

Canadian parent's physical presence requirement for applicants subject to the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent

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Overview

Persons are Canadian citizens under one of three categories:

1. Citizenship through naturalization
2. Citizenship by birth on soil
3. Citizenship by descent

Citizens through naturalization describe persons who:

- are granted citizenship, except for those granted under section 5.1 of the Act (the direct grant of citizenship for adopted persons), since they are considered citizens by descent, or
- were naturalized as a British subject in Canada or Newfoundland and Labrador before the Canadian Citizenship Act came into force and is recognized as a citizen as of that day.

Citizens by birth on soil describe persons born in Canada .

- this does not apply to children of foreign government representatives or employees who are in Canada temporarily.

Citizens by descent describe persons born outside of Canada if:

- at the time of their birth, their parent (biological or legal parent at birth) was a Canadian citizen, or
- their parent (biological or legal parent at birth) became a Canadian citizen automatically as of January 1, 1947, or April 15, 1949 in the case of Newfoundland and Labrador, or

- they were granted Canadian citizenship under section 5.1 of the *Citizenship Act* (the direct grant of citizenship for adopted persons).

However, the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent means that not everyone born outside of Canada to a Canadian parent is a Canadian citizen at birth. Similarly, not everyone born and adopted outside of Canada to a Canadian parent is eligible for the direct grant of Canadian citizenship.

To determine requirements to citizenship by descent, IRCC considers the number of generations born abroad.

Generation	Canadian Parent at time of birth or adoption
Generation 1 (First-generation born abroad)	Citizen by birth on soil, or Citizen through naturalization
Generation 2+ (Second or subsequent generation born abroad)	Citizen by descent

A person in the second or subsequent generation born abroad must have a parent who meets the physical presence requirement.

The physical presence requirement for a Canadian citizen parent requires the parent of a person born or adopted abroad in the second or subsequent generation to have spent at least 1,095 days physically present in Canada before the birth or adoption of that citizen.

Eligibility

The physical presence requirement for a Canadian citizen parent applies to persons born or adopted on or after December 15, 2025 in the second or subsequent generation.

A person born on or after December 15, 2025, outside of Canada in the second or subsequent generation is a Canadian citizen at birth if their Canadian parent spent at least 1,095 days physically present in Canada before that person's birth.

A person born and adopted outside Canada by a Canadian citizen by descent on or after December 15, 2025 is eligible for the direct grant of citizenship if their Canadian parent spent at least 1,095 days physically present in Canada before that person's adoption.

Note: Most people born outside Canada before December 15, 2025, in the second or subsequent generation, are Canadian citizens from birth by automatic operation of law. In addition, any person born abroad and adopted by a Canadian who is citizen by descent, before December 15, 2025, can access the direct grant of citizenship for adopted persons under section 5.1 of the Citizenship Act. These persons do not need to demonstrate that they have a Canadian parent who meets the physical presence requirement.

Exceptions to the first-generation limit

Applicants born on or after December 15, 2025, are exempt from the first-generation limit, including the parental physical presence requirement, if:

- at the time of the applicant's birth or adoption, the Canadian **parent** was employed outside Canada, other than as a locally engaged person (a Crown servant):
 - with the Canadian Armed Forces
 - with the federal public administration
 - with the public service of a province or territory
- at the time of the Canadian parent's birth or adoption, the applicant's Canadian **grandparent** was employed outside Canada, other than as a locally engaged person (a Crown servant):
 - in the Canadian Armed Forces
 - with the federal public administration
 - with the public service of a province or territory

Requirements and submissions

The parental physical presence form (CIT 0555) must be provided if the applicant is born abroad beyond the first-generation, as well as supporting documentary evidence with the following application types:

- Proof of Citizenship [Application for a Canadian citizenship certificate (CIT 0001)].
- Part 1 Adoption applications [Confirmation of Canadian citizenship of the adoptive parent(s) (CIT 0010)] if the adoptive parent(s) is a Canadian citizen by descent.

Canadian parent's physical presence in Canada

The physical presence of the Canadian citizen parent is to be recorded in the parental physical presence form [How to calculate physical presence in Canada for a Canadian parent (CIT 0555)]. Physical presence can be accumulated from the parent's date of birth up until the date of birth or date of adoption of the applicant. The applicant is required to populate the form with the following information:

- Applicant's first and last name;
- The Canadian parent's first and last name;
- Parent's date of birth;
- Applicant's date of birth
- Date the Canadian parent entered Canada;
- Date the Canadian parent left Canada;
- Destination in Canada;
- Reason for time spent in Canada;
- Total number of days of presence in Canada.
- Any time the Canadian parent spent serving a sentence for an offence committed in Canada including
 - o dates,
 - o destination, and
 - o type of sentence

A day of physical presence in Canada is defined as any calendar day spent physically present in Canada regardless of the time of day or reasons for the stay. If the applicant is unsure of the exact dates their parent was present in Canada, they are to complete the table with the information they know, to the best of their ability.

Time spent serving a sentence in Canada

No period may be counted as a period of physical presence in Canada during which the applicant's Canadian parent was under a probation order, a paroled inmate or served a term of imprisonment under any enactment in force in Canada.

