

carry traveller's cheques denominated in U.S. dollars. Canadian credit cards usually offer competitive exchange rates on purchases in Mexico. Visa, MasterCard and American Express cards are widely accepted in Mexico. Nonetheless, there are often problems with authorization procedures, and you should not rely on them as your only payment option.

Automated teller machines in major centres can access

Canadian bank accounts, but caution is advised in Mexico City where these machines tend to attract criminals. Moreover, there have been many complaints of ATMs debiting the customer's account but not dispensing cash. Canadians can open accounts at Mexican banks, but the procedure is sometimes complex. If you plan to open a bank account, a letter of reference from your Canadian bank will help to expedite the procedure.

Working and Doing Business in Mexico

Canadians wishing to work temporarily in Mexico have a variety of options. Normal Mexican immigration procedures allow for the entry of foreigners in occupations where employers can demonstrate that qualified Mexicans are not available for the work. But in almost every case, the four categories of entry available to Canadians under the NAFTA provide better terms of access.

Of the four NAFTA categories, business visitor is the simplest, since it does not require a work authorization. Business visitors can engage in certain business activities in Mexico provided they otherwise comply with immigration

requirements for temporary entry. The purpose of these provisions is to facilitate the entry of the short-term business visitor who has no intention of entering the Mexican labour market and will not receive compensation from within Mexico. The appropriate permit can be obtained at the port of entry.

**I want to change
dollars to pesos.**

**Quiero cambiar
dólares a pesos.**