

**Preliminary Evaluation for Immigration** to Quebec


The Preliminary Evaluation for Immigration enables you to obtain directly online a free summary evaluation of your chances of being selected by Québec. Note that this does not, however, lead to a formal decision under An Act Respecting Immigration to Québec, but rather provides you with a positive or negative opinion from the ministère de l'Immigration et des Communautés culturelles(MICC) regarding your candidacy.

If you want to apply as Permanent Worker Visa in Quebec, use the following link to get the form:

**Application for a Selection Certificate (Permanent Worker)**


To fill out your form, carefully follow the instructions provided. To speed up processing time, it is important that you correctly fill out your form, sign it and include all the required documents. Do not forget to include your payment with your form. If your payment is not included, the application will not be recorded or processed. Fees are not be reimbursed.

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DISCLAIMER

The information and recommendations of this Guide must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depends only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.
Chapter # 22

INFORMATION ABOUT QUEBEC

22.1 GEOGRAPHY

Quebec Province is the second in population in Canada, with approx. 7,600,000 (2005), behind Ontario, which represents near 24% of the total Canadian population. It is also the larger Province in Canada in extension. Official language in Quebec is French, and together with New Brunswick Province, are the only two in Canada where English is not the official Language.

Territory of Quebec Province is very large (near three times the size of France), even though much part of it, especially at the north, has almost no population. Quebec is located at the east of Canada. It is surrounded by Ontario and Hudson Bay at the west, by the Atlantic at the east and Main, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York States (USA) at the south. Arctic Ocean at the North.

Most populated region is in the south, over the Saint Lawrence River valley. Big Cities are there, as Quebec City, state capital, and Montreal, the biggest and most populated city in the province.

Main Cities in Quebec Province

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>1996</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Montreal</td>
<td>1 812 723</td>
<td>1 774 846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quebec City</td>
<td>532 329</td>
<td>504 605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lomqueuil</td>
<td>348 091</td>
<td>373 009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laval</td>
<td>343 005</td>
<td>330 393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gatineau</td>
<td>226 696</td>
<td>217 591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saguenay</td>
<td>148 050</td>
<td>153 476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherbrooke</td>
<td>146 689</td>
<td>135 501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trois-Rivieres</td>
<td>122 395</td>
<td>124 417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levis</td>
<td>121 999</td>
<td>118 344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrebonne</td>
<td>80 531</td>
<td>75 110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES:

From this table it is important to point that in some intermediate cities of the Quebec Province like Longueuil (Part of Greater Montreal), Saquenay and Trois-Rivieres, population has decreased between 1996 and 2010.

This is mainly because of the low born rate in the province (the lowest among all Canadian Provinces), the aging of the population, and return of immigrants after working retirement to France and Europe, etc.

For that reason, Quebec Province Government encourages immigration of Professionals and workers, especially young with many children. In exchange, Government offers economic help to the mothers for each child, free basic and secondary school, free health care and others. Besides, the cost of living in Quebec and some taxes are lower in Quebec than in other provinces like Ontario or British Columbia.

The demographic decline due to migration to urban centers, the aging of population staying in small towns and the decrease in the number of children per family put the survival of rural population in Canada in risk.

Quebec will accept next year around 48.000 new immigrants, from all over the world.

22.2 HISTORY

First Inhabitants - Before 1500

Algonquian, Iroquoian and Inuit groups were the first inhabitants of Quebec territory. Seven different nomad groups of Algonquian lived fishing and hunting in the Canadian Shield and Appalachian mountains. Iroquoians lived in the fertile St Lawrence River Valley they cultivated corn and other vegetables. The Inuits have lived for years in the cold northern territories, they fished, especially seals and whales. They sold furs and food.

It is said that the first European explorers in these lands were the Vikings, who came from Scandinavia around year 1000.

The first French explorers came to Quebec in 1534 and it was Jacques Cartier who first took these lands for France, founding Old Fort Bay in Lower North Shore. Cartier sailed St Lawrence River and founded the first European colony near the actual Quebec City, in an Iroquoians territory. Soon the French named that territory New France.

Quebec City was founded in 1906 by Champlain, becoming soon a very important exchange center with Algonquian and Hurons. Soon, the French made an alliance with these two groups and they fought together against Iroquois and the English. Quebec became a very important catholic point, and from there, the French began the exploration of the northern part of the continent. In 1663, New France province became Royal Province, with its own government, under King Louis XIV of France. Population quickly increased and by 1760 there were more than 50.000 inhabitants in the St Lawrence River Valley. Who began to call themselves “canadiens” or inhabitants.

Several wars and battles between 1754 and 1759 lead the defeated France to give the control of the province to the English in 1759. They changed the name of New France for Quebec Province.
With the American Revolution in the south, the English feared that the French-speaking inhabitants of Quebec might join the rebel forces of Washington. To prevent that, they issued Quebec Declaration by which French language and culture were officially recognized.

Besides, the Declaration allowed Canadian to profess Roman Catholic faith and to be ruled by civil French law. Later on, with the triumph of the American Revolution, Quebec had to give the southern territories to USA (Northern States of USA). Defeated Loyalists, loyal to England, moved to Ontario, and the east part of Quebec. This is how the English presence began in this province, before that it was only French.

The Patriots Rebellion in Lower Canada

In 1837 the Canadians of French and English origin together rebelled against the English, in an attempt to end their domain in Canada. After some battles, the Canadians wrote their conditions to the British Parliament, to continue under their control.

Canadian Confederation

Confederation was formed in 1867. The British States in North America and Canada joined in a confederation. Then, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland began to be part of Canada.

In the 1960 decade several strong movements appeared in Quebec in favor of the separation of this province from the rest of Canada, to form an independent French nation. This fact has brought many political storms to the country. In 1977 the province declared French as the official language of Quebec. Several political changes have been made to the constitution and laws of the province in order to maintain Canada and Quebec Province united.

In October 1995, with Quebecois party in power, a referendum took place to vote if Quebec had to separate or not from Canada. The result was NO to the separation for a narrow margin (50.6% NO and 49.4% YES). This separation issue has not been over yet, and in the future more amendments and discussions will surely come.

As a result of these historic debates between Quebecois of French origin and language and English, this province has its own rules on taxes, social benefits and immigration. This is the reason why Quebec has its own points system and chooses immigrants with a system different from the Federal enforced in the rest of Canada, based on its own needs and criteria.

Economy

St Lawrence River Valley is a rich and fertile agricultural and cattle breeding region. To the north of St. Lawrence River, Quebec territory is extremely rich in natural resources as pine forests and lakes. Its most important productions are paper manufacture, wood and hydroelectricity.

In the Montreal Area there are many important high technology industries, like jet planes plants Bombardier, Pratt & Whitney, CAE and Lockheed Martin. These companies, together with other spare parts manufacturers have turn Quebec Province into the fourth manufacturer in the aviation industry.
Culture

The Quebecois are the biggest French speaking community in America. The French-Canadians live mainly in Quebec, but there also important groups in other provinces.

Montreal is a modern and vibrant city, full of history and culture, especially during the summer. Meeting Point of different traditions and cultures, where people from all over the world live in harmony. Montreal has its own style between European and American cities, although it is said that it is the most European of American cities. Quebec is the home of people with the privilege of being connected to strong cultural flows from Great Britain, France and USA, all together in the same time and place.

In Quebec also live 11 important native groups and near 600,000 of English speakers.

Demographic Factors

Fertility rate in Quebec, now a days at 1.48, is one of the lower of Canada. This rate has decreased dramatically from 1960, when it was of the highest among industrialized countries.

For this reason, the Province of Quebec has a strong plan to attract immigrant families from different countries of the world. In recent years, the increase of population in some towns of Quebec was promoted with several families from South America, especially from areas in conflict, like Colombia. The result has been positive and hopefully, this trend shall remain in the future, to continue developing different regions, especially agricultural and industrial zones of the province.

Another way of increasing population in Quebec is by means of international adoption of infants. 42 % of the international adoptions in Canada have been made in Quebec, in 2002. This is a very representative figure, taking into account that the population of Quebec is 24 % of the total population of Canada.

22.3 ETHNIC GROUPS IN QUEBEC

Quebec population is formed by the following ethnic groups:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ETHNIC GROUP</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canadian</td>
<td>38.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>29.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italians</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North American Indian</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Québécois</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germans</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haitian</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin Americans</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Other ethnical groups with less than 1 % are not shown

Groups by Religion
### Roman Catholics
83.3%

### Protestants
4.7%

### Muslims
1.5%

### Orthodox
1.4%

### Jews
1.2%

### Other Christians
0.8%

### No-Believers
7.1%

---

#### Quebec City

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### 22.4 LANGUAGES

Quebec is the only province in which French is the only official language. According to 2001 census, languages spoken in the province are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>French speakers</td>
<td>82.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English speakers</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French and English</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allophones:</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Italian</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Spanish</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Arabic</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and others</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 22.5 SYMBOLS AND SIGNS

The graphic logo of Quebec is the fleur du lis, usually white over blue background, and it is used as flag in Quebec.

Quebec's flower is the varicolored iris.
The provincial bird is the Snowy Owl, and the provincial tree is the Yellow birch.

IMPORTANT

In many countries there are IOM bureau (International Organisation for Migration), an international organisation with the aim of assisting immigrants with their moving. If you have an immigration visa for Canada, you can resort to this organisation and they may help you to buy fare tickets with a 30-50% discount. They have agreements with some lines to benefit the families that move from a country to settle down in another. Consult www.iom.int to find a bureau in your country.

CONGRATULATION

If you and your family have completed the process and received the Quebec Selection Certificate and then the Permanent Resident Visa for Canada, you may have taken the most important decision of your life. A future and a new way full of hope are waiting for you in Canada.
DISCLAIMER

The information and recommendations of this Guide must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depends only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.

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ARRIVING AT QUEBEC

The objective of this chapter is to give some basic information regarding traveling and arriving at Quebec Province. In general, arriving to any province in Canada to start a new life is similar. It is important to read carefully Chapter 11 - Arriving to Ontario.

23.1 LIST OF THE DOCUMENTS YOU HAVE TO BRING

The following is the list of documents that you, your wife and each member of your family must bring to Quebec:

- Valid Passport
- Permanent Resident Visa issued by the Canadian Embassy.
- Quebec Selection Certificate
- Valid Passport of your country of origin
- Other identification documents:
- Birth Certificate
- Marriage certificate or civil union contract or certificate.
- Medical and dental registries, vaccination history, and related documents.
- International Driver's License
- Degrees, grades and other documents related to education of each member of the family.
- Education Certificates
- Christening Certificate (if you are catholic)
- Recent French evaluations, which may state your level of this language.
- Professional and learning certificates.
- Job references and working experience acknowledgements.
- Recommendation letters from previous employers.
- Professional licenses.
- Recommendations as tenant (if it applies)
- Updated Curriculum Vitae or Resume

IMPORTANT

All the documents must be in original, duly certified copies are accepted. Besides, all the documents have to be translated to French by a certified translator.
RECOMMENDATION

The best season to travel to Quebec is from April to November (spring, summer and beginning of autumn). The worst season is from December to February, due to winter low temperatures. Arriving during winter with no experience in this type of weather it can be a very hard way to start living in Canada for you and your family.

Take into account that the first school period begins by the first week of September. Nevertheless, new students shall be accepted in any moment, no matter the season.

In order to save money, it is also important to know that air tickets are more expensive during holidays and December than during the normal season.

Plan carefully the most convenient date to travel to Canada, according to your personal situation. Take care with the due date of your Visa.

23.2 GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

● Make a careful list of your belongings to go through customs easily at your arrival.

● Have the above documents at hand since you will need them during the first days after your arrival to Quebec.

● Be sure that the names and surnames of each member of your family are written correctly and with the same orthography in each document. Verify that the information about you and your family in your passports, Resident Visas, and Selection Certificate of Quebec is correct.

● If it is possible, buy Canadian dollars in certified exchange offices in your country. If it is not possible, then buy American dollars.