Exceptions:

- Time on probation as a result of a conditional discharge can count towards physical presence if the probation was completed successfully (i.e. the applicant's Canadian parent was not charged with a breach of probation or a failure to comply during that probation).
- Time spent imprisoned or on probation does not impact the Canadian parent's physical presence if:
 - o they were convicted under the Youth Criminal Justice Act, received a youth sentence, and successfully completed that sentence; or

- they were convicted under the previous Young Offenders Act and successfully completed that sentence.

When an applicant declares that their Canadian parent spent time serving a sentence for an offence under any enactment in force in Canada, they may be asked to provide an RCMP Conviction Report and/or court documents in order to verify if the time spent serving a sentence cannot be counted towards the parent's physical presence requirement. See [Periods that cannot be counted as residence/physical presence \(section 21\)](#) (available internally only).

Assessments

Examples of documents that may support the Canadian parent's physical presence in Canada

This table is intended to provide examples of documents that could be presented to substantiate physical presence in Canada and is non-exhaustive. Supporting documents in conjunction with the information provided on the physical presence form must satisfy the decision-maker on a [balance of probabilities](#) that the Canadian parent was physically present in Canada for at least 1095 days cumulative prior to the applicant's birth or date of adoption.

There may be instances where no single document provides sufficient evidence of the Canadian parent having physical presence in Canada. Decision-makers should review the physical presence form and consider all relevant submissions to engage holistically with all of the information provided to determine, on balance, whether physical presence is met.

Type of Document	Examples
Travel History Report from the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)	A Travel History Report is a record of a traveller's entries, exits or both into Canada. This information is collected by the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA).
Passport and travel documents	Applicants may provide Canadian parent's passports, valid or expired, covering the relevant period showing entries to Canada and exits from Canada.

	Note: Not all countries stamp passports at entry/exit. Canadian passports do not usually have Canadian entry/exit stamps but may have international entry/exit stamps.
Proof of Travel expenses incurred in Canada	The following may be used to support physical presence in Canada: • Hotel / Accommodations receipts • In Canada travel receipts for flights, train, bus and/or car rental • Receipts from camps or activities attended while in Canada
Proof of employment in Canada	The following may be used as proof of employment in Canada: • pay cheque stubs • T4s • statement of earnings • federal or provincial income tax assessments • letter from the employer
Proof of volunteer work in Canada	A signed letter from the organization in which the Canadian parent volunteered their time or services. This letter should include the dates on which the volunteer activities took place.
Proof of in-person attendance at a school in Canada	Letters from the school, transcripts or report cards may be used as proof of Canadian parent's in person attendance.
Financial records and banking records	The following may be used as evidence of purchases or expenses paid while in Canada: • statements of transactions showing the Canadian parent's activity in Canada during the relevant period. This could include rental payments, mortgage payments, utility bill payments and purchases made in Canada • credit card bills in the sole name of the applicant's Canadian parent showing purchases or expense payments in Canada during the relevant period

	cancelled cheques showing regular payments or purchases in Canada
Canadian parent's records	The following may be used as personal records in the applicant's Canadian parent's name: - utility bills (telephone, electricity, cable, water tax, etc.) - records of automobile leasing or purchase - insurance policies - membership cards - driver's licence - provincial or territorial health cards - records of personal services (such as dental bills or record of services paid by provincial health authorities) - lease with proof of payment of rent (e.g., cancelled cheques, receipts for cash payments) - record from a government agency showing payment of social services benefits
Written submissions, affidavits and letters	Detailed written submissions from the applicant or the Canadian parent demonstrating the parent's physical presence in Canada. Affidavits and/or letters from associates, friends, or colleagues attesting to the parent's presence in Canada.
Entry/exit records from other countries in which the applicant's parent has been present	Some countries keep a record of movement of their nationals to record their entry into and exit from their country, such as Records of Movement.

s.16(2)(c)

Request functional guidance (available internally only)

Officers requiring functional guidance on these procedures should contact [redacted]

Internal: [Applications for citizenship certificates](#)

External: [Applications for citizenship certificates - Canada.ca](#)

Applications for citizenship certificates

Procedures for citizenship certificates

What must be verified before an officer approves an application for a citizenship certificate?

The following must be verified before an application is approved:

- full proper name
- aliases
- date of birth
- effective date of citizenship and sections of the current and former Acts
- possibility of loss of Canadian citizenship or British subject status
- whether citizenship was acquired or restored under the legislative changes that occurred on April 17, 2009
- whether citizenship was acquired under the legislative changes that occurred on June 11, 2015
- whether citizenship was acquired or restored under the legislative changes that occurred on December 15, 2025
- for citizenship by descent, confirmation that the applicant was eligible to derive citizenship from the Canadian parent(s) at birth
- for citizenship by descent, confirmation that the Canadian parent is either [the legal parent at birth](#) or biological parent of the applicant born abroad
- if applicable, change of name or date of birth documents including Immigration amendment letter verifying change in date of birth and/or full proper name
- if applicable, accounting for previously issued certificates
- any other required documents

In the case of a replacement, the officer must verify and match the information against the Global Case Management System (GCMS) and microfilmed records.

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Applications for citizenship certificates: required documents

The documents required to establish citizenship vary depending on the requirements of the provision of the *Citizenship Act* under which citizenship is being established. High-quality colour copies of the required documents are to be included with the completed application.

