

According to a proposed amendment to the Citizenship Act, a child who is adopted abroad could be granted Canadian citizenship without having to go through the immigration process. Currently, entry can be refused if the child does not hold the appropriate immigrant visa. A visa may be denied even if the adoption has already been completed.

For more information, consult the CIC publication *International Adoption and the Immigration Process* (available online only) or contact your provincial/territorial authorities or the CIC call centre nearest you (see the "For More Information" section).

TRAVELLING WITH A SAME-SEX PARTNER

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 or lesbian activity is a criminal offence in some countries. For

specific information, consult our Country Travel Reports or the destination country's embassy or consulate in Canada.

While travelling around the world together, Hélène and Maryse have learned to be discreet, particularly in countries where homosexual behaviour is considered taboo. Upon arrival in a foreign country, they observe how the local women interact and adjust their own manners accordingly. They would like to be honest about their relationship, but know that doing so outside of Canada is often unimaginable, particularly in countries where homosexuality is not openly discussed. They are often asked if they are sisters because of their close relationship. Hélène and Maryse simply answer "yes."