

made from their skins or feathers, contact Canada Customs beforehand for guidance.

Obscene materials, hate propaganda, most weapons, including firearms, and goods harmful to the environment are prohibited from entering Canada.

If you have any questions about what you can bring home, visit the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency Web site (<http://www.cccra-adrc.gc.ca>) or call your local Customs border services. To reach the Automated Customs Information Service, call 1-800-461-9999 (in Canada).

The booklet *I Declare* describes what you can and cannot bring back to Canada if you have been away for less than a year (for details on how to order this publication, see "For More Information").

Illegal Souvenirs

While travelling outside Canada, you may decide to purchase souvenirs. Unfortunately, many attractive items sold in foreign countries are made from endangered plants or animals. Live cactus and orchid plants, ivory bracelets and carvings, marine turtle shells and products, whalebone carvings,

and cat skins, teeth and claws are some of the more common items illegally brought back to Canada. These items are included in the more than 30,000 species of wild animals and plants regulated under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). CITES operates through an import/export permit system. Under Canada's Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act (WAPPRITA), a violation of CITES could lead to seizure of your purchase, as well as monetary penalties and/or prison terms. Before you purchase an animal or plant or a product made from them, be sure you know what rules and regulations apply.

When in doubt, don't buy it! Since many other countries also have strict laws protecting wildlife, it is often wise to leave any items you already own at home.

To determine what you can and cannot legally bring back to Canada and whether a CITES permit is required, contact Environment Canada by telephone at (819) 997-1840 or by fax at (819) 953-6283. More information is available on Environment Canada's Web site, the Green Lane

Know the rules — sometimes carrying a purse is illegal



In co-operation with over 140 countries, Canada is committed to protecting some 30,000 plant and animal species. Before bringing any item made from them into Canada know the rules.

You risk losing the item, prosecution and fines up to \$150,000.

For more information on current legislation, see page 28 or contact:

CITES* Administrator

Environment Canada

Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3

Tel.: (819) 997-1840

Fax.: (819) 953-6283

www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/cites/intro_e.html

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*Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora