

process to renounce their Chinese citizenship. The proper procedures for doing this are not entirely clear, and a Chinese Embassy or consulate should be consulted for specific information.

Canadian citizens of Chinese background must take overt action such as consistently using a Canadian passport and obtaining a visa from the Chinese authorities for entry into China. Chinese authorities will *usually* consider you a citizen of the country (and only that country) that issued the passport you used to enter China.

Under Chinese law, a citizen is a person who has Chinese nationality under the Chinese Nationality Law (CNL). Persons who have Chinese nationality under the CNL include Hong Kong residents and former residents who are of Chinese descent and who were born in Hong Kong or other parts of China. They may be Chinese citizens even though they hold,

or have held, Hong Kong British Dependent Territories Citizen passports, British National (Overseas) passports or other foreign passports. Canadian officials will be prevented by the Chinese authorities from providing consular services to Canadians who have used their Chinese or Hong Kong travel documents to enter China.

Canadian law permits a Canadian to have more than one nationality. It is the policy of the Canadian government to encourage Canadians to use a Canadian passport when travelling abroad and always to present themselves as Canadian to foreign authorities. Canadian officials in China will offer consular assistance to Canadian citizens whenever they can. But their right to do so may not be recognized by Chinese authorities in the case of Canadians who have not specified their Canadian citizenship when entering China, by using a Canadian passport, or when dealing with local authorities.