



Type of law:
CIVIL LAW

A 2020 Alberta Guide to the Law

Permanent Residence



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LEGAL WAYS TO BE IN CANADA

How you can legally be in Canada without being a Canadian citizen.



VISIT



You can visit Canada for up to 6 months.

TEMPORARY RESIDENT



To stay in Canada for longer than 6 months you will need either a work permit or a study permit. You will need to leave Canada when your permit expires.

PERMANENT RESIDENT



If you want to immigrate to Canada permanently, you will need to apply and be accepted as a permanent resident.



Canada requires you to have a visa if you are from certain countries. If you are from one of these countries you will need a visa to visit, work, study or transit through Canada. For more information, or to see if you need a visa visit www.cic.gc.ca



You may also need a medical exam or police certificate before you are allowed into Canada



TRAVEL CHECKLIST

- ✓ Passport or other valid travel document
- ✓ Visitor visa (if applicable)
- ✓ Enough money for your stay or employment lined up for when you are in Canada
- ✓ Letter of introduction from visa office (contains your permit reference number)
- ✓ Documents showing you have been accepted to study at a Canadian school (if applicable)
- ✓ Employment documents (if applicable)
- ✓ Confirmation or Permanent Residence (if applicable)

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Please note: immigration rules change often. The information in this pamphlet is correct as of July 2020. Please contact a lawyer for rules specific to your situation.

Permanent Residents



A permanent resident is a person who the Canadian government has given permission to establish residence in Canada permanently. A permanent resident is NOT a Canadian citizen, although they may share a lot of rights and responsibilities in common. A foreign national must become a permanent resident before becoming a Canadian citizen.

A person in Canada temporarily, such as an international student, or a temporary foreign worker, is **not** a permanent resident.

There are many programs that allow you to immigrate to Canada as a permanent resident. The ones discussed in this pamphlet are:

1. Express Entry – the federal application-management programs for skilled immigrants
2. The Provincial Nominee Program (in some cases, this program can be done jointly with Express Entry)
3. The Family Sponsorship Program

These are only some of the programs that are available for individuals wishing to move to Canada permanently. To find the best program for your needs, contact a lawyer or other certified immigration professional to get advice.



For every program, ALL applicants and their dependants must pass a medical examination. For most of the above programs, the exam must demonstrate you and your family are not a danger to public health or safety, and that you would not be an excessive burden on health or social services in Canada. Only doctors on Canada's list of Panel Physicians can do the examination and it is only valid for 12 months.



You may have to provide police certificates when you submit your application. Police certificates provide information about your criminal record. You will likely need a certificate from any country other than Canada in which you have lived for at least six months in a row during the last 10 years, or since turning 18 (whichever is shorter).

There are fees related to medical examinations, police certificates, biometrics, and language testing. You will have to pay these fees in addition to the application fee. Furthermore, you will

also have to get translations for any document not in English or French. This can be a significant expense that you should be aware of.

As of December 2019, you will also have to provide your biometrics, such as your fingerprints, when you apply if you have not done so within the last 10 years. You typically have to provide biometrics when submitting a different type of application also, even if you submitted them in the past. For example, if you submitted biometrics for a work permit application, you may have to provide them again when you apply for permanent residence. There are additional fees associated with this service. (Please see the COVID-19 section regarding difficulties you may encounter when obtaining your fingerprints as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic)

If you want to apply for permanent residence under the Express Entry program, you must first create an Express Entry profile **online** and then be invited to apply. For many other applications, you may need to submit your application to an Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) office inside Canada and/or the Canadian visa office that serves your country of nationality or the country where you have been legally admitted for at least one year. A list of offices is available at the IRCC website at www.cic.gc.ca. Please see the Express Entry section for more information.

IRCC does not require you to have representation (for example, a lawyer) to apply for immigration or citizenship. However, if you do choose to use the services of a representative, they must be authorized by IRCC. Only you or your authorized representative are allowed to do certain things, including:

- Represent you during an immigration or citizenship proceeding,
- Communicate with the Government of Canada on your behalf, or
- Fill out and submit your immigration or citizenship forms

If you decide that you need or want representation, be sure to select an authorized representative that you trust and keep an eye out for fraud. A lot of immigration fraud is committed by individuals that are not authorized to represent others, or who otherwise give fraudulent advice. For more information on who can act as your representative, visit: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/representative/rep-who.asp>.