All applicants must provide

- two pieces of personal identification, with one containing a photo, and, if applicable, other documents to support a change in name or a change in date of birth
- documents establishing citizenship outlined in the document checklist at the end of the *Application for a Citizenship Certificate for Adults and Minors (Proof of Citizenship Under Section 3)* form
- other documents, as required, for the assessment of the claim to Canadian citizenship and the possible loss of citizenship

Internal: [Proof of citizenship for travel and government services](#)

External: [Proof of citizenship for travel and government services - Canada.ca](#)

Acceptable proof of citizenship for travel and government services

Canadian citizens should be cautioned that if they plan to travel to Canada on a foreign passport and a Canadian citizenship certificate, they may face delays or even refusal of boarding if the airline has doubts about the validity of their citizenship certificate.

As a result, the **Canadian passport is the recommended document for commercial international air travel to Canada by a Canadian.**

The following documents are proof of Canadian citizenship for the purpose of international travel:

- Canadian passport
- Canadian emergency passport
- [Enhanced Driver's Licence \(EDL\) and/or the Enhanced Identification Card \(EIC\)](#): secure documents that denote identity and Canadian citizenship for the purpose of cross-border travel into the U.S.A. at land and water ports of entry. They are an alternate document to the Canadian passport

The following documents are evidence of Canadian citizenship:

- Certificate of Canadian Citizenship (Issued on or after February 1, 2012: 8.5 x11 paper format or the wallet-sized card issued before February 1, 2012)
- Canadian provincial/territorial birth certificates
- Canadian Certificate of Naturalization (issued before January 1, 1947)
- Certificate of Retention of Canadian Citizenship (issued between January 1, 1947 to February 14, 1977)
- Canadian Certificate of Registration of Birth Abroad (issued between January 1, 1947 to February 14, 1977)

These documents must be supported by other Canadian government issued photo-identification. Document screening personnel must be satisfied that the passenger is the rightful holder of the document. If there is doubt about the identity or citizenship of the holder of these documents, the holder can be referred to the nearest Canadian mission for verification of Canadian citizenship and the issuance of a Canadian passport.

Proof of citizenship: acceptable documents for providing services and benefits

The following documents are generally acceptable as proof of Canadian citizenship:

Persons born in Canada:

- a provincial or territorial birth certificate
- a citizenship certificate

Persons who acquired citizenship through naturalization:

- a citizenship certificate
- a naturalization certificate

Persons born outside Canada to a Canadian parent:

- a citizenship certificate
- a registration of birth abroad certificate (registration between January 1, 1947 and February 14, 1977)
- a retention certificate (issued between January 1, 1947 and February 14, 1977)

Note: persons born outside Canada on or after February 15, 1977 who were subject to retention under section 8 of the Citizenship Act and turned 28 years old before April 17, 2009 do **not** need to present a retention certificate. A citizenship certificate is sufficient proof of Canadian citizenship.

Internal: [Renunciation of citizenship under section 7.1 of the Citizenship Regulations](#)

External: [Renunciation of citizenship under section 7.1 of the Citizenship Regulations](#) - [Canada.ca](#)

Renunciation of citizenship under section 7.1 of the *Citizenship Regulations*

Some individuals who automatically acquired citizenship on April 17, 2009, June 11, 2015, or December 15, 2025, with the amendments to the *Citizenship Act* that came into force on these dates may not wish to be citizens. Provisions for a renunciation process for these persons were included in the amendments on those dates in order to address such circumstances.

Who can apply?

Any person can apply to renounce their citizenship through a process whose requirements are described under section 7.1 of the *Citizenship Regulations* (see [Requirements to renounce citizenship under section 7.1](#) below for further details) if they are one of the following:

- a Canadian citizen under paragraph 3(1)(f) or 3(1)(g) of the Act who acquired citizenship automatically on April 17, 2009 or June 11, 2015;
- a Canadian citizen under paragraph 3(1)(b) [for the sole reason that one or both parents are citizens described in paragraphs 3(1)(k) to 3(1)(n) who did not, before June 11, 2015, become citizens by way of grant as defined in subsection 3(9) (naturalization)];
- a Canadian citizen under one of paragraphs 3(1)(k) to 3(1)(r) who acquired citizenship automatically on June 11, 2015 and who did not, before June 11, 2015, become citizens by way of grant as defined in subsection 3(9) (naturalization).
- a Canadian citizen as a result of the coming into force of An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025), who was born before December 15, 2025 and who did not, before that day, become a citizen by way of grant, as defined in subsection 3(9) (naturalization).

Under section 7.1 of the Regulations, there are fewer requirements for renunciation than under section 9 of the Act; decision-making is delegated to a citizenship officer, and there is no fee.

Note: Persons who are Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(b) of the Act as a result of the 2009 amendments are not eligible to renounce under section 7.1 of the Regulations.

Persons who do not qualify to renounce under section 7.1, including persons who acquired citizenship under paragraph 3(1)(b) as a result of the 2009 amendments, may be eligible to apply to renounce their citizenship under section 9 of the Act.

Requirements to renounce citizenship under section 7.1

A Canadian citizen can renounce their Canadian citizenship under section 7.1 if they are

- a citizen:
 - under paragraph 3(1)(f), 3(1)(g) or any of paragraphs 3(1)(k) to 3(1)(r) of the Act who did not, before June 11, 2015, become a citizen by way of grant as defined in subsection 3(9); or
 - under paragraph 3(1)(b) of the Act for the sole reason that one or both parents are persons referred to in any of paragraphs 3(1)(k) to 3(1)(n) and who did not, before June 11, 2015, become a citizen by way of grant as defined in subsection 3(9) of the Act; or
 - as a result of the December 15, 2025 coming into force of An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025), born before December 15, 2025, and who did not, before December 15, 2025, become a citizen by way of grant as defined in subsection 3(9).
- a citizen of another country or, if the application is approved, will become a citizen of another country; and
- not prevented from understanding the significance of renouncing citizenship by reason of having a mental disability.

