

If you or your partner are travelling to another country with your child and there is a possibility that a custody dispute might develop, you should talk to a lawyer before the child leaves home. Our publication *International Child Abductions: A Manual for Parents* contains further information.

Your child custody arrangements in Canada may not be recognized in another country. In extreme cases, you or your child may not be allowed to leave that country. Check your status with that country's embassy or consulate in Canada before you travel. If you have custody questions,

contact Foreign Affairs Canada's Consular Case Management Division at 1 800 387-3124 (in Canada) or (613) 943-1055.

Travel with Same-Sex Spouse

Although same-sex marriages are legal in Canada, they are not recognized in many countries. Attempting to enter as a same-sex married couple may result in refusal by local officials. In addition, homosexual activity is a criminal offence in certain countries. Consult our Country Travel Reports or the destination country's embassy or consulate in Canada for specific information.

TRAVEL IN EUROPE

The member states of the European Union (not including the United Kingdom and Ireland), plus Norway and Iceland, make up the Schengen area, which aims to abolish border controls between those countries and create a single external frontier. However, controls are still in place at the borders of the newer Schengen countries.

Canadians do not need visas for short-term visits to Schengen countries, but some member states require you to register with local authorities within three working days of your arrival. It is important to get your passport stamped when entering the Schengen area. The absence

of an entry stamp from the initial Schengen port of entry could create difficulties during subsequent encounters with local police or other authorities.

For more information, see the *Country Travel Reports* on our Web site. For the most up-to-date and authoritative information, contact the embassy or consulate of the countries you wish to visit.



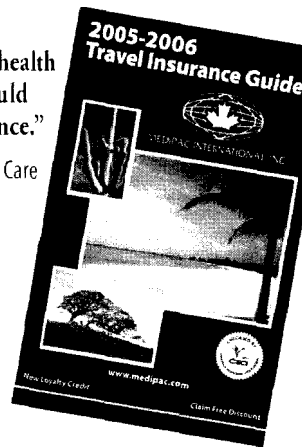
TRAVEL NOTICE

"...coverage for out-of-country health care services is limited; you should purchase supplementary insurance."

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

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