Note: Some people will **not** be allowed to enter or stay in Canada after making an application. Canada has the right to refuse anyone. If you have a criminal record or human rights violations, you may not be let in. You can also be denied entry to Canada for security reasons, health reasons, financial reasons, or other reasons. In most cases, if you get an application refused the application fee will be non-refundable, although other fees, such as the Right of Permanent Residence fee, may be.

1. The Express Entry Program



The Express Entry program is an electronic application-management system for skilled immigrants. To use this program, you create a free **online** profile. Your profile is active for 12 months. You are placed in a pool of other applicants and compared to them on a points-based system. IRCC will invite top applicants to apply for immigration. If you are selected to apply, you have 90 days to submit your application. After IRCC receives your application, a decision will likely be made within six (6) months. The factors that prolong processing times include complications with obtaining all required documents or concerns about you/your family's admissibility.

Express Entry is a points-based system. That is, everyone is given a score based on certain criteria, and invitations are issued to the highest scoring applicants. The criteria for which you can get points includes:

- Your prior skills and experience;
- Your partner or spouse's language ability and education;
- The transferability of your skills such as your work experience and education;
- Having a Canadian education;
- Speaking and understanding French;
- Your age;
- Having close family in Canada who are permanent residents or citizens;
- Whether you have arranged employment in Canada supported by a valid job offer; and
- And whether you have a nomination from a province or territory.

If you are married or live with a common-law partner who is also a citizen of a nation other than Canada, you can decide which one of you will be the principal applicant. A common-law partner is someone who has lived with you in a conjugal relationship for at least 1 year. Couples may be either opposite-sex or same-sex. It is best to choose the principal applicant depending on which partner is most likely to earn the most points. Your spouse or partner can, however, contribute to your points total in some categories.

You will also be allowed to bring your dependent family members through this system. This includes your spouse/common-law partner and your children who are single and less than 22 years of age at the time of application or children who are 22 years of age and older but are financially dependent due to a physical or mental condition.



a. **Canadian Experience Class**

If you are a temporary foreign worker and have skilled work experience in Canada, you may be able to move from temporary to permanent residence under the Canadian Experience Class. This program is handled under the Express Entry system.

You need to meet all of the following requirements to apply under the Canadian Experience Class:

1. You must plan to live outside the province of Quebec.
2. You must have at least 12 months of full-time, or an equal amount in part-time, skilled work experience in Canada in the 3 years before you apply (for example, 2 years working part time for 20 hours a week)
 - Skilled work experience means experience in a managerial job, professional job, or technical job (National Occupation Code O, A, or B)
 - Full-time work means at least 30 hours of paid work per week - 1,560 hours total required
 - Work done while a full-time student in Canada or through self-employment does not count towards the 1,560 hours required.
3. You must have gained your experience in Canada while legally able to work in Canada.
4. You must meet the required language levels in English or French needed for your job (speaking, reading, writing, and listening). You must arrange for testing by an approved agency and pay the costs.

If you have a Canadian post-secondary diploma, certificate, degree or an international degree accompanied by an Educational Credential Assessment (ECA) report produced by an approved agency, you will get more points under the Express Entry program and increase your likelihood of receiving an invitation to apply. While there is no formal education requirement and an ECA report is not necessary to meet the minimum eligibility criteria for CEC, it is very difficult to receive an invitation to apply without post-secondary qualifications.

Keep in mind that these requirements are just the minimum requirements to qualify for Canadian Experience Class. After you submit a qualifying profile, you will be placed in a pool and the highest scoring applicants will be selected from that pool. You will then be able to submit a full application for permanent residence.

This is only one of three programs managed under Express Entry. There is also the Federal Skilled Worker and Federal Skilled Trades program, but those are not discussed in this pamphlet. Contact a lawyer to find out more.

2. Provincial Nomination Program

Most provinces and territories in Canada have an agreement with the Government of Canada that allows them to nominate immigrants who wish to settle in that province or territory. There are 2 steps for applying to immigrate to Canada in this program.

