



APPENDIX E: *Travelling to Canada*

Entrance Requirements

In order to enter Canada, all visitors (except citizens of the United States, St. Pierre and Miquelon and Greenland) are required to possess a valid passport, sufficient funds and evidence of onward transportation. Those individuals who do not require a passport should carry some form of identification. Employees of companies and business representatives operating outside of Canada are not required to obtain employment authorization for visits of less than 90 days, if the purpose of the visit is consultation and inspection. To those visitors who may require a visa to enter Canada, it is recommended they contact a Canadian embassy or consulate. A special business visa can be obtained for those who wish to enter Canada from time-to-time to oversee their investments, but who do not wish to immigrate. These visas are valid for one year, allowing multiple entries, and can be renewed. Business visitors under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) do not require employment authorization.

Customs

Visitors are permitted to bring certain goods into Canada which are both duty- and tax-free. These items must be declared to Canada Customs upon arrival. Canada has restrictions on the amount of alcohol and tobacco that can be brought into the country. As well, there are minimum age requirements for possession of alcohol and tobacco, which vary from province to province.

Gifts may be sent or brought in duty- and tax-free to friends or relatives residing in Canada, provided the value of the gift does not exceed \$60.00.¹ These gifts may not consist of alcohol, tobacco products, or advertising materials. All gifts exceeding a \$60.00 value are subject to regular duty and tax on the amount over and above \$60.00.

Personal goods may be temporarily imported into Canada by visitors for their own use without payment of duties or taxes. These goods must be taken out of Canada at the end of the visit, with the exception of consumable items and recreational equipment for which a seasonal permit has been obtained. Some items may require a refundable security deposit to ensure the item leaves the country with the visitor.

Entry into Canada via vehicles and vacation trailers is permitted and a Revenue Canada Customs permit is issued at the time of entry, if required. Rental vehicles are permitted but they should be accompanied by vehicle registration forms plus a copy of the rental contract, indicating that they are being rented.

Animals, food and plants which are brought to Canada for personal use are subject to Agriculture Canada as well as Health and Welfare Canada regulations. These regulations are administered at the border by customs officials.

Business items such as printed material, commercial samples, blueprints, charts and audio-visual material are permitted for entry, but may be subject to full duty and tax fees, or require a refundable security deposit. For events such as congresses and conferences, most materials necessary for staging these events can be brought in both duty- and tax-free. Display goods for exhibits may require a refundable security deposit.

For more information on the services available from Revenue Canada Customs, please contact one of the offices listed below:

¹ Unless otherwise stated, all currency used is Canadian dollars.