

Customs Guide CANADA

Information from FIDI Canada

## **Customs guide CANADA**

## The global quality standard for international moving.

The FAIM label is your global assurance for a smooth, safe and comprehensive relocation process.





| GOODS   | DOCUMENTS REQUIRED  | CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS  | REMARKS  |
|---|---|--|--|
| Removal goods - Settlers (immigrants, student<br>- visitor - work visa) | <ul> <li>Copy of passport.</li> <li>Detailed inventories (English/French).</li> <li>Advice notice/customs manifest – obtained<br/>from the moving company in Canada.</li> <li>Detailed valued list of items included in<br/>shipment.</li> <li>Ownership, possession and proof of use.</li> <li>Receipts for any new items.</li> <li>Previous airport or US/Canada border<br/>declaration papers (B4Ee/ B15).</li> <li>Liquor import declaration (if applicable).</li> <li>Immigration papers (if applicable).</li> <li>Visa (if applicable).</li> <li>Visa (if applicable).</li> <li>Letter of undertaking (not always necessary).</li> <li>Valued list of items.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Duty free for immigrants if:</li> <li>Household goods &amp; personal effects, owned &amp; used by importer for at least 6 months prior to importation.</li> <li>Duty free for student, visitor, work visa if: <ul> <li>All items imported must be for personal use during the stay.</li> <li>All goods must be exported when importer's temporary residency status expires.</li> <li>The goods may not be sold or disposed of in Canada without customs authorization.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul> <li>All shipments must be declared to customs at the port of entry (i.e. at the airport/U.S Canada border) when the transferee lands in Canada.</li> <li>If entering Canada through an airport, complete the e311 Declaration card and ensure you have ticked the section declaring you have goods to follow.</li> <li>eTA (Canadian Electronic Authorization) is mandatory before flying to Canada.</li> <li>For the most current information regarding household and personal effects, please go to: http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/menu-eng.html</li> <li>Shipments of personal and household effects can be subject to a thorough inspection by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA).</li> <li>Any single item of personal or household effects, including automobiles, that were acquired after March 31, 1977, and are valued at more than \$10,000 are subject to regular duty and taxes on the excess amount</li> </ul> |
| Removal goods – Returning Canadians                                     | <ul> <li>Proof of Residency outside of Canada for at<br/>least one year (e.g. monthly statements,<br/>letter from employer, rent receipts, Income<br/>tax).</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Duty free for former residents if:</li> <li>Household goods &amp; personal effects,<br/>owned &amp; used by importer for at least 6<br/>months prior to importation. Must have</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>All shipments must be declared to customs<br/>at the port of entry (i.e. at the airport/U.S<br/>Canada border) when the transferee lands in<br/>Canada. Do not enter through an automated</li> </ul>  |

All rights reserved. This publication may not be reproduced in any form without the permission of the FIDI Global Alliance. The FIDI Global Alliance cannot take responsibility for the contents of this publication. It is recommended to verify this information with a FIDI Affiliate prior to shipping. This document is produced based on the information supplied at the mentioned date.

Last updated on 9/08/2018 (Canada)

| GOODS | DOCUMENTS REQUIRED | <b>CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS</b>   | REMARKS  |
|-------|--------------------|--|--|
|       |                    | lived outside of Canada for a minimum of<br>12 months<br>ENSURE you have documentary evidence<br>to support living outside of Canada for a<br>minimum of 12 months | <ul> <li>channel.</li> <li>If entering Canada through an airport, complete the e311 Declaration card and ensure you have ticked the section declaring you have goods to follow.</li> <li>Complete the B4e and B4 list forms.</li> <li>For the most current information regarding household and personal effects, please go to: http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/menu-eng.html</li> <li>Shipments of personal and household effects can be subject to a thorough inspection by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA).</li> <li>eTA (Canadian Electronic Authorization) is mandatory before flying to Canada.</li> <li>Canadian citizens must enter the country using their Canadian passports, even those with dual citizenships.</li> <li>Any single item of personal or household effects, including automobiles, that were acquired after March 31, 1977, and are valued at more than \$10,000 are subject to regular duty and taxes on the excess amount.</li> </ul> |