1. Apply to the province or territory where you wish to live and complete its provincial nomination process. The province/territory will consider your application based on the province's immigration needs and your genuine intention to settle there.
2. After a province nominates you, you must apply to IRCC for permanent residency. IRCC makes final decisions on all provincial nominee permanent resident applications. (**Note:** some provinces use the Express Entry program. See IRCC for more information)

Generally, there are two application options that provinces can use:

1. A person can apply under a provincial nomination program like the Alberta Opportunity Stream (i.e. directly to the province in the first step), and if their application is accepted and they receive a nomination, they can submit a Permanent Residence application to the federal government and include the province's nomination certification – this is the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP).
2. A person can submit an Express Entry profile, which Alberta can look at and if interested, send a Notification of Interest through the Express Entry portal. This is the Alberta Express Entry Stream.

In Alberta, the eligibility criteria and process for applying to the Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program (AINP) varies depending on the category you apply to. There may be periods of time where applications are not being accepted and the Alberta Government does not guarantee that all applications submitted will be reviewed.

The current categories accepting applications as of July 2020 are:

a. Alberta Express Entry Stream

Only candidates who are asked to submit an application to the Alberta Express Entry Stream will be considered. You may receive a Notification of Interest (an invitation to apply) if you:

- Have an active Express Entry profile in the federal Express Entry Pool
- Have stated an interest in immigrating permanently to Alberta
- Are working in an occupation that supports Alberta's economic development and diversification

- Have a minimum comprehensive ranking system score of 300

However, these are just minimum requirements. Other factors can raise or lower your chance to receive a Notification of Interest letter. If you receive a Notification of Interest you must email a copy of the letter to the AINP at albertaexpressentry@gov.ab.ca within two weeks of receiving it in your federal Express Entry Profile. You will then have to apply to the province, and if your application is accepted, you'll receive a nomination certificate through your Express Entry portal. If you accept this nomination, you will receive an additional 600 points in your Express Entry profile, making it much more competitive and more likely to receive an Invitation to Apply (ITA) from IRCC. If you receive an ITA, you can submit your electronic application for permanent residence (eAPR) through the Express Entry portal, which will then be processed by IRCC.

b. *Alberta Opportunity Stream*

The requirements for this stream are as follows:

- You must have a valid work permit at the time that you apply AND at the time that your application is assessed. If your work permit is a Post-Graduation Work Permit, you must have graduated from an Albertan publicly funded post-secondary institution.
- You must work in an eligible occupation in Alberta that matches your previous work experience. Most occupations are eligible, with exceptions listed on the AINP's website.
- You must also have enough qualifying work experience, a minimum of 12 months full time work in the last 18 months in Alberta or at least 24 months of full time work in the last 30 months outside of Alberta.
- You must have an eligible job offer.
- You will also have to meet the required language levels in English or French needed for your job (speaking, reading, writing, and listening). You must arrange for testing by an approved agency and pay the costs. As of January 2020, the minimum required score is 5 in each skill category for occupations listed in the NOC O A or B categories.
- Applicants under the Alberta Opportunity Stream must have completed a minimum of high school education in their country of origin. Starting in 2021 applicants must have completed a minimum of a high school education equivalent to Alberta standards
- Alternatively, if you are a **Post-Graduation Work Permit holder** and your degree/certificate is from an Albertan institution, your occupation must be related to your field of study
 - There is an additional requirement for Post-Graduation Work Permit holders. They must work in an occupation not listed in the Government of Canada's list of high-wage and low-wage occupations in the province of Alberta.
 - Post Graduation Work Permit holders have additional education requirements

- Post Graduation Work Permit holders have lower work experience requirements – they must have worked for six of the last eighteen months. Work experience completed during a paid co-op work term as part of a program of study may qualify if it related to your occupation, was in Alberta, and was full-time (minimum of 30 hours per week).

Visit <https://www.alberta.ca/ainp-selection-criteria.aspx> to see the full selection criteria, or call 1-877-427-6419 or email immigration.info@gov.ab.ca for inquiries about whether your occupation is eligible.

An **up-to-date list of the programs accepting applicants and their requirements** is available on the AINP website (<http://www.albertacanada.com/opportunity/immigrating/ainp.aspx>). Many of the categories require that you at least have work experience in Alberta, an Albertan education, or a job offer in Alberta.