● You must bring proof of your working experience, and specific details of previous jobs. Get job acknowledgements from your previous employers, in official paper of the company, with address, phone, email and fax numbers, and with details of your title, functions, activity areas, responsibilities and job done. Total time in service, number of hours per week and the reason for termination must also be detailed. You must also have an acknowledgement of your salary. It must be signed by an authorized person who may be contacted by phone or mail. You may need these documents (translated into French) to ask Canadian associations in your area to certify your professional qualifications and also in the process of searching a job.

● Bring with you your tools, hand equipments, instruments and personal documents necessary to do your job.

23.3 AT THE AIRPORT

CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION

If you have your Basic Documents) and have taken into account the ARTICLES THAT YOU CANNOT BRING TO CANADA, you will find easy the customs and immigration proceedings.

You will be interviewed by a Customs Officer, who shall ask you the list of articles that you are bringing with you into Canada. You will have to show your immigrant visa, and then you will be sent to the immigration officer counter. At the immigration counter, your Visa, Identification and documents shall be verified. You will be asked about personal matters to see if your personal data and the information in your application form are correct. The Immigration Officer may ask you to show proof that you have the enough money for your support during the first months, as it has been indicated in chapter #5. In same cases you may be even asked to count the money you are bringing.

If everything is Ok, the officer shall authorize your entrance to Canada and shall sign your Record of Landing.

These proceedings may take an hour. In some Airports in Canada they will give to you a leaflet: Welcome to Canada.
Canada: What You Should Know There you will find information about life in Canada, especially regarding federal and provincial offices, as well as English and French teaching centers. Remember that as a permanent resident, you will have free access to different English and French courses and other courses at very low prices.

IMPORTANT

Upon your arrival to Canada, your Visa shall be confirmed and you will receive your Permanent Resident Card, which is the identification document necessary to enter the country, if you have to travel outside Canada.

You must have the address where you will be living or of somebody of your confidence where these documents shall be mailed in the following weeks.

23.4 INITIAL ACCOMMODATION

It is recommendable to contact a relative or friend to book you accommodation in Montreal, Quebec City or the City where you shall be living before your arrival. This is the best condition to start your new life in Canada.

Nevertheless, this is not very frequent for most of immigrants. If you have not booked an apartment for your family, you may look for a cheap hotel for some days. You can do it by Internet. If this is your case, you can use the following links:

http://www.montreallodging.worldweb.com/
http://www.choicehotels.ca/hotels/home?cid=gk0799
http://www.motelgranby.com/
http://hotels.ca/index
http://www.expedia.ca
http://www.montrealhotels.holiday-inn.com/
http://www.hotels-direct-montreal.com/
http://specialoffers.starwoodhotels.com/w_montreal/

IMPORTANT: To see the Quebec Government information and recommendation about arriving process and lodging for immigrants use the following link:


A hotel is a temporary solution for a few days, due to the high cost.

Searching for an adequate apartment at a reasonable price shall be your first goal, so a furnished apartment with weekly or monthly payment may be a good alternative. Living a short time in this type of apartments will let you search with less pressure a better apartment or house to rent for a longer period (usually 12 months), where you will start your new life with your own furniture and domestic elements. In that case avoid renting in bad places for the low price. Remember that you will receive according to how much you pay.

Your first home must be in downtown with enough public transportation to let you go from one place to another within the city.

You will have to be patient to find the right apartment (which is obviously cheaper than renting a house). It is possible that the first you rent shall not be of your entire satisfaction, but you have to keep in mind that it will be only for a short period of time, and that this situation is normal within the adaptation process in Quebec.

To search for an apartment to rent, you will have to look the classified section of the newspapers, where you will find a good offer of apartments in different parts of the cities. You may also look in free magazines offered in many public places and supermarkets. Another way of searching an apartment to rent is to ask in the same buildings to the superintendent or other person who may have this type of information.

Remember that it is always better to phone and ask for an appointment with the right person. Besides you have to ask for the total cost and additional costs to be pay as parking, cable TV etc. Generally, most of the apartments in Canada have refrigerator and stove. Electricity and water costs are generally included in the price, but you will have always to confirm it.

You will also have to take into account the monthly total cost of the rent and of the other family expenses. You will probably have to pay other services, as telephone, internet, cable TV and public transportation and other family expenses. Be sure that you may support all your monthly economic obligations.

Finally, take into account that in Quebec and Canada, a Rental Agreement is a legal contract which must be fulfilled by both parts according to what was agreed.
IMPORTANT

In Quebec, apartments and houses are rented with 12 months contracts. Remember always to ask the addition of an anticipate termination clause, in case you find a job far from that place and you need to move. Including this clause you will avoid paying a non fulfillment fine. It is reasonable to accept giving a one month notification to the owner, in case you need to move for working reasons. So the owner will have a month to rent the apartment.

Sites to look when searching an apartment:

APARTMENT RENTAL

http://www.louer.com/
http://www.sublet.com/City_Rentals/Quebec_Rentals.asp
http://www.rentals4u.ca/rental-54.aspx
http://www.acerenting.com/montreal/search-rentals-for-free.php
http://www.sublet.com/City_Rentals/Quebec_Rentals.asp
http://www.louer.com/
http://www.cityleases.com

23.5 FURNITURE AND ELECTRIC APPLIANCES

When you arrive to live at Quebec, you may bring your electric appliances without paying customs taxes. You should bring only appliances of quality, with seals of American (UL) or Canadian (CA) safety rules.

In Quebec and the rest of Canada normal electricity is:
• 120 Volts - 60 Hz

So if you are from Europe, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Peru or Brazil, where electricity is 220 volts - 50 Hz DO NOT bring appliances because you will not be able to use them in Canada. Besides the plugs in Canada are of the American type, different than the European type.

To start living in an apartment you will need to buy furniture and other things. Remember that you may bring your furniture using an international moving company. But you must analyze the costs and if this is a good solution.

On the other hand, many families initially buy basic cheap furniture. It is also a good idea to buy furniture with several functions, like sofa-beds. Air mattresses are also preferred sometimes, because they are easy to transport and install.

Remember that it is important to have furniture easy to transport, in the case you have to move from one place to another. Sometimes transport is more expensive than the price of the furniture.

23.6 PHONE

There are several telecommunication companies in Canada that offer phone lines. The line in Canada belongs to the person and not to the apartment or house. If you have to move to other part of the city, you will have the possibility of maintaining the same phone number. To obtain the phone line you will only have to contact one of that companies, probably make a small deposit and you will have your line installed in your apartment in a few days.

In general, phone service costs are fixed, with unlimited local calls. You will be able to use the phone as you want and also use it to connect to internet, with an extra fee.

IMPORTANT

International calls from your phone are VERY EXPENSIVE. If you want to call to your country you must buy “phone cards” for international calls, which are much cheaper for this type of calls. There are different plans for this type of calls (made through internet) and you may buy these cards in stores near your home.

23.7 ASKING INFORMATION

You are not alone when you start living in Quebec. The main objective of the Provincial Government is to help you to integrate into the community and to find the best possible job. Ask for help whenever you need it.

You may ask for an appointment at the Immigration-Québec Service of the Ministère de l’Immigration et des Communautés culturelles (MICC), near your home. Their function is to help immigrants, especially by giving basic information about establishment in the province and searching of a job. They shall evaluate your situation, help you to prepare and advice you on the most adequate form of starting your job search.
INFORMATIVE SESSIONS IN QUEBEC

Quebec Province Government offers to newcomers information sessions about living in Canada. It is advisable for you and your family, to attend those sessions during your first days in Quebec, to learn about basic community aspects and different topics related to your new environment. You will understand better the normal stages that immigrants have to go through to integrate to their new nationality.

23.8 DOCUMENTS THAT YOU HAVE TO OBTAIN

Following are the documents that you and each member of your family must obtain, as soon as possible, upon your arrival at Quebec

23.8.1 Social Insurance Number - SIN

This document is generally called SIN, and it will be your identification number in Canada. You will use it for official documents, with employers, government and financial institutions.

To obtain your Social Insurance Number you must follow these steps:

● Ask for the form in any Human Resources Canada centers or in Human Resources and Skills Development Canada.
● Fill in the form with the required information.
● File the form with your identification document at the Human Resources Canada Centre of your area.
● Be sure that your address, including P.O. is correct, since this document (plastic card) shall be mailed to your address.

This is a private number (only your employer may ask it); you must keep the card safe and bring it with you only when you have to make a special presentation.

23.8.2 QUEBEC HEALTH INSURANCE CARD - QHIC

Upon presentation of this document which has your photo, you will receive medical and hospital free attention in any part of Quebec Province. All the residents of the province are covered by this plan and each member of your family must have his own card. Immigrants may have this service after three months of arriving to the province. If you require medical attention during that period, you must pay for it; so many immigrants choose to buy a medical insurance.

To ask for the Health Insurance Card you must register in a Regie de l'assurance Maladie du Quebec (RAMQ) office.

23.8.3 DRIVER'S LICENSE

In order to drive a car in the Quebec Province you must have a valid license according to the vehicle you drive. You may use your international license to drive only the first 90 days from the day of your arrival. After that period, you must have a Quebec License. To apply for the license in Quebec, go to Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ) who will give to you the necessary information to change your license and the exam that you will have to take.
DRIVING IN QUEBEC

The Driver’s License will be the most important identification document that you must always have with you in Quebec and the rest of Canada. Information about your identification, birth date and address can be obtained through this document. You must maintain your Driver’s License updated each time you change of address. Thus, this is a document that should be obtained by all the people when they reach the age.

23.9 REGISTRY OF CHILDREN INTO THE CHILD BENEFIT

In Quebec, families with children under 18 and with low income or unemployed are benefited by economic help of the province and state to support their basic needs. Immigrant families have the right of receiving such help from their arrival, as permanent resident of Canada and Quebec.

There are two programs of this kind:

1. Provincial - Quebec, Family allowance, administrated by the Regie des Rentes du Quebec (RRQ). Amount of money is granted according to family income, number of children and type of family (one or two parents). There is also help for mental or physical handicap children.

2. Federal - Child Tax Benefit, administrated by the Canada Revenue Agency. Through this program mothers of children under 18 receive help. Amount per child depends on the annual family income, number of children, their ages and general situation of the family.

IMPORTANT

You must register your children by the first days of your stay in Quebec, to start receiving these two types of economic help. To register, fill in and file the forms in the Canada Revenue Agency office near your home. They shall take the data related to you family income from last year (the less income you declare, the higher the help shall initially be) and shall send the information to the RRQ, which will pay to you monthly the help from the Quebec Family Allowance.

In Canada, this help is granted to the mother. You will find further information on family help programs on Human Resources Canada centers or in the Ministère de la Famille, des Aînés et de la Condition féminine.

23.10 ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
IMPORTANT

Taking into account that as a skilled worker you are required to bring with you a minimum amount of money, it shall be necessary to open a Bank Account during the first days after your arrival. Initially it is better to open a “checking account”, from which you can withdraw money using bank machines or use checks to pay.

It is also important to have a credit card, for your credit history. Consult in the bank the possibilities you have as a customer. Remember that if you want in the future to take a loan to buy a car, a house or for education, you must have a reliable credit record.

23.10.1 CANADIAN COIN

The Canadian monetary unit is the CANADIAN DOLLAR ($), its value is around 80 and 90% of the United States dollar (2006)

Bills: $5, $10, $20 $50 and $100.
Coins 1 ¢, 5 ¢, 10 ¢, 25 ¢, $1 and $2.

23.10.2 COMMERCE

Stores in Quebec are open:
Monday to Friday 8.00 am to 9.00 pm
Saturdays and Sundays 8.00 am to 5.00 pm

Some stores like food stores (depanneurs), drugstores, gas stations, entertainment places, hotels etc have different open hours.

23.10.3 TAXES

In Quebec almost all the goods and service transactions pay the Federal Goods and Services Tax which is 7 % and the Quebec Sales Tax (QST) which is 7.5 %.