Additional requirements for minors

In addition to the requirements listed above, applications made on behalf of minors require

- the application is signed by each of the child's parents or legal guardians, unless it is impossible or not feasible for them to do so
- if the child is 14 years or older, the application is countersigned by the child, unless the child is prevented from understanding the significance of the application because of a mental disability

Persons authorized to make applications on behalf of minors may be required to submit additional documentation including:

- in the case of more than two parents, a certified copy of the surrogacy agreement or adoption order, or other evidence, that establishes legal responsibility for the child.
- if the applicant is the child's legal guardian, a certified copy of an order of a court of competent jurisdiction or of a written agreement, or other evidence, that establishes that the applicant has custody of the child;

Note: The minor's application must be

- signed by the child's parents or legal guardians, unless evidence is presented to demonstrate that this is impossible or not feasible. Applications received without each of the parent's or legal guardian's signatures and no supporting documents or explanation for doing so will be rejected at intake.
- countersigned by the child, if the child has attained the age of 14 years on or before the day on which the application is made and is not prevented from understanding the significance of the application because of a mental disability. Evidence that establishes that the child is prevented from understanding the significance of the application because of a mental disability is required. If no evidence is provided the application will be rejected at intake.

Assessing additional parent/ legal guardian signature(s) (Internal Only)

Following the intake of a completed application, decision-makers must determine if additional parents' or legal guardians' signatures are required. If the decision-maker finds that the signature is required following review of the reasons and evidence provided on a balance of probabilities, send the applicant a procedural fairness letter (PFL) outlining the concerns and allowing them 30 days to respond to the concerns. After the 30 day period to respond has passed, record your decision in GCMS.

If there are credibility concerns with the information provided following the response to the PFL, refer to Interview below or send another PFL outlining new concerns.

Minister may waive some requirements

The requirement that a person not be prevented from understanding the significance of renouncing citizenship by reason of having a mental disability may be waived on compassionate grounds by the Minister, as per subsection 7.1(2) of the Regulations.

See [Waivers](#).

Minister's delegate decides

In general, a citizenship officer in the Digitization and Identity Operations Division (DIOD) approves or refuses applications for renunciation of Canadian citizenship made under section 7.1.

Applicant loses status

A person who successfully renounces citizenship has no status in Canada.

A person who renounces Canadian citizenship is subject to the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* regarding, for example, entering and remaining in Canada.

If a person renounces citizenship and decides to return to Canada to live, they must apply to become a permanent resident and live in Canada for one year immediately before applying to resume citizenship.

If a person renounces citizenship and decides to return to Canada temporarily (i.e., to work or to study), they must apply to become a temporary resident.

If renunciation is urgent

Many applicants for renunciation must provide proof of renunciation to the country they now reside in before a certain date in order to be accepted as a citizen in that country. In other cases, a person must renounce Canadian citizenship urgently in order to be employed by a foreign government or company outside Canada.

If renunciation is approved

If the application is approved,

- the renunciation confirmation is immediately forwarded to the applicant; this confirmation is issued instead of the certificate of renunciation that is issued under subsection 9(1) of the Act; and
- a copy of the renunciation confirmation is sent to the Passport Program and the Operations Support Centre.

If renunciation is refused

If the application is refused,

- a refusal letter is sent giving the applicant the reason(s) for refusing the application for renunciation; and
- the refusal letter is sent to the applicant, by mail (confirmation from Canada Post needed: registered, certified, express, etc.), at the last known address, or to the Mission for distribution if the client applied from outside Canada and the United States. The refusal letter should indicate
 - that the applicant may reapply for renunciation under section 7.1 of the Regulations once they meet the requirements, or
 - that the applicant may apply for renunciation under subsection 9(1) of the Act if they meet the requirements.

Refusals held for six months

Refused applications are held for six months in case there is a judicial review. The DIOD retires the file if there is no judicial review.

Interviews

Applications for renunciation under section 7.1 do not require an interview; the process may be completed entirely by mail.

Nevertheless, when assessing an application made under section 7.1, officers may request that an applicant attend an interview where necessary. Section 23.1 of the Citizenship Act states that the Minister may require an applicant to provide any additional information or evidence relevant to their application, specifying the date by

which it is required. For that purpose, the Minister may require the applicant to appear in person or by any means of telecommunication to be examined before the Minister, specifying the time and the place—or the time and the means—for the appearance.

Officers should schedule interviews only when it is essential to the assessment of the application. Applicants should be informed of concerns and given an opportunity to respond prior to scheduling the interview. Where interviews are held, the contents of the interview (questions, answers, etc.) should be submitted as part of electronic case notes.

Detailed information on interviews may be found [here](#).

Internal: [Parental consent](#)

External: [Parental consent - Canada.ca](#)

Parental consent

This section is about obtaining parental consent for minors applying for proofs, grants, and renunciations of citizenship.

Minor applying for proof

Minors of any age may apply for proof of their citizenship.

When a minor under the age of 14 applies for a proof, citizenship officials may advise the parents that the child has applied for proof of citizenship.

Encourage one parent to make the application on behalf of the child, or to countersign the child's application.