3. Family Class Immigration Program



If you are a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada, you can sponsor your family members to become permanent residents under the family class program. There are two different processes for sponsoring your family. One of them allows you to sponsor family members that are currently outside of Canada. This is known as the **Family Class**. The other process is used to sponsor your partner if they are in Canada. This is known as the **Spouse or Common-Law Partner in Canada Class**. The benefit of this latter process is that it may provide your partner with a work permit while they wait for their application for permanent residence to be approved.

a. *Sponsor your Spouse, Partner, or Dependent Children*

To sponsor a spouse, a common-law or conjugal/sexual partner, or dependent children (under 22 years of age and single, with some exceptions being made to children that are financially dependent due to a mental or physical disability) you need to apply as the sponsor under the Family Class.

To be the sponsor of a spouse, a common-law or conjugal/sexual partner, or dependent children you must meet the following requirements:

- 1) You must be at least 18 years of age **and** a permanent resident or a citizen of Canada (though you do not have to currently be living in Canada, as long as you are planning to return to Canada for the period of time that the sponsored individual will be arriving),

- 2) You and the sponsored relative must sign a sponsorship agreement that commits you to provide financial support for your relative, if necessary. This agreement also says that the person becoming a permanent resident will make every effort to support herself or himself without your help.
- 3) You must provide financial support for a spouse, or common-law or conjugal partner for three years from the date they become a permanent resident if they require it (although you do not have to meet the minimum necessary income requirement);
- 4) You must provide financial support for a dependent child under 22 years of age on the day they become a permanent resident for 10 years, or until the child turns 25, whichever comes first.

Eligible spouses or common-law partners can work in Canada while they wait for their application for permanent residence to be processed if they obtain a work permit. Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada will issue open work permits to certain spouses or common-law partners who are applying for permanent residence from inside Canada before their application is approved as long as they apply under the In Canada class.



Note: If a person was sponsored to come to Canada by a spouse or partner then they cannot sponsor a new spouse or partner within five years of becoming a permanent resident, even if they acquired citizenship within that period.

b. ***Sponsoring Other Eligible Relatives***

Other relatives can be sponsored if they are eligible and if they meet the requirements for permanent residency listed above. Relatives that you may be able to sponsor are:

- Brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces, and grandchildren if they are:
 - orphaned,
 - related to you by blood or adoption,
 - under 18 years of age, and
 - not married or in a common-law relationship.
- Another relative of any age or relationship (different from above) **but only under specific conditions** (see note below)
- Accompanying relatives of the above (for example dependent children of your brother).

Note: You can sponsor one relative, related to you by blood or adoption, regardless of age or their relationship to you **only** if you do not have another living relative who could be sponsored as a member of the family class, such as a spouse, common-law partner, conjugal partner, child, parent, grandparent, orphaned sibling, orphaned niece or nephew, or orphaned

grandchild, **and** you do not have **any** relative included above (or aunt or uncle) who is a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or registered as an Indian under the *Indian Act*.

Other relatives, such as brothers and sisters over 18, or adult independent children cannot be sponsored. However, if they apply to immigrate under the Express Entry program, they may get extra points for adaptability for having a relative in Canada.

To be a sponsor of eligible relatives other than your spouse, common-law or conjugal partner, or your dependent children you must meet the following requirements:

- 1) You must be over the age of 18,
- 2) You must be a citizen or permanent resident of Canada or registered in Canada as an Indian under the Canadian Indian Act,
- 3) You must be living in Canada,
- 4) You and the sponsored relative must sign a sponsorship agreement that commits you to provide financial support for your relative if necessary. This agreement also states that the person becoming a permanent resident will make every effort to support themselves. Dependent children under age 19 do not have to sign this agreement.
- 5) You must promise to provide financial support for the relative and any other eligible relatives accompanying them for a period of up to 20 years, depending on their age and relationship to you. This time period begins on the date they become a permanent resident.