These taxes are generally not included in the prices of the goods or services quoted.

23.11 EDUCATION IN QUEBEC
23.11.1 REGISTRATION OF CHILDREN AT SCHOOL

When you arrive, you must search a school near home and register your children. In Quebec, academic period starts in the first week of September and ends by the end of June. It is obligatory to attend school for children between 6 and 16 years old.

Quebec has free public education from kindergarten to college (cegep). More than 80% of quebequians attend these schools. Most of the schools are francophone, although there is also some Anglophone.

There are also a group of private schools recognized by the (Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport o MELS) which the students have to pay for their tuition.

The DOCUMENTS that you have to present when you register your children at Preschool, Primary or Secondary School are the following:

- Quebec Selection Certificate
- Permanent Resident Visa
- Valid Passport
- Birth Certificate
- School Certificates, if applies (for college and university)

**NOTE**

Vaccination registers of the students have to be available, if required.

**IMPORTANT**

When you register your children at school, they shall be assigned to the grade according their age. For example, if he has 6 years old, he shall be assigned to 1st grade, if he has 12 years old, to 7th grade. Languages deficiencies or grades approved in other education systems shall not be taken into account.

You must present documents to certify birth date of the child for his registration.

23.11.2 KINDERGARDEN - PRE-SCHOOL

This is the first step of the education system, and its goal is to make the school environment, colleagues and teachers familiar to the student. It prepares the children to successfully begin primary education. It is not obligatory but is available for all in the province.

Students attend pre-school as follows:

- Half a day for four years old children.
- Full time for five years old children

23.11.3 PRIMARY

Every child of 6 years of age or of 5 years whose 6th birthday is before October 1st has to be registered to begin primary school. Preschool is not a requirement. Primary school in Quebec goes from 1st to 6th grade.
IMPORTANT

Newcomer students have access to complementary French classes to improve their use of the language. If your child does not speak French, it will be difficult for him to go to school and integrate within his group. Ask the school to help him with special teachers so he can learn quickly the new language and be able to integrate successfully. Many schools are prepared to help in this situation.

23.11.4 SECONDARY - HIGH SCHOOL

After the primary school 6 grades, the student shall continue his education with secondary, also called high school.

Attending the general program of 5 years, DEP degree is obtained, and the student may continue at College or University.

The student has also the alternative to take one of the different programs to learn a specific occupation, to get either a Vocational Studies Degree (DEP), or a Vocational Training Certificate (AEP).

In order to take one of these programs it is necessary to complete three to five secondary or high school levels. There are Vocational Studies Programs from one to three years.

23.11.5 COLLEGE

With the general high school program approved, the student may begin College studies, which is the first step of higher education. Public and private Colleges offer the students the following alternatives:

- Pre-university studies of two year duration as preparation for a university career.
- Technical Studies of up to three years, which allow students to reach a Technician Level.

23.12 LEARNING FRENCH

Speaking and effectively communicate in French are the most important aspects necessary to reach a good job position in Quebec, and be able to demonstrate your professional qualities. Your level of French will also help you to successfully integrate within the environment and shall increase your possibilities of getting a job faster.

Quebec Government shall help you to study French and succeed in integrating within the society and production. You and your family must take time to learn French from your arrival to Quebec. You will find several possibilities of free courses of French in the city.

You will find several French courses for adult immigrants, especially in big cities like Montreal, Quebec City etc. These courses go from basic to advanced levels and can be taken at different times. The intensity and duration of each course shall depend on the place you choose. You may find French courses for adult immigrants in different universities, colleges, community centers and local schools.

In some places, when you register for a course, day care for infants and even economic help for transportation shall be offered to you. Besides, through French courses, you will learn and know Quebec and Canada way of living, its history, politics, geography and other interesting aspect which are generally used to teach French language.
IMPORTANT

Once you find a home, you must register to take a full time French course. There you will improve your level of the language and it will serve you to start living in your new country.

Remember that the language is the key to find a good job, and if you begin working, you will not have enough time to study French.

23.13 EVALUATION OF YOUR STUDIES CERTIFICATES
(Academic Credentials Assessment)

Most professionals and skilled workers shall need an evaluation of the level and contents of their studies in their countries of origin, in order to be recognized and certified in Canada. The Academic Credentials Assessment (certificates, degrees or academic grades) it is done with different purposes:

1. Employment To certify education level in comparison with the Canadian and be able to enter the working market.
2. Academic For academic purposes, such as admission at post secondary institutions to take new courses or education programs.
3. Professional License To obtain the License to be admitted within professional organizations.
4. Immigration For immigration to Canada purposes. It is advisable to take this evaluation to start the process of obtaining the Permanent Resident Visa.

You will need to ask for an evaluation of your academic studies and a comparison of your credentials with the education standards of Quebec. The first step is to translate your certificates and degrees to English (or French in Quebec) by a Registered Translator.

There are several organizations where you can go for the evaluation. This service has a fee you will have to pay. Most of these organizations evaluate your degrees and certificates only with employment, academic or immigration purposes.

In Montreal, you can ask for your credentials evaluation service at the following organization:

SERVICE DES EQUIVALENCES D’ETUDES
Ministere des Relations avec les Citoyens et de L’Immigration
454 Place Jacques-Cartier, 5 etage
Montreal, Quebec
Tel (514) 873-5647

The Ministry issues an official document: "Avis d’équivalence d’études" which indicates the equivalent by the Quebec education system of the studies made outside the province. This document allows employers and educative institutions to take decisions regarding hiring or admitting the individual who presents such document.

IMPORTANT

Verify in which organization you will need to be professionally or academically recognized before starting the evaluation process.

To obtain specific information about academic credentials evaluation in any area, consult:

Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials - CICIC
96 St. Clair Avenue West, Suite 1106
Toronto, Ontario M4V 1N6 Canada

The EICIC does not offer the evaluation service. This organism assists persons who want to know how to obtain their credentials evaluation to obtain professional credentials. They will tell you which is the organization or professional council where you have to go.
23.14 SEARCHING JOB IN QUEBEC

Quebec Government has a helping service for searching jobs through the centres locaux d’emploi, also call CLES (Local employment centres). Each employment centre has experimented personnel whose purpose is to help immigrants in their search of a job. They will help you to write your resume and cover letters. They shall analyze your case and shall advice you how to manage your search. At their premises you will find newspapers, specific publications, PCs with printers and internet, phones, faxes, directories and information of the companies, etc, that will be very useful for searching a job.

We recommend using the services of these employment centers. You may also ask for an evaluation of your personal case, by a CLE agent, to know his suggestions for your case and a personal action plan according to your own needs.

There are also other organizations in the Quebec Province which may help you in your job search. It is important to know the way that you have to follow and the potential employers in that particular area. Nobody shall guarantee a job to you, but will help you to be successful in your search.

Searching for a job in Quebec is a full time work, if you want to get a good job where you could use your education, experience and personal abilities. It is also an individual task of great responsibility which takes much personal effort.

IMPORTANT

Your Job Search in Quebec shall be more efficient if you take into account the information and recommendations of previous chapters of this Guide. Take into account the following factors in your search:

• Training Courses to search a job.
• NETWORK
• Employment Local Centers - CLEs
• Services for Immigrants - MICC immigration and integration
• Community Organizations for searching jobs help.
• Recruitment Agencies
• Job searchers clubs
• Internet, Newspapers, Magazines.
• Call colds

In Montreal there are different job search clubs, sponsored by Emploi Quebec.

The following is a very good training program for searching job for professional and skilled worker immigrants who arrived recently to Montreal.

Objectif Jeunesse
Program: Training for searching a job, including stage time at companies.
Language: French

Aimed to: People from all cultural communities.
Address: 7501, rue François-Perreault, 2nd floor (St-Michel Metro Station)
In Montreal there are different job search clubs, sponsored by Emploi Quebec.

The following is a very good training program for searching job for professional and skilled worker immigrants who arrived recently to Montreal.

**Objectif Jeunesse**
Program: Training for searching a job, including stage time at companies.

Language: French

Aimed to: People from all cultural communities.
Address: 7501, rue François-Perreault, 2nd floor (St-Michel Metro Station)

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**DISCLAIMER**

The information and recommendations of this Guide must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depends only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.

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1. What is a Canadian Permanent Resident Visa?

A Canadian Permanent Resident Visa is a document which allows the one who gets it and his family to work, study and live legally in any part of Canada. This Visa has no expiration date, as long as the holder follows Canadian laws, and it grants Permanent Resident Status, also called Landed Immigrant. After 3 years of living in Canada, Permanent Residents have the right to apply for citizenship and Canadian passport.

2. Which rights are acquired with the Canadian Permanent Resident Visa?

As a permanent resident, you will have the same rights of Canadian citizens like social and medical security, economic help for children, free primary and secondary education etc. In summary, you will have the same rights as any Canadian citizen, except voting, exclusive right for citizens.

3. To whom Canadian Permanent Resident Visa is granted?

Categories to obtain resident visa are as follows:

- **Skilled Workers** Skilled workers, technicians and professionals with experience.
- **Investors** People with at least $ 800,000 to invest (in some provinces needed money is less).
- **Entrepreneurs** People with enough experience and money to start a new business and administrate it.
- **Independent Workers** People with enough capacity and money to work independently.
- **Family Class** People with relatives living in Canada.
- **Refugees** People who can demonstrate that their lives are in danger in their countries of origin, or for other humanitarian reasons.

4. When the Canadian Permanent Resident Visa is lost?

Canadian Permanent Resident Visa is only lost if the person commits a crime or if he lives outside the country more than 3 years in a period of 5.

5. How is the Skilled Workers Program?

This is the program through which skilled workers, technicians and professionals with experience are selected. A Point system is used to evaluate the following aspects:

- **Age**
Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

If you want to hire a Registered Immigration Consultant, if you wish to

we can recommend to you one

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

If you need so, we can help you to start the process and supply you the

Eligible professions by Canadian government?

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

There are two ways:

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

There are more than 1500 professions and trades eligibles in the Skilled Worker program to get

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

There are more than 1500 professions and technical occupations accepted by Canadian government

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

How do I know if my profession or occupation is listed within the eligible

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

Who qualifies for the permanent residence?

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

How do I know if I am eligible to obtain a Resident Visa as professional or skilled

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

How do I know if I am eligible to obtain a Resident Visa as professional or skilled

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

Who can be included within your application form?

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

Is it necessary to hire a consultant or lawyer to immigrate to Canada?

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

According to the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration Canada CIC it is NOT necessary. There is also no difference if you hire an Immigration Consultant and pay an expensive fee or if you apply personally. Duration of the process shall be the same with or without consultant, since applications are process in strict order at the Embassies.

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

There are two additional reasons why you should not expend your money in expensive consultants: First, the selection process is objective, which means that points shall be assigned following a known table issued by the government, and points depend exclusively of fulfilling the requirements for each subject. The second reason is that the forms and information to follow the process to emigrate to Canada are free and available for everyone, at the Canadian embassies or at the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration Canada CIC.

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

Most of the Skilled Workers that arrive per year to Canada have made the immigration process by themselves, without the help of consultants or lawyers. It is reasonable to think that a professional or technician with university or post secondary education shall be capable of following the written instructions, gather the right documents, reading, understanding and filling in the form with his and his family own information. If you are not capable of following this process by yourself, it could be the announcement of a future failure, when this immigrant have to use his own resources and knowledge to compete and get a job in the working Canadian market, which is not an easy market, by the way.

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

If you need so, we can help you to start the process and supply you the forms absolutely free at info@canada42.com.

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

If you wish to emigrate as Investor or Entrepreneur, or if you don’t have enough time to make the process and you want to hire a Registered Immigration Consultant, we can recommend to you one

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

Worker receives points according to the tables designed by the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration Canada CIC. To be eligible, minimum points are 67.

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

6. How do I know if I am eligible to obtain a Resident Visa as professional or skilled worker for the Canadian Government?