Minor Applying for a Grant of Citizenship

An application under subsection 5(2) of the Citizenship Act made on behalf of a minor must be signed by either the parent or the legal guardian. Minors between the ages of 14 and 17 must also co-sign the application. For additional information, see [Minors applying under subsection 5\(2\)](#).

An application under subsection 5(1) of the Citizenship Act for a minor (under 18) must be made by a person who has custody of the minor or who is empowered to act on their behalf by virtue of a court order or written agreement or by operation of law. The authorized person applying on behalf of the minor does not have to be a Canadian citizen.

Minors who do not have an authorized person to apply on their behalf can request a waiver of this requirement on the application form. For additional information, see [Minor applying under subsection 5\(1\)](#).

Minor applying for renunciation

R7.1 Simplified Renunciations:

An application under section 7.1 of the *Citizenship Regulations* for a renunciation of citizenship of a minor must be signed by the applicant's parents (if applicable), and signed by the applicant if they are 14 years or older at the time of application.

For more information please see [Renunciation of citizenship under section 7.1 of the Citizenship Regulations, section Additional requirements for minors](#).

Custodial parent(s) must consent to citizenship applications

The citizenship application for minors applying under subsection 5(2) of the Citizenship Act requires only one parental signature. In the event that Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) becomes aware that there is a custody issue, IRCC will request the custody agreement to ensure that the parent applying is the custodial parent. Consent from the custodial parent(s) would be required if an application is submitted by a non-custodial parent. Additionally, IRCC will cancel a certificate of citizenship where it comes to the Department's attention that a non-custodial parent refuses to forward a certificate of citizenship to the custodial parent(s).

Applications for minors applying under subsection 5(1) of the Citizenship Act must be submitted by a person who has custody of the minor or who is empowered to act on the minor's behalf. The application form requires that documentation be provided with the application that demonstrates that the person making the application meets the above criteria; therefore this information should be on file in all cases of minors applying under subsection 5(1) of the Citizenship Act. The only exception is in cases where the minor sought a waiver of this requirement and the waiver request was approved.

Internal: [Acquisition of citizenship](#)

External: [Acquisition of citizenship - Canada.ca](#)

Acquisition of citizenship

This section contains policy, procedures and guidance used by IRCC staff. It is posted on the department's website as a courtesy to stakeholders.

This section explains who is a citizen as described in section 3 of the *Citizenship Act* and the ways in which a person can acquire Canadian citizenship as described in sections 5 and 11 of the *Act*.

Citizen by birth on Canadian soil [paragraph 3(1)(a)]

Citizen's date of birth: on or after February 15, 1977

Paragraph 3(1)(a) sets out that a person is a Canadian citizen if that person is born in Canada on or after February 15, 1977. In most cases, a person born in Canada is automatically a Canadian citizen at birth.

Refer to subsection 3(2) for the exception of citizenship by birth on Canadian soil.

Note: According to the *Interpretation Act*, "Canada" includes the "internal waters of Canada and the territorial sea of Canada". "Internal waters" is further defined as "the internal waters of Canada as determined under the *Oceans Act* and includes the airspace above and the bed and subsoil below those waters". Therefore, children born in Canadian airspace, whether over Canadian waters or over Canadian land, are considered born in Canada, as are children born in Canadian waters. Also, the interpretive clause in paragraph 2(2)(a) of the *Citizenship Act* clarifies that "a person is deemed to be born in Canada if the person is born on a Canadian vessel as defined in section 2 of the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001* or on an aircraft registered in Canada under the *Aeronautics Act* and regulations made under that Act".

Citizen by descent [paragraph 3(1)(b)]

Citizen's date of birth: on or after February 15, 1977

Paragraph 3(1)(b) sets out that a person is a Canadian citizen if that person is born outside Canada to a Canadian parent on or after February 15, 1977.

Persons born outside Canada on or after CIF

A person who is born outside Canada to a Canadian parent on or after CIF is automatically a Canadian citizen by birth if that person is born in the first-generation outside of Canada. There are exceptions to this rule described under subsection 3(5).

The amendments to the *Citizenship Act* introduced on CIF provide access to citizenship by descent to those born beyond the first-generation to Canadian parents who were themselves born outside of Canada. Therefore, those born abroad on or after CIF in the second generation or beyond to a Canadian parent (who was also born abroad) will be recognized as citizens by descent from birth if their Canadian parent was physically present in Canada for at least 1,095 days before that person's birth.

Refer to subsections 3(3) and 3(5) for more information on the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent and the exceptions to this limit.

Note: It is possible that a person born outside Canada to a Canadian parent on or after CIF, is stateless because the person is not recognized as a Canadian citizen due in part to the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent and in part to the person concerned not having acquired any other citizenship either by descent or by birth on soil because of other countries' own domestic citizenship laws. In such cases, refer to [subsection 5\(5\)](#) of the *Citizenship Act*, which sets out the requirements for a grant of Canadian citizenship to stateless persons born outside Canada to a Canadian parent.

Persons born outside Canada before CIF (minus 1 day)

A person born outside of Canada to a Canadian parent before CIF is not subject to the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent. Therefore, a person born outside Canada to a Canadian parent before CIF is automatically a Canadian citizen regardless of whether they were born outside Canada after the first-generation. This means, they are not subject to the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent. This includes persons who have a Canadian parent at the time of CIF or who have a parent who became a Canadian citizen upon CIF or as a result of legislative changes in Citizenship law on April 17, 2009 or June 11, 2015.