You **may not** be eligible to sponsor under any category if you:

- are in prison
- have not paid your alimony or child support payments
- sponsored a spouse in the past and it has not been 3 years since they received their permanent residence.
- have declared bankruptcy and haven't been released from it yet
- received social assistance for reasons other than being disabled
- didn't pay back an immigration loan, made late payments or missed payments
- sponsored another relative in the past and didn't meet the terms of the sponsorship agreement
- were convicted of a violent crime, any offense against a relative or any sexual offence, depending on the details of the offense.

-Some other things may also prevent you from being eligible to sponsor.

Living in Canada as a Permanent Resident

If you have been granted permanent resident status through any of the above programs, you share most of the rights and responsibilities of a Canadian citizen with some exceptions.

Permanent residents are **NOT ALLOWED TO:**

- Vote
- Run in elections
- Apply for a Canadian Passport
- Be eligible for additional pension benefits.
- Hold certain jobs that require high-level security clearance.

Permanent residents do enjoy many personal rights and freedoms, as well as children's rights, women's rights, and seniors' rights.

For example, permanent residents **HAVE THE RIGHT TO:**

- Health care coverage
- Live, work or study anywhere in Canada
- Apply for Canadian citizenship
- Protection under Canadian law and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

Permanent residents may obtain a permanent resident card that acts as a proof of status document for re-entry into Canada. Permanent residents may also obtain a limited use travel document for re-entry into Canada if they do not have their permanent resident card while travelling outside the country. **You will not be allowed to fly back into Canada if you do not have one of the documents above.**

Permanent residents **MUST:**

- Comply with certain residency obligations
- Pay taxes and respect all Canadian laws at the federal, provincial and municipal levels
- Accumulate 2 years of physical presence in Canada in every five-year period.
**Being outside of Canada for certain reasons can count as time spent in Canada, such as when you are employed by a Canadian business or are a child accompanying a Canadian-citizen parent.*

Permanent residents who do not comply with these obligations may lose their permanent resident status. It is up to the resident to provide all evidence that shows they obeyed these obligations.

1. Losing Permanent Resident Status

It is possible to lose your Permanent resident status. This can include if you engage in “serious criminality”. You can only lose your permanent residence status if you have gone through an official process. If your permanent resident card expires it does not mean that you have lost your permanent resident status. You may lose your permanent resident status if:

- An adjudicator determines you are no longer a permanent resident after an inquiry or residency obligation appeal
- You voluntarily renounce your permanent resident status,
- A removal order is made against you and comes into force, or
- You become a Canadian citizen

Committing serious crimes, including crimes related to impaired driving or cannabis-related crimes may also affect your immigration status. **You should ensure that if you are charged with an offence, the lawyer representing you is aware of any potential immigration issues that could arise should you plead guilty or be convicted, or you should consult an immigration lawyer prior to pleading guilty or accepting any plea deals.**

2. Making your landing

After your application for permanent resident status is approved, you will have to validate your Confirmation of Permanent Residence (this is often called “landing”). To do this, you will have to either make an appointment to validate the document at an IRCC office, or you may go to a border and exit and then re-enter Canada (known as flag poling) in certain circumstances. In either case, you will need to bring your passport, Confirmation of Permanent Residence document, and proof that you are currently in Canada legally.

Settling in Canada

1. Language Training

Free English and French language training is available in Canada for adult permanent residents. This program is called Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC). Individuals who

wish to participate in a course must first contact the nearest LINC assessment centre or immigrant services organization for an assessment of their language training needs and a referral to LINC course providers in their community. Some centres offer free childcare during classes.

Canada is a multicultural society where everyone should feel welcome. If you need any help settling into Canada or obtaining resources, please see the section below to find out who you can call for help.

Changes as the Result of the COVID-19 Pandemic

COVID-19 has had an impact on everyone, and this includes permanent residents & people currently applying for residence. The most important thing to know is that there are currently travel restrictions in place limiting who can enter Canada, and if you are permitted entry, you **will have to quarantine for 14 days, even if you have no symptoms**. It is important that you check if you are eligible to enter Canada before attempting to travel.

If your permanent resident application was approved but you have not landed and you are currently outside Canada, you will not be able to enter Canada to land unless you are exempt from the travel restrictions.

If you are in Canada and need to land, you should wait for further instructions from IRCC. In-person permanent resident landing appointments have been cancelled until further notice. **You should not flagpole** at this time. Make sure that your contact information with IRCC is up-to-date.