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

There are two ways:

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

1. Calculate yourself the points following step by step the proceedings explained in Chapter 4 and Chapter 5 of this book.

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

2. Calculate ON-LINE at the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration Canada CIC

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

7. Who qualifies for the permanent residence?

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

There are more than 1500 professions and technical occupations accepted by Canadian government for immigration purposes. Professionals with University level in engineer, mathematics, social sciences, computing or administration with enough experience (1 to 3 years depending on the occupation), have the better possibilities to obtain permanent residence as Skilled Workers. Also technicians as electricians, carpenters, medical equipment operators, cooks etc can qualify within this category.

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

8. How do I know if my profession or occupation is listed within the eligible professions by Canadian government?

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

There are more than 1500 professions and trades eligibles in the Skilled Worker program to get permanent Resident visa. To see if your profession is within the eligible ones, consult our page of Eligible Professions - NOM, chapter # 3

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

9. Who can be included within your application form?

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

If you are married, your wife may be included. You will also have to include in your application all of

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

your children depending on you, even though they will not travel with you to Canada. All the persons that depend on you shall approve judicial records and medical exams. Children older than 19 years will have to fill in their own application form, even when they depend on you. Older children can be included as dependent companions. In general, parents cannot be included as dependent companions. You will be able to apply for your parents once you are a permanent resident and have secured your economic situation.

Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

10. Is it necessary to hire a consultant or lawyer to immigrate to Canada?

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Eligible Professions – NOM, chapter #

Worker receives points according to the tables designed by the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration Canada CIC. To be eligible, minimum points are 67.
with experience and at a reasonable cost. It is advisable to hire a consultant member of the Canadian Society of Immigration Consultants (CSIC), or an Attorney member of the Canadian Law Society, who shall be authorized to act on your behalf before CIC. Contact us at info@canada42.com and we will recommend you a consultant who speaks your own language.

11. How difficult is the Immigration Process?

It is rather easy, if you are a Professional or technician and you understand how to follow the written instructions. It will depend on the information you have and the order the take to fill in the forms and support that information with documents. The impression of hundreds of persons who have already done it, in general, this process is rather simple, although large. Nevertheless, if you consult to an Immigration Consultant, they will surely show to you that it is more complex, difficult and risky. That will serve to them to charge higher fees to you, when they will basically only give information to you and make a revision of your documents.

Before hiring an immigration consultant, take the following into account:

• With or without Consultant, you will have to take the same steps in your process.
• You will have to fill in the forms by yourself.
• You will need to gather all your certificates and documents.
• You will have to approve your own medical exam and get your police certificate.
• You and your family will have to go to the interview.
• You are the one who better knows your own history.
• You will not save time or money if you have to send your documents to a consultant (in other country), with the only purpose of looking for possible mistakes.

On the other hand, the effectiveness of your immigration process shall depend mainly on you. With a little bit of order and common sense, you will be able to prepare your own case, being sure that all the information is right, that your documents are clear and that all the important matters shall be included in the correct place, and supported with the correct document.

12. How long can the process take?

Normally, this process may take between 12 and 24 months, as from the moment of filing the application until the Permanent Resident Visa is obtained.

13. Which is the difference between the Federal and Provincial Nomination Systems?

The Canadian Government is responsible for the selection and issuance of the visas for candidates to establish in each Canadian province. Nevertheless, there are special agreements through which different provinces have the right and resources to select candidates and their families, according to their demographic and working needs, except in Quebec. This province has a special agreement signed with Canadian government and has the power to select its own immigrants. But, Federal Government of Canada maintains the responsibility of making the medical exams and investigates judicial records for the issuance of the visa.

14. Which are the Provinces with Nomination Programs for Professionals and Skilled Workers?

In our concept, the widest program among the provinces is the one of Quebec. That program is rather advisable to Spanish speaking people, which do not speak English, but fulfill the other requirements of age, profession, experience etc. In this case language to be learned is French, but the requirements are not so strict and can be achieved in a short term. The other province that has a program for Skilled Workers is Manitoba.

15. Which are the main characteristics of the Quebec Immigration Program in comparison with Canadian Federal Program?

Quebec province has its own program to select skilled workers and professionals who want to live in it. This Immigration Provincial Program is based in minimum of 60 points is different from the Canadian Federal Program (which has been shown in the first chapters of this book) and the main characteristics are the following points:

• Professions and occupations accepted are those needed at Quebec Province (see 18.6 Accepted Occupations in Quebec).
• Required language is French, and accepted level is not necessary high. Points for language level are not so relevant like in the Federal Program of Canada (25/67 points).
• The selection process gives more points to applicants between 23 and 30 years.
• The Quebec Province takes into account for points some family aspects like number of children and wife's education.
• The interview plays a key role in the selection process, since the Quebec's Visa Officer will have the opportunity to evaluate and determine points for the "ADAPTABILITY" factor, based on aspects like personal qualities of the applicant, motivation, personal knowledge of the province, having relatives or
friends in Quebec.

16. How much money is necessary to come to live in Canada?

The minimum amount of money shall depend on the number of members of your family (Uddated to 2008-Jul)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Members of your family</th>
<th>Required funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$10,168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$12,659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$15,563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$18,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$21,431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>$24,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7+</td>
<td>$26,910</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY THINGS OF LIVING IN CANADA

IMPORTANT

Moving with your family from your native country to begin a new life in Canada, is perhaps, one of the most important decisions to take in your life. This decision must be evaluated very carefully, taking into account all the available information and REAL judgment elements (not myths, supposed thoughts or wrong stereotypes)

Our purpose in this chapter is to show you information and vision from different angles of the immigration process in Canada for Professionals and Skilled Workers.

NOTE: Our comments are based on the experience and results obtained for other skilled workers and they are aimed to inform you about the life in Canada for the very point of view of an immigrant. This information and our opinions have to be taken only as a reference and we shall not take any responsibility for the results obtained in your personal case.

25.1 THE GOOD THINGS OF LIVING IN CANADA.

- LEGALITY

In today's world there are very little possibilities for a professional or worker from a third world country to establish and LEGALLY live, with permanent resident visa, in a developed country. Only Canada, Australia and New Zealand openly offer this possibility, through organized immigration programs, within the reach of anybody.

- STILLNESS

Canada is one of the countries with crime and delinquency lower rate in the world. Here you can live knowing that you and your family shall not be robbed or abused by criminals, while this kind of episodes is
common in most cities of the world. People and property respect is rule number one for Canadians, thus everybody live in a safely and quiet environment.

Dialing #911 all over the country, you will receive immediate attention in case of emergency from police, medical emergency, ambulance, accidents or any other help needed in critical cases.

- **ECONOMY**

Due to its strategic position, near USA and its close relationship with Commonwealth countries (England, Australia etc) Canada has a position that let it maintain its solid economy. Besides, due to Canadian natural resources and industrialized agriculture, the country has been an important food supplier for many countries in the world.

- **PROTECTION FROM THE STATE**

Few countries in the world support their citizens when they need it as Canada. Even in critical illnesses cases or unemployment, Canada will always help every family to have basic elements, through the state or private organizations. Food, home, clothes, education.

The following are some of the social protection programs for Canadian residents:

- Monthly allowance for each child under 18.
- Unemployment insurance
- Economic help for people older than 65 with low income.
- Economic help for families with low income or
- Economic help for ill people.

- **NATURE**

Canada is a country with a great variety of fauna and flora, with many lakes and national parks. From spring to fall, Canadians all over the country enjoy nature with many outdoors activities: Camping, fishing, jogging, sailing, sports, etc, or simply by visiting towns and regions. During the winter, recreational activities in the snow as sky, skating, hockey etc are very popular.

The air is always fresh and clean due to the abundance of trees and green zones in all Canadian cities. A good example to illustrate this point is the huge quantity of fruits (apples, pears etc) in the trees or falling by the end of the summer and rest in gardens, parks, roads, ways and green public zones in all Canadian provinces.

In all Canadian cities, even in the larger ones, is very common to find in gardens and green zones, wild animals adapted to city life which live together with Canadians, like squirrels, raccoons, skunks, weasels and Canadian ducks etc. Near the cities and in the highways transit signals alerting drivers of the presence of deer, stags, caribou, reindeer etc. are very frequent.

- **WORKING OPPORTUNITIES**

Canada shall need thousands of skilled workers in the next 10 years, mainly for two reasons: First for the solid and growing economy and second, because of the large portion of the citizens are retiring at 65 and there are not young people to replace them at working market.

Besides, there is no age discrimination (by law, nobody shall ask you your age nor you will have to write it down). So every person younger than 65 has the same opportunities.
- **CHILDREN EDUCATION**

Primary (1 to 6 grades) and secondary (7 to 12 grades) education are obligatory and free for all the children in Canada. More than 90% of the school population goes to the public school system, and quality level is controlled every year through official exams. This guarantees that all the students in Canada have the same education and opportunities level, no matter their economic, social or cultural level.

Many times, young immigrant children, educated in the Canadian system, with merely one or two years of College education, get easily good jobs with good salaries (even better than most of the immigrant professionals). As we have repeated several times in this book, the key to get a job with a decent salary in Canada is to have a good level of English, and a Canadian degree, certificate or license. Immigrant children shall get these with no difficulty.

For those who study a professional career in a Canadian University, future shall be even shiner, since in many professions they will not have to compete with professional immigrants (doctors, dentists, lawyers, professors etc).

Besides, the second generation of immigrants (children of the first immigrant) may have another advantage in their academic or professional formation, even over many Canadian. They will speak English or French and they will be able to speak their native language (Spanish), which will be very useful, especially to get jobs in a multinational company or in the government.

- **SEASON DIVERSITY**

Due to its geographic position, Canada has four seasons well delimited, so Canadians are in changing constantly of activities, uses, clothes, sports, food etc. This climatic variety, allows children, for example to diversify sports and physical, sports and cultural activities.

- **STANDARD OF LIFE**

Canada is one of the countries in the world with highest standard of live, higher than USA and many European countries. Per capita annual income is over $38.000 dollars.

- **RESPECT TO THE IMMIGRANT**

Canada is a nation built by immigrant families from all over the world, so it is very common to receive and integrate new immigrants. Respect for uses and peoples freedom is a fundamental rule of the Canadian society. With the Permanent Resident Visa, the immigrant acquires the same rights than other Canadian citizens (except voting).

- **OPPORTUNITIES WITHOUT AGE DISCRIMINATION**

In many countries, with skilled labor force of young people, older people have many troubles to find work because of the age. In Canada, there is no age discrimination, and the government has rules to protect older people. Which is important to get a job is to be qualified to do it well, no matter the age, sex or religion, etc.

- **FUTURE OF YOUR KIDS**

In Canada there are good job possibilities for all, including immigrants, and persons born in the country.
Nevertheless, those who have Canadian education and perfectly speak English and French will naturally have better opportunities to get a job, in private companies or in the government.

- FUTURE CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP AND PASSPORT

After three years of residence, the immigrant may apply for the citizenship and the Canadian passport. With this passport you will be able to enter and exit without a visitor visa many countries in the world, including USA and European Union Countries. Canadians are welcomed in most parts of the world and they are known for their impartial, pacific and humanitarian character.

With Canadian passport you will also be allowed to work in other countries as USA, England and Australia, with which Canadian government has especial agreements.

- FOOD

Food in Canada is cheap and of good quality. There is a great variety of products of the country (fruits, cereals, beef, milk) but it is also common to find the best products of many countries of the world at good prices in supermarkets all over the country.

More over, there is a recommendation from the Health Ministry to the immigrants to control their diet and health especially during the first months in Canada to avoid gaining weight (very frequent especially in women) consuming new products that are easy to find and cheap in Canada. Another reason for this situation is the lack of outdoor exercise during the winter and cold season (end of fall until spring).

In general cost of food and related products is low in Canada. A Canadian family of 4 (2 adults and 2 kids) with average income expends less than 10 % of their total annual income in food. In many countries, this average is between 20 % and 35 %, depending on the income per capita of the country.