Specifically, a person is also a Canadian citizen pursuant to paragraph 3(1)(b) if they are

- born outside Canada on or after February 15, 1977, to a parent who acquired Canadian citizenship, or had Canadian citizenship restored as a result of legislative amendments introduced on April 17, 2009; June 11, 2015 or CIF
- the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent does not apply to them [i.e., not described in subsection 3(3)] and
- they are not subject to subsections 3(2.2), (2.4), or (2.5) [i.e., they did not become a citizen by way of grant and subsequently renounced their citizenship under any of the provisions set out in clauses (1)(f)(i)(A) to (F)]

A person who is a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(b) is deemed to have been a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(b) since their birth [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(h) or (i)].

A person who became Canadian citizen by way of grant and is referred to in paragraph 3(1)(b) as a result of legislative amendments on April 17, 2009; June 11, 2015 or CIF is deemed to never have been a citizen by way of grant [pursuant to subsection 3(6.1), (6.2), or (6.5)].

Section 8 retention requirement

A person born outside Canada after the first generation to a Canadian parent was subject to the loss of citizenship under the former section 8 (repealed on April 17, 2009), which required the person to apply to retain their Canadian citizenship before attaining the age of 28. The retention requirements applied only if a person:

- was born outside Canada on or after February 15, 1977

- automatically acquired citizenship by descent at the time of their birth because one of their parents was a citizen by virtue of paragraph 3(1)(b) or 3(1)(e)

Where persons did not apply to retain citizenship or where an application was made but the retention requirements were not met resulted in the loss of citizenship at the age of 28. Due to the repeal of section 8 on April 17, 2009, persons who were born outside Canada on or after February 15, 1977, and who would have been subject to the retention requirements were not required to retain citizenship and therefore did not lose citizenship if they turned 28 on or after April 17, 2009.

Refer to “Automatic restoration of citizenship [paragraph 3(1)(f)]” for more information about persons who lost citizenship due to the former section 8 before it was repealed on April 17, 2009.

A person who is described in paragraph 3(1)(b) but who is also described in paragraph 3(1)(f) is deemed to be a Canadian citizen only under paragraph 3(1)(b) [pursuant to subsection 3(6.4)].

Citizen by way of grant (naturalization) or resumption [paragraph 3(1)(c)]

Citizen's date of birth: n/a

Paragraph 3(1)(c) sets out that a person is a Canadian citizen if that person has been granted or resumed citizenship under section 5 or section 11 of the 1977 Act, and, in the case of a person who is 14 years of age or older, taken the oath of citizenship, unless the person is deemed never to have been a citizen by way of grant as a result of the 2009, 2015 or 2025 legislative amendments pursuant to subsections 3(6), 3(6.1), 3(6.2) and 3(6.5) of the Act.

- Adult grant [subsection 5(1)], including current and former members of the Canadian Armed Forces who have been released honorably [subsection 5(1.2)] and persons who are or were attached or seconded to the Canadian Armed Forces [subsection 5(1.3)].
- Minor grant [subsection 5(2)].
- Grant for a stateless person born outside Canada to a Canadian parent [subsection 5(5)] for persons born on or after April 17, 2009, who have always been stateless and are less than 23 years of age at the time of application.
- Discretionary grant [subsection 5(4)].
- Resumption of citizenship [section 11],
 - including current and former members of the Canadian Armed Forces who have been released honorably [subsection 11(1.1)] and persons who are or were attached or seconded to the Canadian Armed Forces [subsection 11(1.2)];
 - including any woman who, by reason of marriage or the acquisition by her husband of a foreign nationality, ceased to be a British subject [subsection 11(2)].

Direct citizen by way of grant to persons adopted by a Canadian citizen [paragraph 3(1)(c.1)]

Citizen's date of birth: n/a

Paragraph 3(1)(c.1) sets out that a person is a Canadian citizen if that person has been granted citizenship under section 5.1 of the *Citizenship Act* (i.e., the person was born outside Canada and adopted by a Canadian citizen or a parent who became a Canadian citizen on January 1, 1947 [or April 1, 1949, in the case of Newfoundland and Labrador]), and met the requirements of section 5.1.

Legislative amendments to the *Citizenship Act* introduced on CIF, limit access to the direct grant of citizenship under 5.1 to the first-generation born outside Canada if the Canadian parent was not physically present in Canada for at least 1,095 days before the date of adoption. Persons born abroad and adopted by a Canadian parent who *become citizens* under the grant of citizenship under the adoption provisions of the *Citizenship Act* [section 5.1] are considered born in the first-generation outside Canada and therefore must meet the physical presence requirement for any of their future children who are born outside of Canada on or after CIF to derive Canadian citizenship by descent, or any of their children who are adopted on or after CIF to also be granted Canadian citizenship under section 5.1 of the *Citizenship Act*. [subsection 5.1(4)].

- Refer to subsection 5.1(5) for the specific exceptions to the first-generation limit to citizenship by adoption.
- Subsection 5.1(4) of the *Citizenship Act* embeds the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent within the adoption grant eligibility provisions by clarifying that a person adopted on or after CIF may not be granted citizenship under subsections 5.1(1) to (3) if their adoptive parent
 - is a citizen by descent, or
 - is a citizen through a grant for adopted persons under 5.1, and
 - does not meet the physical presence requirement before the person's adoption.

