



**CORPORATE IMMIGRATION
LAW FIRM**

MORE ON TRAVEL TO THE UNITED STATES

The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative announced by the United States of America, Department of State and Homeland Security, is proceeding. Canadian citizens will no longer be able to make a verbal declaration of citizenship in order to be admitted entry to the United States. Canadian citizens will require passports to enter the United States. American citizens will also require American passports in order to return to the United States.

DATES YOU MUST BE AWARE OF

Since **January 1, 2006**, all persons travelling through the United States in transit to another country have required passports.

As of **January 1, 2007**, passports will be required by all persons entering the United States via aircraft and sea.

By **January 1, 2008**, all individuals entering the United States by land, air and sea will require a passport.

If you do not have a Canadian passport, you should not wait to obtain one while hoping that this initiative will be delayed, as all indications suggest that the initiative will proceed as announced.

North American Travel Card

Currently, there is no such thing as a North American Travel Card. This is an idea only, and has not been implemented. The Canadian Permanent Resident Card and the Green Card are not North American Travel Cards. The idea is that it would cost individuals less than a passport, and would be easier to carry, and that there would be an opportunity for a family to apply for cards all together, however, this has not been implemented by either the American government or the Canadian government.

Obtaining a Canadian Passport

An application for a Canadian passport can be obtained by downloading the on-line form www.tpp.tc.gc.ca. Passport applications are also available at any regional Canadian passport office, and outside of Canada, from any Canadian mission or www.voyage.gc.ca or by telephone at 613-996-8885 (collect call via Canada direct).

Applications can be made in person at any of the 31 regional Canadian passport offices across Canada, or by courier to Passport Canada at

1a 70 Cremazié Street, Gatineau, Quebec J8Y 3P2, or by mail to Passport Canada, Foreign Affairs Canada, Gatineau, Quebec, Canada K1A 0G3.

Canadians residing outside of Canada and outside of the United States can apply in person at the nearest passport issuing office (Canadian Embassy, High Commission or Consulate) in the country in which they are residing or visiting. Residents in Bermuda, St. Pierre and Miquelon can apply by courier.

If applying in person, you should expect to find long line ups at the passport office. One way to shorten your wait at the passport office is to use the on-line form at www.tptc.gc.ca and fill in the form on-line.

Persons who fill in their applications on-line will be given priority processing when they attend in person at the passport office.

NEXUS Coming to Toronto's Pearson International Airport -Terminal 1

NEXUS is a joint Canada/United States Customs and Immigration family of programs for frequent travellers between Canada and the United States. The NEXUS programs are designed to simplify border crossings for pre-approved, low-risk travellers. NEXUS has been implemented at some land, air and marine ports-of-entry (see www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca), and utilizes innovative technology that recognizes biometric fingerprints or the iris of a travellers' eye.

In early 2007, Terminal 1 at Pearson International Airport is expected to have two booths that will process NEXUS card holders. There will also be enrolment centres at the airport.

Although a NEXUS card may facilitate entry for some individuals, it can also result in the denial of entry to the United States or Canada. The application forms for a NEXUS card include details of any arrests, charges or convictions, and the disclosure of this information on an application form cannot only result in the NEXUS application being refused, but could result in the denial of entry to either Canada or the United States depending on the answers given on the application form, regardless of whether entry has been granted in the past.

Frequent travellers to the United States should not rush into applying for a NEXUS card without first obtaining legal advice on the benefits and possible consequences of having such a card.



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