25. 2 THE “BAD” OF CANADA

- COST OF HOUSING

In the main cities of Canada like Toronto or Vancouver, the cost of renting apartments and houses is very high. In other cities and towns is a little bit cheaper. (In Montreal, Quebec City and other Quebec province cities the cost is much cheaper).

To live in a two bedroom apartment, with a rental in Toronto around $1200 (including Cable TV, phone and garage) a person working with a salary near the minimum ($8/hour) would have to work more than 150 hours per week (more than 3 ½ week per month, 42 hours/week). In these cases, you will have to work many hours or to have two jobs to cover other family expenses.

Cost of housing in Toronto or Vancouver is almost comparable to expensive cities in the world, like Tokyo, New York, Paris or Hong Kong. Nevertheless, the contrast is not fair, since these expensive cities are in the most populated areas of the world (more than 2000 inhabitants per km2) while Canadian cities are in a country with one of the lowest densities in the world (3 inhabitants per km2). Some of the reasons for the expensive cost are:

● Constant demand of housing due to the great number of immigrants that yearly arrive to Canada, which, among the requirements to obtain the resident visa have to have enough money to support housing and food for at least 6 months.
● Luxurious interest of economic groups and Canadians in general who have secured their investments in big buildings of high profitability against the needs and economic possibilities of the immigrants.
● Even though this is a very big country, more than 80% of the immigrants chose some of the metropolitan areas of the three big cities to start their lives in Canada (Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal). This is mainly for three reasons: Milder weather, better job opportunities and modern transport systems.

- INSURANCE COSTS

To drive a car in Canada is obligatory for the driver to have a driver's license and have an insurance at his name to protect him in case of being guilty of an accident. The price of this insurance for immigrants, with no driving experience in North America, is generally high (between $ 300 and $ 400+ monthly) for the first year in some provinces like Ontario and British Columbia (in Quebec is cheaper). When experience and history are acquired, the cost shall decrease a little bit, if there have been no accidents or transit offences.

On the other hand, you will have to insure any loan granted to you. This insurance shall pay the money owed to the store (SEARS for example) or the bank in case you fail to do it for any reason.
- LEAVING THE FAMILY

As it was said at the beginning of this chapter, maybe the strongest emotional factor felt by immigrants is to leave their family ties behind. Each person has different feelings and reactions on this aspect.

But there are 2 points in favor of this situation: The first is that you may be able to send an invitation to your loved ones, once you have a stable life and a good job, to visit you in Canada, especially to parents, brothers and nephews. The second is that if you have the Permanent Resident or citizen status, you will be able to travel to your country of origin whenever you want.

Many families use cheap communication systems available through internet (MSN, Yahoo messenger etc) to be in permanent contact, talk and see through the Webcams, without paying expensive international phone calls.

Many immigrants travel each year or when they can to see their families. Others travel each three or more years. There are also some immigrants that never return and they don't want to do it.

- COLD

The long cold season, which in Canada goes from November to March, is perhaps the aspect which mainly takes into account the people that don't want to live in Canada, especially for people who have lived all their lives in tropical countries. During that season, after Christmas, there is a trend towards emotional depression, stressed by the lack of warm sun and the short period of daily light (sun rises after 8:00 am and dawn is at 5:00 pm), with average temperatures below 0 C.

Nevertheless, during the cold season, the schools, manufacturing plants, offices, stores etc work normally. Canadians have adopted the technology and its resources to make their homes, offices and other interiors comfortable through warming systems which maintain a nice temperature for people. Also the transport system, buses, trains, churches etc are warmed with electrical or gas warming systems.

- VALUE OF THE MONEY OF POOR COUNTRIES

It is highly possible that when an immigrant decides to sell all his properties in his country of origin (car, apartment, appliances etc) to come to Canada, will feel the low value of the local currency of his country.

For example, a three bedroom apartment of 100 m2 in the Capital City of a Latin American country may cost around $ 60,000 (a supposition to illustrate this example). In Toronto or Vancouver, with this money you will only pay the 25 % or 30 % of a similar apartment, which cost is higher than $ 190,000.

On the other hand, for an immigrant coming from Korea, Japan, India, Italy, Russia or other European country, where the price of their currencies is higher, the difference is not so big. A 100 m2 apartment in any of the above mentioned countries may cost around $ 140,000 or even more, like in England, which has one of the strongest currencies in the world, and country of origin of many immigrants to Canada. (This comparison was made based on my own experience and according to informal information given by some immigrants from those countries).

According to this analysis and the comments of some immigrants from Latin American and Asian countries (with currencies with low value), which have their own homes at their cities of origin and have lived the experience of selling it to move to Canada, the result of these economy realities made immigrants more poor in relative terms.

In other terms, when a professional from Latin America, who have been economically stable in his country of origin, moves to Canada, the first impact he will feel in his finances is that he will be relatively poorer in his new habitat. The consequence of this phenomenon will be that he will have to work again 15 years or more to have his home completely paid.

- HIGH COST OF UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

The cost of post secondary education in some provinces of Canada, like Ontario is very high. There are no universities supported with public resources. So, most of the universities are private entities which charge freely for their services, in a free market where prices are determined by the offer and demand laws. Annual cost in some universities could be higher than $15,000 per year (tuition fees and support) to study careers like Law, Medicine, Engineering etc.

The high cost of the university education in Canada is one of the factors because of which this country is constantly accepting professional immigrants educated in other countries, which will face at their arrival to Canada, among other barriers, the lack of acknowledgement of their titles and degrees by Canadian professional councils. Many of them shall work in private companies in their areas, but their salaries shall be low with the argument that they don't have Canadian professional certificates, working experience or professional registry to sign. This situation is very common in Canada, which allows many companies to save money maintaining a good quality level, being thus more competitive than the USA market, which let them offer their products and services in that country. For example, million of spare parts for cars are daily produced in Canada and transported to USA by land for companies like Chrysler, General Motors, Ford etc, because of the lower production costs and the good Canadian quality. This continuous industrial and
commercial activity with USA is basic for Canadian economy and most part of it is handled by new professionals and skilled immigrant workers.

**IMPORTANT**

Another reason why Canada seeks for Skilled Workers to live in this country is that Canadian young professionals recently graduated from Canadian Universities many times move to USA, where their studies and degrees are recognized without problem. The reasons for this trend are different:

- The need of earning more money to pay huge educative loans that in most of the cases are necessary to pay the university studies at a Canadian university.
- In USA they may have better salaries and opportunities since the competence there is not as strong as in Canada, where many immigrants highly qualified work for any salary.
- Their professional degrees are easily recognized.
- Warmer weather

Note: 1 of 5 Doctors (physicians) and 2 of 5 Engineers educated and graduated in Canada are living and working in USA or other countries.

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**25.3 THE “UGLY” OF CANADA**

- **TO BE TO LAST IN THE LINE**

It is always a disadvantage to be the last in the line in many situations that immigrants have to face: Visa application, travel, housing and job search, etc. As many other situations, these shall only be temporary. The positive way of considering these facts is to have an action plan, which will let you get benefit, welfare and a better future for you and your family.

- **TAXES**

As an old saying (Canadian?) says: , “There are only two sure things in a man’s life: First, that he shall pay taxes, the second, that he will die” hat

And in Canada this is absolutely right. You will have to pay the following sale tax over most of the products (some food products are the exception):

- 7 % - GST
- 7 % - PST

On the other hand, every worker has to pay an income tax which shall be deducted from his salary by the employer. Rate is different according to the amount of the salary, and it is calculated over the total salary earned per year. These taxes (In Ontario) are the following:

- Low Salaries: Between $1,000 and $ 31,676 per year you shall pay taxes from 0% to 15.9 % (aprox)
- Medium Salaries: Between $31,677 and $ 63,353 per year you shall pay taxes from 16% to 25.9% % (aprox)
- High Salaries: Between $63,354 and $ 103,000 per year you shall pay taxes from 26% to 29% % (aprox)
- Salaries over $103,000 per year you shall pay taxes of 29 %.

As a worker or employee, from the base amount shall be deducted the following:
• CPP contribution to pension plan.

• EI - Employment Insurance

NOTE: The rates shown above are aprox. for Ontario, and are the addition of different type of taxes imposed on workers (Ontario Provincial Income Tax, Ontario Health Premium, etc). These taxes may vary in other provinces of Canada, where rates are generally lower.

Tax rates pay by Canadian citizens are within the highest around the world. There are different reasons:

• Health and education financed by the state.
• Large quantity of government employees with high salaries (burocracy)
• Relatively small population in a big country, where expenses are high (highways, police, public services, firemen, town employees, etc).

For further information on taxes, follow the following link: TAXES _ ONTARIO

- START FROM THE BEGINNING (ZERO)

When you start living in Canada, you will have to learn again many things that you used to do as a routine in your country of origin. Moreover, to integrate in your new country and increase your possibilities of finding a good job, you will have to go to schools where you will learn important things as:

• ENGLISH or FRENCH School

Schools to learn English and French are free for immigrants and the best way to increase your level of these languages.

If you decide to live at Quebec Province, you will have to learn French to successfully integrate into the working and social environment. In order to be more successful in your career of profession in Quebec, you will also have to learn English, since business and commercial relations are handled in both languages.

• Driving School

To drive a car in Canada it is obligatory to have a Drivers License, which it is obtained if you approve at least 2 exams (Theory and Road Tests). Even when you have driven a car many years in your country, you will have to take those exams. Although it is not obligatory to have a certificate from a driving school, it is advisable to take a driving course or private lessons, to increase your possibilities of approving the Road Test. In general, immigrants need to take more than once the road test to finally approve it and obtain the license.

• Job Search Courses

These courses offered to immigrants are the best way of learning the Canadian way of searching a job. In these courses, you will learn resume techniques, how to write cover letters, and in some cases, how to prepare for the interviews.

• College or University

If you take a university course (master) in your profession in Canada, it will be much easier for you to get a good job there. In that way, you will get profession recognition of your career and besides you will have a degree from a Canadian institution, with which you will increase you "employability".

Technology update, professional ethics and Canadian technical codes (security, electricity, construction, handling of gas, food etc) courses have to be taken in the cases of many professions and technical careers in order to be recognized by professional unions and obtaining obligatory special licenses.

• Learn History, Geography and Politics of Canada

After 3 years of living in Canada, Permanent Residents have the right to apply for citizenship and Canadian passport. In order to obtain them, applicants under 60 must prepare and approve an exam in English or French on Geography, History and Politics Administration of Canada. To prepare for this exam, you can take a school course or you can study by yourself.

• Adapt to New Social Uses

Even though many immigrants try to keep their own original cultures, it is also necessary to observe Canadian people uses and rules, especially when dealing with other people. Many uses are common in the occidental world, other are more local customs. Among these uses, the most important are:

• Before a visit, you have to make a call and confirm. In many countries of the world, surprise visits to friends or relatives are accepted, this is not the use in Canada. It is always advisable to call your friends to announce your visit, and not arrive by surprise.
- **During a Visit** When they arrive to a house or apartment, all the visitors take off their shoes, and put them orderly in a small closet or box and then enter the house only with the sockets. This use is very generalized, no matter the culture or origin of the house owner. If you don’t do it, it is taken as a lack of respect for the house owner.

- **Punctuality** People use to arrive to a place at the arranged time. Arriving 5 or more minutes later it is considered an offense.

### LACK OF NETWORK (FRIENDS)

This is the normal situation of many immigrants. One of the disadvantages of not having a network is when you are searching a job, since more than the 70% of the potential jobs are in the hidden market, and those job searches are never posted.

As time passes, the immigrant shall built his network, through people known in different stages of his adaptation in Canada (technical courses, English schools, work courses etc.) The positive part of this stage for the Skilled Worker in Canada is that most of their new friends shall be of their own education level, in similar conditions and with the same needs. Through this communication with other immigrants, especially those speaking the same language, people and families exchange experiences and learn important data about the life in Canada.