Citizen under the 1947 Act [paragraph 3(1)(d)]

Citizen's date of birth: on or before February 14, 1977

Paragraph 3(1)(d) recognizes as citizens those persons who became Canadian citizens under the *Canadian Citizenship Act* (1947) immediately before the *Citizenship Act* came into force on February 15, 1977 (can be citizenship by birth on soil, by naturalization, or by descent). Any person who was a citizen on February 14, 1977, is a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(d) of the 1977 Act (this provision does not apply to persons who became Canadian citizens by descent under the 2009, 2015, or 2025 legislative amendments).

Delayed registration of birth outside Canada (citizenship by descent) [paragraph 3(1)(e)]

Citizen's date of birth: between January 1, 1947, and February 14, 1977

Paragraph 3(1)(e) sets out that a person is a Canadian citizen if that person was entitled, immediately before February 15, 1977, to become a citizen under paragraph 5(1)(b) of the 1947 Act. A person is therefore a Canadian citizen if they were born outside Canada

between January 1, 1947, and February 14, 1977, to a Canadian parent and were eligible and required to be registered as citizens born outside Canada but did not do so within two years after the person's birth or within an extended period authorized by the Minister. Under paragraph 5(1)(b) of the 1947 Act, only a person born in wedlock to a Canadian citizen father or a child born out of wedlock to a Canadian citizen mother was entitled to be registered as a citizen.

Note: The opportunity to register and become a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(e) expired on August 14, 2004. Persons who did not make an application to register and become citizens under paragraph 3(1)(e) prior to its expiry on August 14, 2004, may have automatically become citizens under the legislative amendments of 2009 or 2025. These persons are described in paragraph 3(1)(g). For additional information, refer to [*Delayed registration of birth outside Canada*](#).

Automatic restoration of citizenship [paragraph 3(1)(f)]

Citizen's date of birth: n/a

[Paragraph 3\(1\)\(f\)](#) recognizes as Canadian citizens persons who were previously Canadian citizens but lost their citizenship (for any other reason than those listed in this provision's subparagraph), and did not resume being a citizen before April 17, 2009. This provision was introduced in the legislative amendments made to the *Citizenship Act* on April 17, 2009, and had the effect of automatically restoring citizenship to such persons.

Some persons born outside of Canada in the second generation or beyond who had lost citizenship under the former section 8 are recognized as Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(f). This includes those who lost their citizenship because they did not make an application to retain it or because they made an application that was not approved. On CIF Date, paragraph 3(1)(f) was amended by removing subsection (iii), which excluded persons from being citizens under this paragraph for having lost citizenship under section 8.

Paragraphs 3(7)(c) and (d) further clarify that the restoration of citizenship is retroactive to the date of loss. Those who were described under paragraph 3(1)(c) as a result of being granted citizenship are now described under paragraph 3(1)(f).

Exceptions

Former Canadian citizens whose citizenship was **not** restored by this paragraph are persons who lost it because they

- made a formal application, as adults, to the Canadian government to renounce citizenship with the Canadian government;
- acquired citizenship by fraud, false representation or concealing material circumstances, and that citizenship was revoked by the Canadian government; or

First generation born outside Canada but never a Canadian citizen [citizenship by descent under paragraph 3(1)(g)]

Citizen's date of birth: before February 15, 1977

Paragraph 3(1)(g) recognizes as Canadian citizens persons born outside Canada to a Canadian parent between January 1, 1947, and February 14, 1977, but who were never Canadian citizens prior to April 17, 2009. This provision was introduced in the legislative amendments made to the *Citizenship Act* on April 17, 2009, and had the effect of giving citizenship to those persons described, retroactively to their date of birth [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(e)].

Paragraph 3(1)(g) also recognizes as Canadian citizens persons born outside Canada between January 1, 1947, and February 14, 1977, who were never Canadian citizens prior to April 17, 2009, if one of their parents became a Canadian citizen as a result of the legislative amendments on April 17, 2009, June 11, 2015 or CIF.

Persons who are citizens under paragraph 3(1)(g) are deemed to have been citizens under paragraph 3(1)(g) since the time that they were born [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(e)].

Persons who are citizens under paragraph 3(1)(g) [and one of both of their parents are found under paragraphs 3(1)(k) to (n)] and who had previously become Canadian citizens by way of grant between April 17, 2009, and June 11, 2015, are deemed never to have been a citizen by way of grant pursuant to subsection 3(6.2) or 3(6.5).

Note: A child born outside Canada to, or born outside Canada and adopted by, a parent who was a citizen under section 9 or 40 of the 1947 Act is considered the first generation born outside Canada.

Born outside Canada who was granted Canadian citizenship before April 17, 2009 [paragraph 3(1)(h)]

Citizen's date of birth: before February 15, 1977.

Paragraph 3(1)(h) recognizes as Canadian citizens persons born outside Canada before February 15, 1977 to a Canadian parent, and who did not become citizens by descent, but who were granted citizenship before April 17, 2009. Under this paragraph, such persons are recognized as citizens by descent instead of citizens by way of grant [pursuant to subsection 3(6) or 3(6.5)], and their citizenship is retroactive to their date of birth [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(e)].