| GOODS                              | DOCUMENTS REQUIRED   | CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS   | REMARKS  |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Removal goods – Seasonal residents | <ul> <li>Passport for all family members.</li> <li>Detailed list of all items in English/French.</li> <li>Copy of the deed to the property or copy of sales agreement for the property.</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Duty free if:</li> <li>Goods cannot be sold for at least 1 year.</li> <li>Used household goods &amp; personal effects on a ONE time entry basis.</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>For the most current information regarding<br/>household and personal effects, please go<br/>to: http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/menu-<br/>eng.html</li> </ul>   |
|                                    |  | <ul> <li>A proof of purchase/copy of lease agreement<br/>is required for any person who is not a<br/>resident of Canada but owns a residential<br/>property or has leased a residence for at<br/>least 3 years for his/her personal use.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Shipments of personal and household<br/>effects can be subject to a thorough<br/>inspection by the Canadian Food Inspection<br/>Agency (CFIA).</li> </ul>   |
|                                    |  |   | <ul> <li>Any single item of personal or household<br/>effects, including automobiles, that were<br/>acquired after March 31, 1977, and are<br/>valued at more than \$10,000 are subject to<br/>regular duty and taxes on the excess<br/>amount.</li> </ul> |
| Diplomatic removals                | <ul> <li>Obligation for privilege to be lodged by the<br/>Canadian Ministry of External Affairs.</li> <li>Passport.</li> <li>Inventory.</li> <li>Arrival notice.</li> </ul>  | Duty free entry.  | <ul> <li>Diplomats are advised to check with their<br/>local embassy and destination agent<br/>regarding the importation regulations for<br/>alcohol.</li> </ul>   |
| Wedding trousseaux                 | <ul><li>Inventory in English or French.</li><li>Marriage certificate.</li></ul>  | Duty free entry.  |  |
| Inheritance                        | <ul> <li>Personal identification.</li> <li>A detailed list of all items (English/French) including values in Canadian dollars.</li> <li>Advice Notice obtained from the moving company.</li> <li>Copy of the Death Certificate, copy of the will or a letter from the Executor of the Estate stating you are a beneficiary.</li> <li>A signed statement from the donor giving reason for the gift or a statement from the</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Duty free entry if the imported items have<br/>been owned and used for at least six months<br/>prior to entry.</li> </ul>  |  |

