

- ❖ What you say in answer to the immigration or customs officer can be used against you if you are considered to be, for any reason, inadmissible. For example, many people have had their vehicles seized because they pretended to be Canadian citizens when they were actually landed immigrants or visitors. Many others have had them seized because they did not immediately admit to having a criminal record (no matter how old), or they pretended to be visitors while looking for work in the United States.
- ❖ When a person is refused entry, the information is entered in the computer and if another entry is attempted, the person is again subject to fines and/or vehicle seizure.
- ❖ Canadian pardons are not recognized by U.S. authorities. Canadians who are considered inadmissible may apply for a waiver of excludability through the U.S. embassy or consulate in Canada.

PART FOUR: RETURNING TO CANADA

Departure Tax

Some countries impose a departure tax at the airport or point of departure. Prior to leaving such a country, make sure you set aside enough money, in local funds, to pay for this tax.

Canada Customs and Import Controls

You must declare everything acquired abroad, whether purchases for yourself or gifts, as well as goods bought at a Canadian or foreign duty-free store. Keep your receipts for possible inspection.

If you've been away from Canada for 24 hours, you may claim C\$20 worth of goods, excluding alcohol and tobacco, duty-free. After 48 hours, you may claim C\$100. Once every calendar year you may bring in goods to the value of C\$300.

Certain goods are restricted from entering Canada. If you are considering importing meat or dairy products, weapons, plants, vehicles, or exotic animals or products made from their skins or feathers, please contact Canada Customs beforehand for guidance.

Obscene materials, hate propaganda, most weapons and firearms, and goods harmful to the environment are prohibited from entering Canada.

If you have any questions about what you can and cannot bring into Canada, call your local Canada Customs office. Someone is available 24 hours a day, year-round, to answer your questions. If you're calling in Canada, dial 1-800-461-9999 to reach the Automated Customs Information System. Outside Canada, call (613) 993-0534.

After Residing Abroad

After a stay abroad of longer than a year, there are special import provisions for household items and personal belongings when you move back to Canada. More information is contained in the brochure *Moving Back to Canada?*, available from Canadian missions abroad, your local customs office, or from the Communications Branch, Revenue Canada, Customs and Excise, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0L5, telephone (613) 993-0534 or 1-800-461-9999 (within Canada).