If your Confirmation of Permanent Residence is about to expire or has expired, contact IRCC once you are ready to travel to Canada. You must be planning to stay in Canada if this is the case as **you will not be allowed re-enter Canada unless you are exempt from the travel restrictions**.

Processing times have greatly increased as a result of the pandemic and IRCC is unable to provide accurate processing times at this point. IRCC has stated that it is not currently closing or refusing any applications in progress for missing documents due to COVID-19 (such as police certificates, biometrics, passports, and medical exams) and is automatically giving an extra 90 days to send the documents from the deadline in the request letter. IRCC has also stated that this deadline will continue to be extended for another 90 days until you are able to provide the documents, and you don't have to contact IRCC for this extension, but it is still good practice to

confirm that you are unable to obtain the requested document at this time due to COVID-19 and you are relying on this automatic extension.

There have also been delays in providing biometrics, especially as biometric collection centres outside of Canada and Service Canada locations in Canada have been closed as a result of COVID-19 (but are now slowly starting to re-open). IRCC has announced certain temporary biometric exemptions as a result; see IRCC's website for more details. **If your application requires that you give biometrics, you should be prepared for delays.**

Who Can I Call For More Help Or Information?

Government Agencies

Citizenship and Immigration Canada	Ph: 1-888-242-2100 Or TTY: 1-888-576-8502 (8 am to 4 pm your local time) Call the TTY service if you: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment• use a text telephone Website: www.cic.gc.ca
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Apply to visit, study, work or immigrate to Canada, apply for citizenship, a permanent resident card or refugee protection, check the status of your application or find a form.

Alberta's Provincial Nomination Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Toll-free in Alberta: 1-877-427-6419 Ph: 780-427-6419 Website: http://www.albertacanada.com/opportunity/immigrating.aspx
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Information on applying to immigrate to Canada through Alberta's nomination program.

Government of Alberta Temporary Foreign Worker Helpline	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Toll-free in Alberta: 1-877-944-9955 Ph: 780-644-2584 Website: www.cic.gc.ca
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Contact for information on temporary foreign worker rights and to report suspected abuses.

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (Edmonton office)	Ph: 1-866-787-7472 OR 604-666-5946 Website: www.irb-cisr.gc.ca
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Information on refugee claims and appeals.

Immigration Appeal Division	Ph: 780-427-6419 Website: http://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/Eng/ImmApp/Pages/ImmApp.aspx
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Information on sponsorship, removal order and residency obligation appeals.

International Adoption

Alberta's Children's Services, Adoption Services 9940 106 Street, Edmonton, AB	Ph: 780-422-5641 Website: www.child.alberta.ca/home/606.cfm
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Information on adopting a child from a foreign country and bringing the child back to Alberta.

Immigrant-Serving Organizations in Edmonton

Catholic Social Services 8212 118 Avenue, Edmonton, AB	Ph: 780-424-3545 Website: www.catholicsocialservices.ab.ca
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Find programs and supports for immigrants offered by the Catholic Church.

Changing Together – A Center for Immigrant Women 9538 107 Avenue, Edmonton, AB	Ph: 780-421-0175 Website: www.changingtogether.com
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FREE Services for Immigrant Women

ASSIST Community Services Centre 9649 105A Avenue, Edmonton, AB 810 Saddleback Road, Edmonton, AB	Website: www.assistcsc.org Downtown Ph: 780-429-3111 Southwest Ph: 780-429-3119
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Provide practical & useful resources to help new immigrants to better cope with everyday living.

Edmonton Immigrant Services Association 10720 113 Street, Edmonton, AB	Ph: 780-474-8445 Website: www.eisa-edmonton.org
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Provide services to new immigrants, refugees, and first generation Canadians.

Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers 11713 82 Street, Edmonton, AB	Ph: 780-424-7709 Website: www.emcn.ab.ca
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Immigrant settlement agency whose focus is the successful and integrative settlement of newcomers to Edmonton

Millwoods Welcome Centre for Immigrants 7609 38 Avenue, Edmonton, AB	Ph: 780-462-6924 Website: http://wciedmonton.ca/
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Language Classes in Edmonton

Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks	Ph: 613-230-7729 Website: www.language.ca
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Centre of expertise in support of the national standards in English and French for describing, measuring and recognizing second language proficiency of adult immigrants and prospective immigrants for living and working in Canada.