| GOODS  | DOCUMENTS REQUIRED  | CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS   | REMARKS   |
|--|---|---|---|
|  | Executor of the Estate. (Gifts could be subject to import duties and taxes).  |   |   |
| New furniture, household items, presents and souvenirs |   | <ul> <li>SETTLERS &amp; IMMIGRANTS.</li> <li>New furniture and household furniture are liable to payment of customs duties if they have not been in the owner's previous use prior to their arrival to Canada.</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Canada Customs require invoices and inventory of new goods.</li> <li>If duty and taxes are paid at time of import, the goods may be sold at any time. If the goods are brought in and no duty or taxes are paid, then they cannot be disposed of within one year of import.</li> </ul>   |
| Work of Arts, Antiques                                 | <ul> <li>No documents required if part of household effects.</li> <li>Proof of age will be required if item is over 100 years old.</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Duty free entry if:</li> <li>Works of art are forming part of a bona fide household removal</li> <li>Articles are over 100 years old.</li> <li>Are not for sale or other disposal.</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Antiques and works or art imported into<br/>Canada for resale, are subject to different<br/>regulations.</li> </ul>  |
| Motor vehicles   | <ul> <li>Passport.</li> <li>Proof of ownership and previous registration</li> <li>Insurance documents to be presented at time of clearing.</li> <li>The car must comply to Canadian Standards</li> <li>All vehicles will be inspected by the Canadian Agricultural Inspection Agency upon arrival into Canada.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Motor vehicles imported into Canada cannot<br/>be licensed in Canada unless they have been<br/>cleared through Canada Customs. Used or<br/>second-hand vehicles are generally<br/>prohibited from importation into Canada.<br/>However, there are some exceptions to<br/>these rules, please be aware of the laws<br/>governing vehicle importation to avoid<br/>delays and difficulties:</li> <li>Duty of 6.1% applies to vehicles<br/>manufactured outside of Canada, USA<br/>and Mexico;</li> <li>Vehicles with air conditioning incur an<br/>Excise Tax of \$100;</li> <li>Different tax rates apply based on<br/>destination province.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Shippers with cars still have to attend<br/>Customs in person.</li> <li>If on a work visa, then the rules for<br/>importing a car are more relaxed. The<br/>vehicle will be imported on a temporary<br/>basis for the duration of the work visa.<br/>When your work visa expires or you obtain<br/>permanent residence, the vehicle will need<br/>to be re-exported.</li> <li>Should you require more detailed<br/>information, please contact: Transport<br/>Canada Vehicle Importation 13th Floor<br/>Canada building, 344 Slater Street, Ottawa,<br/>Ontario, K1A 0N5 - Canada 1-613-998-8616.</li> </ul> |

| GOODS                | DOCUMENTS REQUIRED  | CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS  | REMARKS  |
|----------------------|---|--|--|
|                      |   | <ul> <li>Canadian citizens/permanent residences<br/>importing vehicles must have owned,<br/>possessed and used the vehicle for at least 6<br/>months prior to import, if they have been<br/>away from Canada for less than 5 years. If<br/>away for more than 5 years, then the 6<br/>months possession clause drops.</li> </ul>                                   | <ul> <li>For more details on importing a Vehicle into<br/>Canada, please go to: http://www.cbsa-<br/>asfc.gc.ca/menu-eng.html</li> </ul>   |
| Alcohol & cigarettes |   | <ul> <li>Alcohol is allowed into Canada. Duty and tax will apply. Each province has its own process for importation. Please check with your local destination agent for details.</li> <li>Duties are payable.</li> <li>Diplomats are advised to check with their local embassy and destination agent regarding the importation regulations for alcohol.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Duties will be assessed against valuations calculated by the Provincial Liquor Board levies and Canada Customs tariff.</li> <li>In excess of the allowance a permit is required prior to importation from the Provincial Liquor Board where the liquor is to be imported.</li> </ul>  |
| Firearms             | <ul> <li>Detailed list (serial no, - type/calibre - model<br/>- brand).</li> <li>Copies of licenses.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>All firearms coming into Canada are taken<br/>for detailed inspection and could be refused<br/>entry.</li> <li>You must declare all weapons and firearms<br/>at the CBSA port of entry when you enter<br/>Canada. If not, you could face prosecution<br/>and the goods may be seized.</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Do not ship firearms - check with Canadian Firearms Centre, Ottawa first.</li> <li>In most cases an import-export license must be obtained before transport.</li> <li>When shipping firearms load them last in the container, and/or advise their location in the lift van.</li> <li>Remove firing pins before shipping.</li> </ul> |
| Hunting trophies     |   | <ul> <li>Restrictions to import apply.</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Subject to inspection before Customs<br/>clearing.</li> </ul>   |

