DUAL CITIZENSHIP

You are permitted by Canadian law to have more than one nationality. However, your Canadian citizenship may not be recognized in the country of your second citizenship, where authorities may prevent Canada from providing you with consular assistance. This situation is especially tikely if you do not use your Canadian passport to enter the second country.

If you are considered a national of another country, you may be compelled to do military service, required to pay taxes, or subject to increased scrutiny by immigration and security officials. Dual citizenship can also cause problems in a third country if there is confusion over which citizenship you used to gain entry. To avoid unpleasant surprises, confirm whether you, your spouse, or any other family member is a citizen of another country.

Where permitted by the laws of the country in question, the Government of Canada encourages Canadians to use their Canadian passport when travelling abroad and to present themselves as Canadians to foreign authorities.

Note that you cannot use a Certificate of Canadian Citizenship instead of a Canadian passport to travel abroad. A Certificate of Canadian Citizenship is not a travel document. A Canadian passport is the only reliable and universally accepted travel and identification document available to Canadians for the purpose of international travel. Canadian citizens returning to Canada who present other documents, such as a Certificate of Canadian Citizenship, birth certificate, provincial driver's licence, or foreign passport, instead of a Canadian passport, may face delays or be denied boarding by transport companies.

If you have questions or concerns regarding dual citizenship, contact the nearest Canadian government office or refer to our booklet *Dual Citizenship*.

TIPS FOR TRAVELLING WITH CHILDREN

- Keep in mind that you will be travelling at your children's pace, not your own.
- All children require a valid Canadian passport and supporting identification. Check with the embassy or consulate of each destination country regarding additional entry requirements.
- It is strongly recommended that children travelling alone or with one parent carry a consent letter for each trip abroad. It is advisable to have the consent letter certified, stamped, or sealed by an official with the authority to administer an oath or solemn declaration, so that the validity of the letter will not be questioned. See www.travel.gc.ca/letter for a sample consent letter.
- Seek advice from a lawyer if a custody dispute might develop while the child is abroad. Custody arrangements in Canada may not be recognized in some countries. For details, see our publication International Child Abductions: A Manual for Parents.
- Keep some form of identification in the child's pocket in case you are separated.
- Some airlines will escort and supervise an unaccompanied child from check-in through arrival. Airlines require a parent or guardian to stay at the airport until the flight has departed. The person greeting the child at the destination must have appropriate identification and authorization.
- Infants should sit in an approved child safety seat when travelling by air. A bottle, pacifier, or breastfeeding will help make the child more comfortable and equalize air pressure.
- Bring an adequate supply of baby products and vital medications plus a doctor's note detailing their purposes.

For more information, see www.travel.gc.ca/child.