### WORKING UNSTABILITY

Most workers in Canada are hired with salaries based on an hourly fee. Working journey is of 40 to 44 hours per week, depending on the province. When there is not enough work in a company, they simply tell their employees not to come until they are needed again. They will not receive any salary or compensation for the day or time when they don’t work (unemployment insurance does not cover the first two weeks) and before the Ministry of Work this is a normal situation.

For example, in a manufacturing company of spare parts for a Michigan (USA) company, parts are not manufactured if it is a holiday in USA, since there is no car production these days, so their workers shall not have to go to work, and therefore, shall not receive any salary for that day.

Besides, every day it is becoming more popular in Canada to use Temporal Employment Agencies, especially in big companies, like Car spare parts manufacturers, so they do not hire their employees directly. This form of employment benefits the industrial companies by reducing costs, and damages workers, who shall receive a lower salary than a direct employee of the company, since the temporary agency shall receive a part of it.

### COMPETENCE

Canadian Immigration Program for Professionals and skilled workers is universal, and each week thousands of immigrants arrive from countries all over the world. The twelve most common countries of origin of the immigrants who arrived to Canada in 2004 and 2005 are: China, India, Philippines, Pakistan, USA, Colombia, United Kingdom, Korea, Iran, France, Rumania and Russia.

It is worth mentioned that professional and skilled workers arriving to Canada are not only from third world countries, many immigrants are from first world countries, like USA, England, Italy and France. These immigrants have the advantage of the language and their degrees are more easily recognized compared to workers of other countries.

### COST OF SOME SERVICES

Apart from expensive taxes and home rental, other basic services are equally expensive, like gas (indispensable during winter) and Cable TV (necessary to be informed, especially to know daily weather). During January and February the cost of gas, only used for heating purposes at home (not for cooking) may reach $ 300 to $ 400 per month. Cable TV fee (including internet) may be between $ 90 and $ 120 per month, depending on the service. In other terms, to support these basic services, you will have to work between 48 to 65 hours in a $ 8 per hour job.

### DRIVING EXAMS

A valid driver’s license is obligatory in Canada to drive. That license can be obtained applying and approving practical exams. It is not easy to approve Road Tests in highways, and you will be rejected if you make mistakes in some of the 50 or more subjects evaluated by the examiner during the road test. In practice, most immigrants have to apply several times for these exams until they approve and get the license.

### PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

### ALL THE UNPLEASEANT SURPRISES THAT YOU MAY FIND IF YOU HAVE NOT
READ CAREFULLY THIS BOOK AND APPLIED THE ADVISES.

THE 21 MOST COMMON MISTAKES MADE BY IMMIGRANTS:

MISTAKE # 1
- TO BELIEVE THAT IN ORDER TO GET THE PERMANENT RESIDENT VISA FOR CANADA YOU NEED TO HIRE A VISA CONSULTANT TO PREPARE THE DOCUMENTS.

MISTAKE # 2
- TRAVEL TO CANADA IN WINTER (JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH), WITH NO PLACE TO GO OR HAVING NO KNOWLEDGE TO SETTLE IN CANADA, WITHOUT ADEQUATE CLOTHES FOR WINTER.

MISTAKE # 3
- TO THINK THAT GETTING THE PERMANENT RESIDENT VISA FOR CANADA IS THE MOST IMPORTANT POINT TO ACHIEVE AND COME TO CANADA POORLY PREPARED AND WITHOUT A DEFINITE ACTION PLAN.

MISTAKE # 4
- ACCEPT AND SIGN RENTAL OF APARTMENT OR HOUSE CONTRACT IN WHICH YOU ARE REQUIRED TO LEAVE A DEPOSIT IN CUSTODY.

MISTAKE # 5
- ACCEPT TO WORK IN THE FIRST FULL TIME JOB OFFERED TO YOU.

MISTAKE # 6
- TO SETTLE IN A NEIGHBOURHOOD WHERE MOST OF THE PEOPLE IS FROM YOUR CULTURE, SO YOUR WIFE AND YOURSELF WILL NOT HAVE TO LEARN ENGLISH IN ORDER TO COMMUNICATE AND PROGRESS.

MISTAKE # 7
- PAY NO ATTENTION TO THE COURSES TO LEARN HOW TO SEARCH FOR A JOB (JOB SHOPS) WHEN YOU ARRIVE TO CANADA.

MISTAKE # 8
- TO HAVE SEVERAL CREDIT CARDS WITHOUT KNOWING HOW TO USE THEM IN THIS AGGRESSIVE ENVIROMENT.

MISTAKE # 9
- TO BELIEVE THAT A UNIVERSITY AND MASTER DEGREES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN A HIGH LEVEL OF ENGLISH.

MISTAKE #10
- NOT TAKING UPDATE COURSES OF YOUR SPECIALITY
MISTAKE # 11
- BUYING A CAR WITHOUT KNOWING THE INSURANCE PRICE AND/OR HAVING A DRIVER'S LICENSE.

MISTAKE # 12
- ASK FOR SERVICES OR BUY ARTICLES WITHOUT KNOWING BEFORE THE PRICE.

MISTAKE # 13
- STAY IN A RENTED HOUSE FOR MORE THAN 3 YEARS.

MISTAKE # 14
- BUY A HOUSE OR APARTMENT WELL ABOVE YOUR ECONOMIC CAPACITY.

MISTAKE # 15
- AT STORES OR SUPERMARKETS, CONVERT CANADIAN DOLLAR PRICES TO THE CURRENCY OF YOUR COUNTRY.

MISTAKE # 16
- BELIEVE THAT YOU WILL QUICKLY APPROVE DRIVING EXAMS JUST BECAUSE YOU HAVE BEEN DRIVING FOR A LONG TIME IN YOUR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, WITHOUT PROPERLY PREPARE YOURSELF BEFORE.

MISTAKE # 17
- MAKE THE JOB SEARCH ONLY THROUGH INTERNET AND NEWSPAPERS.

MISTAKE # 18
- THINK THAT GETTING A GOOD JOB IN CANADA IS AN EASY TASK.

MISTAKE # 19
- UNDERESTIMATE THE HELP OF OTHER PEOPLE IN SEARCHING A JOB.

MISTAKE # 20
- TO THINK THAT IF YOU GET THE PERMANENT RESIDENT VISA FOR THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, YOU ONLY NEED TO LEARN FRENCH LANGUAGE

MISTAKE # 22
- BELIEVE THAT for living and working as skilled worker in Province of Quebec, they ONLY need to learn French.

MISTAKE # 23
- NOT READING COMPLETELY THIS BOOK NOR APPLYING WITH JUDGEMENT THE ADVICES OF OTHER IMMIGRANTS WITHIN IT.

25.5/ 13 BELIEVES AND REALITIES ABOUT LIVING IN CANADA
(Myths and Realities)
● MYTH #1
- "There is work for all in Canada".

**Reality:** IT IS NOT TRUE. The unemployment rate in Canada goes from 6% to 8%. This means that, apart from immigrants arriving daily to Canada, there are thousands of Canadians looking for a permanent job. In general, the competence for jobs is strong, especially if the search is posted in Internet (workopolis, jobbank, etc) or in the newspapers.

● MYTH #2
- "Which is important in Canada is to get a job to support your family".

**Reality:** IT IS NOT TRUE. With a low or minimum salary you will not be able to support an acceptable level of life and pay the high costs (rent, taxes, insurance, services etc) with your family in Canada. Jobs with salaries higher than the minimum are difficult to obtain. Getting a job is not enough, it is necessary to get a GOOD JOB.

● MYTH #3
- "If the Canadian Embassy grants a visa because of my Engineer professional degree, once in Canada, I shall work as an engineer".

**Reality:** IT IS NOT TRUE. The Embassy shall recognize your degree only for Immigration process purposes. For example, in Canada you will only be able to work as engineer or dentist if you have a Professional License, and to get it you will have to go through a certification process against the corresponding professional association or government department.

● MYTH #4
- "In Canada I shall earn a lot of money and I shall be able to save money to invest in my country".

**Reality:** IT IS RELATIVE. If you come prepared and without family, you will probably be able to save some money, since your support expenses shall not be very high. If you come with your family (wife and kids) support expenses are very high and you will find difficult to save money. Main reasons are the high taxes, rent and insurance costs that you will have to pay. Many families built an economic background by buying a home with long term loans (20 to 25 years). In general, to save money within the family, the wife will probably have to work, also kids older than 14, at holidays seasons.

● MYTH #5
- "Skilled Workers and Investors are the only selected for permanent resident visa for Canada".

**Reality:** IT IS NOT TRUE. Besides Skilled Workers, Entrepreneurs and Investors, thousands of persons arrive to Canada from countries in war or conflicts, which are admitted for humanitarian reasons, and are economically supported by the government. Through these "humanitarian" policies, the Canadian Government gets low qualified workers for the future labor force.

● MYTH #6
- "In Canada I shall be able to support my family with a job at McDonalds or Wendy's".

**Reality:** IT IS NOT TRUE. It is very difficult for an immigrant to support his family with the minimum salary of a poorly qualified job, since the rental of a home, services, taxes etc are very high. In fact, many of these immigrants who only have found this type of jobs have to depend on the help from government or other helping institutions to get food and home for their families. This is a very frustrating situation for a professional or skilled worker, and creates trends towards depression and other negative emotions. Remember, you have to come prepared and well informed to get a good job related to your profession with a decent salary.

● MYTH #7
- "In Canada, no matter if we are not doing well, our children shall not be hunger".

**Reality:** TRUE. In Canada there are programs for free food and clothes for needing people (a group larger than what you could think) Food banks and other charity institutions are spread all over Canada and they give free food and clothes. (For further information on food banks see www.Dailybread.ca).

● MYTH #8
- "In Canada, during winter, cold is so intense that nothing is done."

**Reality:** IT IS NOT TRUE. During winter season, life goes on normally. Schools, colleges, companies, stores etc. function normally. Only when heavy snowfalls happen, school buses are suspended, although schools remain open for students who can go by themselves. Holiday season is in summer.
● MYTH #9
- "In Canada, like in USA, it is easy to buy a car and everybody has one."

  **Reality:** TRUE. Car prices in Canada go from a few thousand to what the buyer wants to pay for brands and prestige. Car depreciation is fast and it is easy for a newcomer immigrant to by one. Nevertheless, insurance prices (obligatory to drive) are very expensive for immigrants with no driving experience in North America. In Canada, car insurance costs are the higher of North America, although accident incidence is minimum, in comparison with USA. Just to have an idea, if you are a newcomer immigrant and buy a new car in Canada with a 5 year loan, the insurance cost to be pay per month shall double the value of the monthly installment of the car.

● MYTH #10
- "In Canada every child has the same opportunities".

  **Reality:** IT IS RELATIVE. Primary and secondary educations are public and free. But complementary courses for children's formation, like music, sports (swimming, baseball, soccer, tennis, hockey etc) and others have to be pay by the family. That is the reason why many teenagers from limited economic resources families start working at 14 in supermarkets and fast food chains, during holidays and on week ends. University and college education are expensive, and to have access it is necessary to have own economic resources.

● MYTH #11
- "In Canada I shall work less hours and days than in my country."

  **Reality:** IT IS NOT TRUE. Even though working journey is of 40 or 42 hours per week, in general immigrants will have to work more to get the money they will need to cover basic needs (rent, food, insurance etc). Some companies use to agree with worker more hours, for example 48 hours and they pay "overtime" for the hours after 40 (with and extra per hour)

  Workers have the right of 2 week of holidays per year (pay, but with no holiday additional bonus, as in other countries). In some European countries normal holiday period for workers is of 4 week per year.

  On the other hand, Canada is one of the countries in the world with fewer holidays during the year. For example, from October until March, there is no holiday, with the exception of Christmas and New Year's week. The first holiday of the year is Good Friday in March or April.

  Besides, there are some festivities which are holidays only for government employees, not for workers working at private companies.

● MYTH #12
- "Canada is an industrialized country where most of the people works in Manufacturing Plants and Production Companies."

