

next to impossible to know if the person who's wooing you online is actually unmarried and seeking a mate, to say nothing of his moral character or emotional stability. It's always best to move forward slowly. If an online romance sounds too good to be true, then it probably is.

Travelling with a same-sex partner

While same-sex marriages are legal in Canada, they're not recognized in most other countries. You and your partner may be refused entry into a foreign country if you present yourselves as a same-sex couple.

Moreover, homosexual or lesbian activity is a criminal offence in certain countries, and the threat of discrimination or punishment could affect your activities. For more information, consult our Country Travel Reports or your destination country's embassy or consulate in Canada.

- Be cautious about divulging personal information to anyone you're networking with. It could be used to steal your identity, often in order to access credit, purchase property, make false claims for medical services, or obtain other benefits in your name.
- If you're a victim of marital crime or fraud, you should hire a lawyer with expertise in matrimonial law. While the Government of Canada has no jurisdiction in private legal matters and cannot influence legal proceedings in a foreign jurisdiction, consular officials at the nearest Canadian embassy or consulate can provide you with a list of legal representatives in the country concerned.
- For more information on how to protect yourself from international scams, see the website of the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at antifraudcentre.ca.