

be accessed 24 hours a day from anywhere in the world.

Documentation

Once you have decided to leave Canada and have chosen a destination, make sure your passport, any visas you require and other travel documents are in order, including those concerning your status in your new country.

Passports

A valid passport is essential. It will expedite immigration procedures and is useful for other purposes, such as opening bank accounts and cashing traveller's cheques. If your passport will expire while you are abroad, make plans to renew it on time. Check with your host country's embassy or consulate accredited to Canada for its rules and restrictions regarding passport validity and expiration.

You should also prepare a passport emergency kit in case your passport is lost or stolen. This should include:

- a photocopy of the identification page in your passport;
- the original of your birth or citizenship certificate;
- a copy of at least one current supplementary document to support your identity and the name to appear in the passport;

- the address and telephone number of the Canadian government office abroad in the country in which you plan to retire; and
- two recent photos meeting Passport Office specifications.

Keeping this information in a safe place separate from your passport will save you time and money should you lose the originals. For added security, you may also want to leave a kit with a friend or relative at home.

If your passport is lost or stolen while you are outside Canada, report the loss or theft to the local police, obtain a copy of the police report, and immediately contact the nearest Canadian government office for a replacement. Make sure you get a copy of the police report or the report number. Before a new passport can be issued, you must complete an application form, produce written evidence of your Canadian citizenship (a birth or citizenship certificate and at least one current supplementary document to support your identity), present two recent photos, pay the required fee, and complete a "Statutory Declaration Concerning a Lost, Stolen, Damaged, Destroyed or Inaccessible Canadian Passport or Travel Document" (Form PPT 203).