

AND CITIZENSHIP ISN'T SECURE EITHER

IF YOU HAVE ACCESS TO ANOTHER CITIZENSHIP (EVEN IF BORN IN CANADA)

- If you have been convicted with terrorism, including foreign convictions, and were sentenced for five years, your citizenship could be revoked by a single citizenship officer.
- Your citizenship could be revoked if while you were a citizen, you've served as a member of an armed force of a country or as a member of an organized armed group engaged in an armed conflict with Canada. The scope of this section is not clear. Unlike, the other provisions, this would have to go to the Federal Court.

IF YOU APPLIED FOR CITIZENSHIP AFTER MAY 29TH 2015

- You had to satisfy the Minister that you "intend to reside" in Canada.
- If you leave the country, it is unclear if they will interpret your declaration of your "intent to reside" as a "false declaration." If a lone citizenship officer declares that you made false declarations to get your citizenship, they can revoke it.



This pamphlet contains information that may help individual permanent residents.

However, as quickly as these new changes have come into effect, new policies can pass that increase our temporariness.

Together, we can mobilise to struggle against the colonial government's categorisation of "desirable" and "undesirable" migrants and, instead, towards the freedom to stay, the freedom to move, and the freedom to return.



**no one
is illegal**

vancouver - coast salish territories

www.nooneisillegal.org

**YOUR
PERMANENT
RESIDENCY
IS NOT AS
PERMANENT
AS YOU
THINK IT IS**

ALL PERMANENT RESIDENTS

You could be removed from Canada if:

- You lived outside Canada for more than three years in any five-year period.
- You are convicted in Canada of a crime for which you **could** be given a sentence of 10 years.
- You or your sponsor has given false or incomplete information that could affect your status in Canada.

You could be brought before the Immigration Division for an inadmissibility hearing and potentially removed from Canada **without appeal** if:

- You are sentenced in Canada to imprisonment for six months or more.
- You have been convicted of, or are **believed to have committed** a crime **outside Canada** that if committed in Canada could be given a sentence of 10 years or more **even if you've never been charged**.
- An immigration officer **believes** you are or have been a member of a group, which engages, has engaged or will engage in acts of espionage, subversion, or terrorism. This applies even if the group has not engaged in such acts during your membership.

INFO FOR ALL PERMANENT RESIDENTS

If you are charged with a crime, make sure your lawyer considers the immigration consequences. Sometimes criminal lawyers give advice that may be good for a citizen, but has disastrous consequences for non-citizens.

Ensure that you inform [Citizenship and Immigration Canada](#) about a change in your marital status or the birth of another child until you have become a permanent resident.

REFUGEES

As of December 2012, in most cases, if you are stripped of your refugee status, you are also stripped of your permanent residence without appeal. You can be stripped of your refugee status through cessation (when you are stripped of your status because you are said to have accepted the protection of your home country) or vacation (when you are stripped of your refugee status on the basis that it was obtained through misrepresentation). Every year, the government aims to strip 875 refugees of their status through cessation and vacation.

CESSATION

You could face a cessation application if you:

- Have travelled to your country of origin (even for a short visit many years ago).
- Applied for a new passport from your country of origin.
- Used your passport from your country of origin to travel to a third country.

The Canadian government has launched cessation applications against individuals who have been living in Canada for over a decade and have children and spouses with Canadian citizenship.

INFORMATION FOR REFUGEES

DO NOT travel to your country of origin or contact its government (including its embassy in Canada) without speaking to somebody knowledgeable about refugee law.

If you have already travelled to your country of origin, applied for a new passport from your country of origin, or used your passport from your country of origin speak to a lawyer before interacting with immigration officials **including** crossing the border or applying for citizenship.

SPONSORED SPOUSES

If you submitted your application on or after October 25 2012 and you were married or in a common-law relationship for less than two years and had no children at the time of your application, your permanent resident status is conditional on you living with your spouse in a “marriage-like” relationship for two years. **An exception to the condition is if you provide Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) with evidence of abuse or neglect.**

If you have conditional PR, you could be removed from Canada if:

- CIC determines that you aren't living together in a “marriage-like” relationship in the 2-year conditional PR period.
- Your sponsor ends the relationship or you leave your spouse during the two-year period.
- Your request for an exception based on abuse/neglect is denied.

INFORMATION FOR SPONSORED SPOUSES

- If you plan on applying for an exception due to neglect or abuse seek legal advice before making a request.
- You must have left your sponsor's home before making the request. If possible, speak to a lawyer and gather evidence before leaving your sponsor's home.
- If you cannot afford a lawyer, you can call **1-888-601-6076** to apply for legal aid.
- Be aware that any report of abuse of a child or abuse witnessed by a child may be reported to child protection authorities or police, without the parent's consent, and can lead to criminal charges.