Language Assessment Referral and Counselling Centre (LARCC) 8212 118 Avenue, Edmonton, AB	Ph: 780-424-3545 Website: https://larcc.cssalberta.ca
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Helps adult immigrants and refugees determine their current level of English language proficiency, presents options for ESL training, and assists newcomers to explore their educational and career goals/opportunities.

Changing Together – A Centre for Immigrant Women – English as a Second Language (ESL) 9538 107 Avenue, Edmonton, AB	Ph: 780-421-0175 Website: http://www.changingtogether.com/
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Helps immigrant women and their families participate fully in Canadian society. Offers English as a Second Language (ESL) classes and prevention of family violence workshops.

Norquest College, CLBA/LA 11140 131 Street, Edmonton, AB	Ph: 780-422-9061 Website: www.norquest.ca
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Provides English as a second language classes

University of Alberta – Faculty of Extension	Ph: 780-492-3116 Website: https://www.ualberta.ca/extension
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Provides English as a second language classes

Family Violence Resources

Changing Together – A Centre for Immigrant Women – Family Violence Prevention Workshops	Ph: 780-421-0175 Website: www.changingtogether.ca
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Helps immigrant women and their families participate fully in Canadian society. Offers English as a Second Language Classes (ESL) and family violence workshops.

Government of Alberta Family Violence Information Line	Ph: 780-310-1818 Website: http://www.humanservices.alberta.ca/abuse-bullying/15666.html
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Talk to trained staff over the phone 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in more than 170 languages. Chat anonymously online with staff from noon to 8:00pm daily.

Islamic Family and Social Services Association 4003 98 Street, Edmonton, AB (South) 12811 58 Street, Edmonton, AB (North) 10205 111 Street, Edmonton, AB (Central)	Ph: 780-430-9220 Website: http://www.ifssa.ca
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Non-profit registered charity dedicated to providing services in response to the social needs of the Edmonton community within an Islamic context.

Multicultural Women and Seniors Services Association (MWSSA) 329 Woodvale Road, Edmonton, AB	Ph: 780-465-2992 Website: www.mwssa.org
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One on one support, outreach services, help victims to navigate the system.

WillowNet: Law and Abused Immigrant Women	Website: www.willownet.ca/rose
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Legal information that may help you if you are an immigrant woman experiencing abuse in an intimate relationship.

The TODAY Family Violence Help Centre	Ph: 780-455-6880 Website: www.thetodaycentre.ca
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Non-profit organization that offers a safe place for individuals victimized by family violence to access free, confidential, emotional, and practical support.

Provincial Abuse Line	Ph: 1-855-443-5722
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Legal Resources

Edmonton Community Legal Centre Second floor 10020 – 100 Street, Edmonton, AB	Ph: 780-702-1725 Website: www.eclc.ca
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Free legal information, free presentations on family law topics every Thursday evening at the Stanley Milner Library from 6:30-8:30, possibility to consult with a family lawyer for approximately 30min if you have attended a lecture.

Legal Aid Society of Alberta 6th floor 10320 102 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB	Ph: 1-866-845-3425 Website: www.legalaid.ab.ca
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Free legal information lawyers who may represent you for a reduced rate.

Lawyer Referral Service	Ph: 1-800-661-1095
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Referrals to up to 3 lawyers that may be able to help you.

Student Legal Services of Edmonton 11036 88 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB	Ph: 780-492-2226 Website: www.slsedmonton.com
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Law students able to provide free legal information and assistance with child support applications in the Provincial Court of Alberta.

Dial-A-Law (Legal Information on Tape)	Ph: 1-800-332-1091
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Alberta Law Line	Ph: 780-644-7777
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Legal Aid Alberta telephone-based program providing free legal information, referrals, and advice province-wide.

A-Link (Law Central Alberta)	Ph: 780-451-8764 Website: www.lawcentralalberta.ca
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Online directory and is designed to provide quick and easy access to information on law-related programs and services in Alberta.