| GOODS            | DOCUMENTS REQUIRED  | CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS  | REMARKS  |
|------------------|---|--|--|
| Narcotics, drugs |   | <ul> <li>Importation prohibited.</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>The Canadian Government has a policy of<br/>random checks for drugs, which results in<br/>the possibility of extra charges.</li> </ul>  |
| Plants           | Import permit (if allowed)  | <ul> <li>Prohibited.</li> <li>Plants, also the earth, sand or other<br/>substance in which they are packed, are<br/>potential carriers of pests or diseases.</li> <li>Recognised" house plants" from the USA for<br/>indoor use may be permitted.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Import permit from CFIA, if allowed, must be obtained in advance.</li> </ul>  |
| Domestic animals | <ul> <li>Prohibited.</li> <li>Plants, also the earth, sand or other<br/>substance in which they are packed, are<br/>potential carriers of pests or diseases.<br/>Recognised" house plants" from the USA for<br/>indoor use may be permitted.</li> </ul> |  | <ul> <li>It is recommended to check the latest<br/>regulations regarding pets at 'Animal Health<br/>Division, Agriculture Canada, Ottawa,<br/>Ontario KIA OY9'.</li> <li>See www.inspection.gc.ca for more details.</li> </ul>                 |
| Food             |   | <ul> <li>Strong restrictions apply for the importation<br/>of meat and meat by products.</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>It is recommended not to import any food items to Canada. Please visit the website http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca.</li> <li>If brought in, the shipment will be inspected and extra charges will be applicable for inspection.</li> </ul> |
| Prohibited items |   | <ul> <li>Baby Walkers.</li> <li>Balloon Blowing Kits.</li> <li>Infant Self-Feeding Devices.</li> <li>Jequirity Beans.</li> <li>Lawn Darts with Elongated Tips.</li> <li>Relight Candles.</li> <li>Yo-Yo Balls with long cords.</li> </ul>                    | <ul> <li>More information at http://www.hc-<br/>sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/pubs/cons/consumer_prod-<br/>consommation-eng.php#a12.</li> </ul>   |

| GOODS  | DOCUMENTS REQUIRED  | CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS  | REMARKS  |
|--|---|--|--|
| Endangered species                                   |   | <ul> <li>Canada is a signatory to an international<br/>agreement that controls the trade or<br/>movement of many animals, their fur, skin,<br/>bone, feathers, etc</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>In all cases, it is best to contact the CITES office to ask about import requirements.</li> <li>Telephone: 1-800-668-6767 (toll-free number in Canada)</li> <li>819-997-1840 (from all other countries)</li> <li>Fax: 819-953-6283</li> <li>Web site: www.cites.ec.gc.ca</li> </ul> |
| Firewood   | <ul> <li>Permit to Import.</li> <li>A Phytosanitary Certificate issued by the<br/>NPPO must accompany the shipment. The<br/>Phytosanitary Certificate must validate all of<br/>the entry requirements (i.e., treatment,<br/>certification, pest free areas) stated on the<br/>Permit to Import</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Firewood must be heat treated using equipment (i.e., kiln) that is capable of heating wood to a minimum core temperature of 56°C for a minimum of 30 minutes.</li> <li>The import of firewood from all areas of the world is prohibited, unless the exporting country can clearly demonstrate that the conditions specified have been met.</li> </ul>   |  |
| Fumigation of imported and exported wooden<br>crates |   | <ul> <li>The Canadian Government adopted ISPM-15<br/>(International standards for Phytosanitary<br/>Measures Publication 15) Guidelines for<br/>Regulating Wood Packaging Material in<br/>International Trade (aka NIFM-15) to<br/>standardise the treatment of wood packing<br/>materials used for the transport of goods.</li> <li>ISPM No. 15 requires that wood packaging<br/>either be heat-treated or fumigated with<br/>methyl bromide and marked with the<br/>internationally recognized International<br/>Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) mark, or<br/>in lieu of the mark, the consignment must be<br/>accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate<br/>specifying the treatment used.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>For more information on rules and<br/>regulations governing the Import Policy and<br/>Export Program for Wood Packaging, visit<br/>the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)<br/>Web site http://www.inspection.gc.ca.</li> </ul>  |

## The FIDI Global Alliance

Bld Louis Schmidt 29 B1 1040 Brussels - Belgium

Tel.: +32 2 426 51 60 Email: fidi@fidi.org

www.fidi.org

