

311 Main Street, P.O. Box 1990
Exeter, ON, Canada N0M 1S7
Tel: 519-235-2000 Fax: 519-235-2061
TICO #2392471



Suite 101 - 315 West 1st Street
North Vancouver, BC, Canada V7M 1B5
Tel: 604-983-2470 Fax: 604-983-2471
BPCPA Registration #37951

member of CarlsonWagonlit

www.ettravel.com

Border Crossing Information for Groups Travelling to the USA **As of March 2016**

is accurate at time of printing. Ellison Travel & Tours accepts no responsibility for changes to this information after this date as changes are being made on a daily basis by government agencies and individual travel suppliers. We strongly recommend that you check the websites listed for the most current information prior to your travel date. For Non-Canadians we need to confirm that you have the proper travel documentation and visa requirements. Contact Ellison Travel & Tours at traveldocuments@ettravel.com

ENTERING THE USA BY AIR - ALL PERSONS

All persons, including US citizens, travelling by air between the US and Canada are required to have a valid passport, or Air NEXUS card when used at an Air Nexus Kiosk. This applies to all travellers, regardless of age, including children.

ENTERING THE USA BY LAND OR SEA – CANADIAN CITIZENS

Canadian citizens must present one of the following valid U.S. WHTI-compliant documents when entering the United States by land or water: a Passport; OR a Nexus Card; OR a Fast Card; OR a Sentri Card, OR an electronically enhanced driver's license (EDL); OR a Secure Certificate of Indian Status.

Canadian citizens 15 years of age or under will only require proof of citizenship such as a birth certificate or a Canadian citizenship card. **Canadian citizens 18 years of age or under** who are travelling with a school or other organized group under adult supervision with parental/guardian consent may also present proof of citizenship alone. (see further info below)

ENTERING THE USA BY LAND OR SEA – NON CANADIANS*

Persons with landed immigrant status in Canada must obtain a Visa in order to enter the U.S. **except for citizens of countries that have a visa waiver agreement with the U.S.** Visas can be purchased through the US Embassy or a Consulate. All US visitors in this category will also require an **I-94 Entry Document** which can be purchased at the border crossing station. Cost is \$6.00 USD and you will be fingerprinted at the same time. It allows you a maximum of 90 days in the US and the document is to be turned in (CDN or US side) when you exit the US. Non Canadian citizens must also have a valid passport from their country of citizenship.

Visa Waiver Program (ESTA)

International travelers who are seeking to travel to the United States under the **Visa Waiver Program (VWP)** are now subject to enhanced security requirements. All eligible travelers who wish to travel under the VWP must apply for authorization through the **Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA)** program at a cost of \$14.00 USD. If travelling to the US by land or sea under the VWP, you are

not required to apply for the ESTA however it is recommended in order to expedite the processing of your I-94 Entry Document at the border crossing station. International travellers entering the United States under the VWP must have a special type of passport called a **machine-readable passport**.

***PLEASE NOTE** - All non Canadian citizens and non Americans should **be prepared to be fingerprinted** at the border at a cost of \$6.00 USD.

RETURNING TO CANADA – CANADIAN CITIZENS

Canadian citizens must have either a passport or two forms of identification including photo ID.

RETURNING TO CANADA – NON CANADIANS

Permanent residents, including children, returning to Canada by commercial carrier (airplane, train, boat, bus) must show their **Permanent Resident (PR)** card. This does not apply if returning by car. Check the expiry date on your card and apply for a new card at least two months prior to travel. Ellison Travel & Tours recommends referencing the following website for updates on estimated PR card processing times: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/times/>. **As a parent/guardian, it is your responsibility to ensure your child has the proper documentation to leave and re-enter the country.**

Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

Starting March 2016, visa-exempt foreign nationals who fly to or transit through Canada will need an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA). Exceptions include U.S. citizens and foreign nationals with a valid visa. Canadian citizens, including dual citizens, are **not eligible** to apply for an eTA and are strongly encouraged to travel with a valid Canadian passport.

SCHOOL GROUPS & SUPERVISING STUDENTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE

Teachers/supervisors must have a Letter of Consent indicating that they have permission from the parents or guardians to supervise the children and including addresses and telephone numbers where the parents or guardian can be reached. Please note that if children are using a passport as their ID **they must have their own passport** rather than be an addition to a parent's passport.

GOVERNMENT ISSUED DOCUMENTATION INCLUDES:

Passport; Citizenship Card; Permanent Resident Card; driver's license; health card; birth certificate; Provincial/Territorial Government Identification Cards (GIC); Record of Landing Form; Immigration Documents (work permit, study permit, etc); SIN card; certificate of Indian status ID; etc – for more info, go to: <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/travel-voyage/td-dv-eng.html>

RELATED WEB SITES

1. Canada Border Services Agency - www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/menu-eng.html
2. Electronic Travel Authorization - <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp>
3. Application for Permanent Resident Card - <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/pr-card/>
4. Indian & Northern Affairs - www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/eng/1100100032380
5. Visa Waiver Program - <http://www.cbp.gov/travel/international-visitors/visa-waiver-program>
6. Electronic System for Travel Authorization - <http://www.cbp.gov/travel/international-visitors/esta>
7. US Citizens Crossing US Borders - <http://www.dhs.gov/files/crossingborders/travelers.shtm>
8. Simplified Passport Renewal – <http://www.ppt.gc.ca/cdn/ren.aspx>
9. Letter of Consent - <http://travel.gc.ca/travelling/children/consent-letter>