

was assumed that most Canadians who were born in Hong Kong would be entitled to Right of Abode if they do not declare their Canadian citizenship, or if they resume their residency in Hong Kong before July 1, 1997 or within whatever time frame may be specified for this purpose. Otherwise, it is assumed that as a minimum they would be entitled to the Right to Land status.

The main differences between Right of Abode status and Right to Land status are that under the latter, the holder:

- ✓ is not entitled to such political rights as voting and standing for election;
- ✓ is not entitled to occupy certain political or civil service appointments; and
- ✓ can be deported for a serious offence.

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### **Unconditional Stay**

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Unlike the Right of Abode and the Right to Land, the Unconditional Stay category will be sanctioned by administrative rules rather than statutory rights. In practice, this means that there is no "right" for such persons to enter the HKSAR. Entry will be at the discretion of the Director of Immigration.

Persons granted Unconditional Stay status may live or work freely in Hong Kong, without needing periodic permissions from the Director of Immigration. However, since Unconditional Stay status is not a statutory right, the status can be revoked unilaterally and the person deported.