

Investment) began to authorize business entities in Mexico that would be established for the sole purpose of carrying out contracts

with government agencies. Non-resident companies are now being given a two-year temporary, but renewable, approval from the CNIE.

Living in Mexico

Canadians who decide to live in Mexico on a long-term basis include those who have established careers or businesses there, as well as retirees and others with income from outside the country. The visa requirements depend on whether the individual has earned income in Mexico.

Employment

Canadians who live in Mexico and who receive remuneration, directly or indirectly from Mexican employers or clients must apply for a version of the Forma Migratoria-3 (FM-3) visa that includes permission to work. This can be done in Canada at the Mexican embassy or one of the consulates. Specific information about the source of earnings must be provided, as described in the section on Working and Doing Business in Mexico.

Retirees

Canadians who retire in Mexico are not considered tourists and should

obtain a Forma Migratoria-3 (FM-3) visa. For less than 180 days, this visa is available in the visitor category. For longer periods, retirees can obtain a special version of the FM-3 visa. The FM-3 *inmigrante rentista* status is intended for foreigners who are not part of the local work force but are supported by income from outside Mexico or earned from Mexican-based investments. Holders of an FM-3 can bring reasonable quantities of household goods and one automobile with them duty free when they arrive.

An FM-3 visa can be obtained from the Mexican embassy or consulate in Canada, or an immigration office in Mexico. The procedures are described in the section, Working and Doing Business in Mexico. The only difference in the case of *rentistas* is that instead of details of employment, the *rentista* must show proof of minimum income.

The FM-3 can be renewed annually four times at an immigration