  **Reality:** IT IS NOT TRUE. More than 70 % of the Canadians work in service areas, such as stores, government ventures (town, provincial or federal), education, food and health areas. Less than 15 % of the workers do their jobs at production and industrial companies. It is clear that one of the reasons why this country is searching for immigrants is to work, integrate and pay taxes which support the economy and system.

  More than half of the consumed and marketed goods in Canada are from other countries, especially from China and USA. But Canada has huge natural and energetic resources and a mechanized agriculture to produce food to export to the whole world.

● MYTH #13
- "For living and working as skilled worker in Province of Quebec, I just need to learn French. This language is enough"

  **Reality:** IT IS NOT TRUE. More than 60 % of Quebecois living in main cities in Quebec (Montreal, Quebec City, Lorraine City, Laval, Gatineau, Saguenay y Sherbrooke) are bilingual in English and French. The best opportunities to have a good job in Quebec are for workers fluent in both languages.
25.6 IS IT WORTH COMING TO CANADA AS SKILLED WORKER?

It shall depend on the price you will have to pay compared with what you will receive in the future. In simple terms, it shall depend on the result of making a real personal evaluation of the cost-benefit relationship. This means to know the real price you will be paying when you take the decision of moving to Canada, since the important results shall be seen in the medium and long terms.

What you will have to pay when you decide to leave your country and start a new life in Canada or other country, it is not material, but mainly the emotional price of leaving most of your affections behind for an indefinite period of time (perhaps forever). These affections are mainly your family, your friends and your surroundings of a life (neighborhood, city, country, work, language etc.)

In some cases, it also implies to leave your professional career behind to start a new occupation. It is very frequent in Canada to start a new working career, even after 40, especially if it is difficult to practice yours. In other cases, people find other activities of more interest, economically better rewarded or simply more gratifying.

In some cases it is easy to make the decision and take the opportunities offered by Canada. If you are in a regular or bad economic or professional position in your country, if you have knowledge of English or French, if you have children and you think that you will positively handle the situation of leaving far from the rest of your family and friends. It is easy to make the decision when the cost is not very high, or when you don't have much to loose, and in exchange you can improve your economic situation and the welfare of your family.

Getting a good job in a good technical or professional position in Canada shall depend on many factors, but specially on the personal preparation, and attitude you have as a person (plus a little bit of luck). Any immigrant can evaluate by himself how competent and successful he has been from the working and professional point of view in his own country. These personal abilities which make him competent and successful shall be the base to sell his working image and experience in Canada. If you are confident that you have a good education in your career, professional abilities, personal confidence in what you do, organization capacity, method and disposition to sacrifice in order to get your goals, and besides you have an acceptable or good level of English, your future in Canada will surely be successful and you will easily adapted. In few words, if you have been competent in your job in your country, you probably will be competent in Canada.

It is also frequent to see immigrant families in which the parents (bad English, bad education or with careers which cannot be successfully exercised in Canada) survive in a bad job with low salary during the necessary time (three or four years) with the purpose of getting the "Canadian Citizen" status and passport for their children. Then, they return to their countries, where they have relatives and friends who could help them recover their social and professional stability, which they could not obtain in Canada, but with the "partially" obtained goal of having secured their children's future entrance and legality in Canada.

On the other hand, there are also cases in which it is NOT advisable to leave all and move to Canada to start from the beginning. There are cases in which people is not very convinced of taking this decision, and it is hard for them to leave a good and comfortable economic, social and family position. Neither when the applicant has a poor level of English, has not technical or professional abilities useful in the Canadian working market, in some professions (PhDs, lawyers, dentists) and in general, the possibilities offered in Canada are not so attractive. In those cases, it could be a mistake to start from 0, after having acquired a status, when you will have to start in another occupation to earn your living. Many people which have come...
in that circumstances decide to return to their countries after a period of time (if they can) where they know that they are socially and professional taken into account.

For example, a family in which the husband is a surgeon and the wife is a dentist, with one or more children. In their country of origin the surgeon works in a Hospital and attends particular patients. She has her own dental consult with her own patients. A relative helps with the children care and besides they have an employee for the domestic service. In Canada, the studies and degrees of this couple shall not be recognized. Although in theory there is a possibility for health professionals to be recognized by Canadian academic authorities, the probabilities are minimum, less than 5% indeed, for foreign doctors and dentists to approve the exams and courses necessary to be authorized to exercised their professions in Canada. For many of them, which have left a comfortable social and professional life in their countries, to come to Canada to be "nobody" it could be a "nightmare", a wrong calculated project. In these and other similar cases, IT IS NOT ADVISABLE, to come to Canada.

NOTE: In the case of health professionals (doctors, dentists, nurses etc) the most advisable is to come to Canada and begin studies again. In some cases, they will have to approve some exams, get authorizations and return to the University for a while, to get licenses and professional acknowledgement in Canada. This way, although it is a little bit long, it is the most suitable to exercise this type of careers.

IMPORTANT

There are some cases in which the main problems for a Skilled Worker are not his preparation, nor his level of English, or the real desire to start again. The main problem is the lack of a relative or friend in Canada to receive him at the airport, to help him during the first days with the search of a home, to guide him in the search of a job, and to inform him about the basic subjects to start living in Canada. If this is your case, WE CAN HELP YOU, in your establishment in the Ontario Province. Contact us and we will find you someone to help you in finding the most economic and reliable solution to the problem of your first home in Toronto, to pick you up at the airport and help you in the initial installation procedures.

The following are the aspects that an immigrant usually leaves behind:

- Your family (father, mother, brothers and sisters, uncles, cousins, nephews etc)
- Your school, university and work friends
- Your neighbors
- Your work colleagues and friends
- Cultural and recreation environment that you have had during your life.
- Social Position
- Professional status
- Your economic welfare as a professional in your country.
- Your quiet and stimulating life

The immigration of professionals and workers from developing countries to others like Canada or USA takes place with the general objective of looking of a better future, with more opportunities, especially for the children and the future generations. The cost pay for this possibility is to loose affections, family roots and to sacrifice a possible comfortable position of the generation taking this decision.

Each person and each case are different. The education and social levels and the life expectations of each individual are very different. For that reason, IT CANNOT BE CONSIDERED IN GENERAL that leaving your country to live in a foreign one shall be a right or wrong decision for everybody.
YOU SHOULD BE THINKING CAREFULLY... IF YOU...

- If you are older than 49, you have a stable job in the city you like, you have children older than 18 and independent (in case of coming, they will not be allowed in your visa application).
- If YOU ARE HAPPY WITH YOUR SYSTEM OF LIFE in your country and you like being among the ones you love.
- If you and your family have a high social, professional or economic position in your country and your safety is not in danger.
- If you are in a good economic condition and you have and enjoy a big and united family.
- If your job is stable and you usually have professional positions of control with many people at your command.
- If you are not a tolerant good character person, or with great capacity for sacrifice.
- If you have domestic service personnel for you and your family (chauffer, cook, maid etc). In Canada you will surely have to do many of these jobs by yourself.
- If social activities are very important for you or your family (social or sports club, social parties etc) and you use to have them in your country.
- If you do not have a good English level. (at least until you get it)
- If you are older of 49 and you are not technical and professional updated, or you don't have an ability or experience of use at the Canadian working market.
- If you have one or more academic degrees, but you don't have knowledge or specific working experience in an specific field to work in Canada (a sea of knowledge with a millimeter of depth).
- If you don't have enough information about the immigration process or YOU DON'T HAVE A PLAN to come to Canada.
- IF YOU HAVE NOT FULLY READ THIS BOOK.

IF IT IS WORTH

- If you are young (younger than 35), are married and have or want to have kids.
- If your professional work is not satisfactory or you are underemployed.
- If you have a good level of English and you like the American way of living.
- If you have nothing to loose.
- If you are not comfortable with the social or economic situation in your country or your safety is in danger.

DISCLAIMER

The information and recommendations of this Guide must be taken ONLY as a reference. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depend only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

The information contained here does not represent any class of legal help or intends replace the legal services of a Professional Immigration Consultant or Legal Advisor.
### MAIN WEBSITES & LINKS

**26.1 IMMIGRATION CANADA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CANADA - FEDERAL GOVERNMENT</td>
<td><a href="http://www.canada.ca/main_e.html">http://www.canada.ca/main_e.html</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITIZENSHIP &amp; IMMIGRATION CANADA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cic.gc.ca/">http://www.cic.gc.ca/</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrating to Canada as a Skilled Worker</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/skilled/index.html">http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/skilled/index.html</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application for Permanent Residence / Federal Skilled Worker Class</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/applications/guides/ESapTOC.html">http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/applications/guides/ESapTOC.html</a></td>
<td>Forms, process, recommendations, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Newcomer’s Introduction to Canada</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/newcomer/guide/index.html">http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/newcomer/guide/index.html</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
26.2 LIVING IN ONTARIO / TORONTO

Canadian Embassies and Missions

Ontario Government
Address: http://www.ontario.ca/

Ontario - Immigrants & the Internationally Trained
Address: http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/english/citdiv/apt/immigrants.html

TORONTO - Official Web
Address: http://www.toronto.ca/

Information for new immigrants - Toronto
Address: http://www.toronto.ca/immigration/immigration.htm

HEALTH CARE - Toronto
Address: http://www.toronto.ca/quality_of_life/healthcare.htm

Information for new immigrants - Employment - Toronto
Address: http://www.toronto.ca/immigration/employment.htm

Toronto Transit Commission (TTC)
Address: http://www.toronto.ca/ttc/index.htm

Universities and Colleges in Toronto
Address: http://www.toronto.ca/quality_of_life/universities_colleges.htm

STUDENTS - Ontario
Address: http://www.gov.on.ca/ori/portal/lit/lp/cr/07/07.htm

LIBRARIES - Ontario
Address: http://www.culture.gov.on.ca/english/culdiv/library/links.htm

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARIES
Address: http://www.tpl.toronto.on.ca/

Toronto Community Centres
Address: http://www.toronto.ca/parks/recreation_facilities/comcen/comcen_index.htm
26.3 OTHER IMPORTANT WEBSITES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/forecast/canada/index_e.html?id=ON">Weather- Ontario</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.toronto.ca/torontomaps/index.htm">Toronto maps</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca">Human Resources Development Canada’s Web site</a></td>
<td>These are run by the Government of Canada. They are found in most cities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.directioncanada.gc.ca/">Government of Canada: Going to Canada.</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.skillsinternational.ca">Skills International’s Web site</a></td>
<td>Information and services for non-Canadians and Newcomers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.cicic.ca">Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials</a></td>
<td>This is a free on-line service. Register with an employment preparation agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.canada.gc.ca">Canadian government Web sites</a></td>
<td>Directory to many Canadian government Web sites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.peo.on.ca">Professional Engineers Ontario</a></td>
<td>Licensing process for Engineers in Ontario.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.ccpe.ca">Canadian Council of Professional Engineers (CCPE)</a></td>
<td>CCPE is the national body of the 12 provincial and territorial engineering licensing bodies that regulate the practice of engineering in Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.ccpe.ca/e/imm_education_2.cfm">EIEAP Forms (engineer assessment, application for immigration)</a></td>
<td>The EIEAP assesses the educational qualifications of individuals who received their engineering training outside of Canada, by comparing their education to a Canadian engineering education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.scouts.ca/default.asp?cmPageID=81">SCOUTS CANADA</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.cadets.ca/intro_e.asp">CADETS - CANADA</a></td>
<td></td>
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</table>
26.4 JOB IN CANADA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JOB BANK - Canada</td>
<td><a href="http://jobbank.gc.ca/search_en.aspx">http://jobbank.gc.ca/search_en.aspx</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workopolis</td>
<td><a href="http://www.workopolis.com">www.workopolis.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monster.ca</td>
<td><a href="http://www.monster.ca">www.monster.ca</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JobShark</td>
<td><a href="http://www.jobshark.ca/caeng/index.cfm">www.jobshark.ca/caeng/index.cfm</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Public Service</td>
<td><a href="http://www.job-emplois.gc.ca">www.job-emplois.gc.ca</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotjobs.ca</td>
<td>http:ca.hotjobs.yahoo.com</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AllStarJobs.ca</td>
<td><a href="http://www.allstarjobs.ca">www.allstarjobs.ca</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working.com</td>
<td><a href="http://www.working.canada.com">www.working.canada.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Career Beacon</td>
<td><a href="http://www.careerbeacon.com">www.careerbeacon.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JobPort</td>
<td><a href="http://www.jobport.ca">www.jobport.ca</a></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### 26.5 Main Newspapers in Toronto / Ontario

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THE RECORD (Kitchener - Waterloo)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.therecord.com/">http://www.therecord.com/</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
26.6 OTHER NEWSPAPERS IN CANADA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>THE VANCOUVER PROVIDENCE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.canada.com/theprovince/index.html">http://www.canada.com/theprovince/index.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Information</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>THE VANCOUVER SUN</th>
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<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.canada.com/vancouversun/index.html">http://www.canada.com/vancouversun/index.html</a></td>
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<td>Information</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Link</th>
<th>THE CALGARY SUN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.calgarysun.com/">http://www.calgarysun.com/</a></td>
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<td>Information</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>CALGARY HERALD</th>
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<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.canada.com/calgaryherald/index.html">http://www.canada.com/calgaryherald/index.html</a></td>
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<td>Information</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>EDMONTON JOURNAL</th>
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</thead>
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<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.canada.com/edmontonjournal/index.html">http://www.canada.com/edmontonjournal/index.html</a></td>
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<td>Information</td>
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<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>THE WINNIPEG SUN</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.thewinnipegsun.com/">http://www.thewinnipegsun.com/</a></td>
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<td>Information</td>
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<th>Link</th>
<th>WINNIPEG FREE PRESS</th>
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<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/">http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/</a></td>
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<td>Information</td>
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<th>Link</th>
<th>THE STAR PHOENIX</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>THE HALIFAX HERALD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.herald.ns.ca/">http://www.herald.ns.ca/</a></td>
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### 26.7 IMMIGRATION TO QUEBEC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Quebec/governmental portal of services</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Information</td>
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<th>Link</th>
<th>Preliminary Evaluation for Immigration</th>
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<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>Evaluation ON-LINE oficial del Gobierno de Quebec (en Espanol)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Immigrating to Quebec</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Quebec Immigration Offices Abroad</th>
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<td>Information</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Employment and Labour</th>
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<tr>
<td>Information</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Local employment centres</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://emploiquebec.net/anglais/index.htm">http://emploiquebec.net/anglais/index.htm</a></td>
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<td>Information</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Welcome to LMI Online</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://limemploiquebec.net/mtg/inter/noncache/contenu/asp/mtg941_accueil_angl_01.asp">http://limemploiquebec.net/mtg/inter/noncache/contenu/asp/mtg941_accueil_angl_01.asp</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>Labor Market Information - Quebec</td>
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<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Labour standards in Québec</th>
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<tr>
<td>Information</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Guides de La Toile du Québec - Offres d'emploi</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.toile.com">www.toile.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>Job in Quebec</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Info-équité</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>Information concerning the pay equity agreement in the health, education and public service sectors</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Québec-Education</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gouv.qc.ca/portail/quebec/pgs/international/etudier?lang=en">http://www.gouv.qc.ca/portail/quebec/pgs/international/etudier?lang=en</a></td>
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<th>Link</th>
<th>Quebec-Permanent workers</th>
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<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gouv.qc.ca/portail/quebec/pgs/international/immigrer/demarcheimmigrer?lang=en">http://www.gouv.qc.ca/portail/quebec/pgs/international/immigrer/demarcheimmigrer?lang=en</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Jobs in the Québec public service</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>On-line Placement</th>
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<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://emploiquebec.net/anglais/index.htm">http://emploiquebec.net/anglais/index.htm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>Emploi-Québec service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec,</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.oig.qc.ca">www.oig.qc.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>Engineers in Quebec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Technogénie Ressources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.technogenie.com">www.technogenie.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>Job en Quebec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
26.8 MAIN NEWSPAPERS IN QUEBEC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONTREAL GAZETTE</td>
<td><a href="http://www.canada.com/montrealgazette/index.html">http://www.canada.com/montrealgazette/index.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CYBERPRESSE (Montreal-French)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cyberpresse.ca">http://www.cyberpresse.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LE JOURNAL DE MONTREAL (French)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.canoe.com/journaldemontreal/">http://www.canoe.com/journaldemontreal/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LE JOURNAL DE QUEBEC (Quebec City- French)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.journaldequebec.com/">http://www.journaldequebec.com/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Le Soleil, Quebec City</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cyberpresse.ca/soleil">www.cyberpresse.ca/soleil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Tribune, Sherbrooke</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cyberpresse.ca/tribune">www.cyberpresse.ca/tribune</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherbrooke Record</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sherbrookerecord.com">www.sherbrookerecord.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Le Nouvelliste, Trois Rivières</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cyberpresse.ca/nouvelliste">www.cyberpresse.ca/nouvelliste</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Le Quotidien de Chicoutimi/ProgrèsDimanche</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cyberpresse.ca/quotidien">www.cyberpresse.ca/quotidien</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Le Quotidien de Chicoutimi/ProgrèsDimanche</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cyberpresse.ca/vde">www.cyberpresse.ca/vde</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
26.9 PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS - CANADA

- Accreditation Council for Canadian Physiotherapy Academic Programs (ACCPAP)
- Advocis
- Agricultural Institute of Canada (AIC)
- Association of Canada Lands Surveyors (ACLS)
- Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC)
- Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry (ACFD)
- Association of Canadian Travel Agents (ACTA)
- Association of Consulting Engineers of Canada (ACEC)
- Association of EMG Technologists of Canada (AETC)
- Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC)
- Association of Massage Therapists and Wholistic Practitioners (AMTWP)
- Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada (ARUCC)
- Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC)
- Board of Canadian Registered Safety Professionals (BCRSP)
- Board of Examiners for Canada Lands Surveyors (BECLS)
- Board of Registration of EMG Technologists of Canada (BRETC)
- Boucher Institute of Naturopathic Medicine (BINM)
- Canadian Academy of Audiology (CAA)
- Canadian Advanced Technology Association/Alliance (CATA)
- Canadian Aeronautics and Space Institute (CASI)
- Canadian Air Traffic Control Association (CATCA)
- Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators (CAPR)
- Canadian Applied and Industrial Mathematics Society (CAIMS)
- Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB)
- Canadian Association for Business Economics (CABE)
- Canadian Association for University Continuing Education (CAUCE)
- Canadian Association of Animal Health Technologists and Technicians (CAAHTT)
- Canadian Association of Electroneurophysiology Technologists (CAET Inc.)
- Canadian Association of Financial Planners (CAFP)
- Canadian Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (CAIFA)
- Canadian Association of Journalists (CAJ)
- Canadian Association of Management Consultants (CAMC)
- Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT)
- Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM)
- Canadian Association of Naturopathic Doctors (CAND)
- Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT)
- Canadian Association of Optometrists (CAO)
- Canadian Association of Paralegals (CAP)
- Canadian Association of Photographers and Illustrators in Communications (CAPIC)
- Canadian Association of Professional Conservators (CAPC)
- Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN)
- Canadian Association of Schools of Social Work (CASSW)
- Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW)
- Canadian Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (CASLPA)
- Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT)
- Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG)
- Canadian Aviation Maintenance Council
- Canadian Bankers Association (CBA)
- Canadian Banker's Association (CBA)
- Canadian Bar Association (CBA)
- Canadian Board for Respiratory Care Inc. (CBRC)
- Canadian Board of Examiners for Professional Surveyors (CBEPS)
- Canadian Board of Registration of EEG Technologists (CBRET Inc.)
- Canadian Bookkeepers Association (CBA)
- Canadian Career Information Association (CCIA)
- Canadian Chiropractic Association (CCA)
- Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board (CCEB)
- Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine (CCNM)
- Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI)
- Canadian Consulting Agrologists Association (CCAA)
- Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP)
- Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship (CCDA)
- Canadian Council of Insurance Regulators (CCIR)
- Canadian Council of Land Surveyors (CCLS)
- Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists (CCPG)
- Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists (CCTT)
- Canadian Dental Assistants' Association (CDAA)
- Canadian Dental Association (CDA)
- Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA)
- Canadian Dental Therapists Association (CDTA)
- Canadian Economics Association (CEA)
- Canadian Environmental Certification Approvals Board (CECAB)
- Canadian Examiners in Optometry
- Canadian Federation of Aromatherapists (CFA)
- Canadian Federation of Biological Societies (CFBS)
- Canadian Federation of Chiropractic Regulatory Boards (CFCRB)
- Canadian Federation of Mental Health Nurses (CFMHN)
- Canadian Federation of Podiatric Medicine (CFPM)
- Canadian Forestry Accreditation Board
- Canadian Foundation for Economic Education (CFEE)
- Canadian Hearing Instruments Practitioners Society (CHIPS)
- Canadian Hearing Society (CHS)
- Canadian Information Processing Society (CIPS)
- Canadian Institute of Actuaries (CIA)
- Canadian Institute of Bookkeeping (CIB)
- Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA)
- Canadian Institute of Financial Planning (CIFP)
- Canadian Institute of Forestry (CIF)
- Canadian Institute of Management (CIM)
- Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP)
- Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (CIPHI)
- Canadian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (CIQS)
- Canadian Institute of Travel Counsellors (CITC)
- Canadian Law and Economics Association (CLEA)
- Canadian Library Association (CLA)
- Canadian Massage Therapist Alliance (CMTA)
- Canadian Mathematical Society (CMS)
- Canadian Medical Association (CMA)
- Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC)
- Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS)
- Canadian Midwifery Regulators Consortium (CMRFC)
- Canadian Network of National Associations of Regulators (CNNAR)
- Canadian Nurses Association (CNA)
- Canadian Organization of Professional Electrologists (COPE)
- Canadian Orthopaedic Association (COA)
- Canadian Orthoptic Council (COC)
- Canadian Pharmacists Association (CPhA)
- Canadian Physiotherapy Association (CPA)
- Canadian Podiatric Medical Association (CPMA)
- Canadian Practical Nurses Association (CPNA)
- Canadian Psychological Association (CPA)
- Canadian Public Relations Society Inc. (CPRS)
- Canadian Real Estate Association (CREA)
- Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS)
- Canadian Securities Institute (CSI)
- Canadian Society for Chemical Engineering (CSCE)
- Canadian Society for Chemical Technology (CSCT)
- Canadian Society for Civil Engineering (CSCE)
26.10 PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS - ONTARIO

- Association of Dental Technologists of Ontario (ADTO)
- Association of Hearing Instrument Practitioners of Ontario (AHIPO)
### 26.11 Provincial Nomination Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Alberta Provincial Nominee Program (PNP)</th>
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<td>Informacion</td>
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<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.intrd.gov.nl.ca/intrd/prov_nominee.htm">http://www.intrd.gov.nl.ca/intrd/prov_nominee.htm</a></td>
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<td>Information for individuals wishing or preparing to immigrate to PE Island, Canada</td>
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<th>British Columbia's Provincial Nominee Program (BC PNP)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ecdev.gov.bc.ca/ProgramsAndServices/PNP/">http://www.ecdev.gov.bc.ca/ProgramsAndServices/PNP/</a></td>
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**DISCLAIMER**

The information and recommendations of this Guide must be taken **ONLY as a reference**. This information has the aim to help people with the necessary education and experience in their immigration and settlement process to Canada as skilled workers. The information is based on the personal experience of the author and his personal point of view. The Author does not guarantee, that following the steps here described, you will have success in your process, since your own achievements will depends only on your proper characteristics, education, language, skills, circumstances and decisions. Every user must take his / her own risks and responsibility related to the interpretation, application and results of their own process.

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