A person is also a Canadian citizen pursuant to paragraph 3(1)(h) in situations where

- that person was previously granted citizenship before April 17, 2009; and
- that person was also born outside Canada between January 1, 1947, and February 14, 1977, to a parent who was born before January 1, 1947 (or April 1, 1949 in the case of Newfoundland and Labrador); and
- that parent became a Canadian citizen as a result of the legislative amendments on June 11, 2015 and is now a person described in one of paragraphs 3(1)(k) to (n).

Persons who are citizens under paragraph 3(1)(h) are deemed to have been citizens from birth [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(e)] and are deemed never to have been a citizen by way of grant pursuant to subsection 3(6) or 3(6.5).

Note: A person who is a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(h) would have been a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(g) if the person were not granted citizenship under section 5 before April 17, 2009.

Former citizens who resumed citizenship under the 1977 Act [paragraph 3(1)(i)]

Citizen's date of birth: N/A

Paragraph 3(1)(i) specifies that persons who were originally Canadian citizens by operation of law (as opposed to by way of grant) and who lost their citizenship and then resumed it before April 17, 2009 through the grant process under the 1977 Act (can be citizenship by birth on soil or by descent) are Canadian citizens. Under this paragraph, such persons are recognized as citizens by operation of law instead of as citizens by way of grant [pursuant to subsection 3(6) or 3(6.5)] and their citizenship is retroactive to the date they originally lost citizenship [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(f)].

Former Canadian citizens whose citizenship was **not** restored by this paragraph are persons who lost it because they

- renounced their citizenship with the Canadian government; or,
- acquired citizenship (naturalization) by fraud, false representation or concealing material circumstances, and that citizenship was revoked by the Canadian government; or

As of CIF, persons who lost citizenship under the former section 8 and subsequently resumed citizenship under the 1977 Act (but before April 17, 2009) are recognized as citizens by operation of law [pursuant to subsection 3(6.5)] and their citizenship is retroactive to the date they originally lost citizenship [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(f)].

Former citizens who resumed citizenship under the 1947 Act [paragraph 3(1)(j)]

Citizen's date of birth: before February 15, 1977

Paragraph 3(1)(j) specifies that persons who were originally Canadian citizens by operation of law under the 1947 Act and who lost their citizenship (other than for specific reasons set out below) and then resumed it are Canadian citizens. Under this paragraph, such persons are recognized as citizens by operation of law instead of citizens by way of grant [pursuant to subsection 3(6) or 3(6.5)] and their citizenship is retroactive to the date they originally lost citizenship [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(g)].

Former Canadian citizens whose citizenship was **not** restored by this paragraph are persons who lost it because they

- renounced their citizenship with the Canadian government; or
- acquired citizenship (naturalization) by fraud, false representation or concealing material circumstances, and that citizenship was revoked by the Canadian government.

Born or naturalized in Canada before January 1, 1947, lost British subject status before that date and did not become a citizen on that date

[paragraph 3(1)(k)]

Citizen's date of birth: before January 1, 1947

Paragraph 3(1)(k) sets out that persons are Canadian citizens if, before January 1, 1947, they were British subjects by virtue of being born or naturalized in Canada, they subsequently lost their British subject status under prior legislation, and they therefore did not become Canadian citizens on January 1, 1947, when the first *Canadian Citizenship Act* came into force. This provision was introduced in the legislative amendments made to the *Citizenship Act* on June 11, 2015, and has the effect of retroactively giving citizenship to those described as of January 1, 1947 [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(j)].

Persons who are citizens under paragraph 3(1)(k) and who had previously become Canadian citizens by way of grant before June 11, 2015, are deemed never to have been a citizen by way of grant pursuant to subsection 3(6.2). Also, a person who is described in paragraph 3(1)(k) but who is also described in paragraph 3(1)(o), (p), (q), or (r) is deemed to be a Canadian citizen only under paragraph 3(1)(o), (p), (q), or (r) [pursuant to subsection 3(6.3)].

Pursuant to subsection 3(2.1), persons did not become Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(k) if they

- renounced their British subject status (made a declaration of alienage)
- renounced their citizenship with the Canadian government

Born or naturalized in Newfoundland and Labrador before April 1, 1949, lost British subject status before that date and did not become a citizen on or before that date [paragraph 3(1)(l)]

Citizen's date of birth: before April 1, 1949

Paragraph 3(1)(l) sets out that persons are Canadian citizens if, before April 1, 1949, they were British subjects by virtue of being born or naturalized in Newfoundland and Labrador, they subsequently lost British subject status under prior legislation, and they therefore did not become Canadian citizens on or before April 1, 1949, when Newfoundland and Labrador citizenship provisions were added to the *Canadian Citizenship Act*. This provision was introduced in the legislative amendments made to the *Citizenship Act* on June 11, 2015, and has the effect of retroactively giving citizenship to those described as of April 1, 1949 [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(l)].

Persons who are citizens under paragraph 3(1)(l) and who had previously become Canadian citizens by way of grant before June 11, 2015, are deemed never to have been a citizen by way of grant pursuant to subsection 3(6.2). Also, a person who is described in paragraph 3(1)(l) but who is also described in paragraph 3(1)(o), (p), (q), or (r) is deemed to be a Canadian citizen only under paragraph 3(1)(o), (p), (q), or (r) [pursuant to subsection 3(6.3)].

Pursuant to subsection 3(2.3), persons did not become Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(l) if they

- renounced their British subject status (made a declaration of alienage)
- renounced their citizenship with the Canadian government

British subject born outside Canada, ordinarily resident in Canada on January 1, 1947, and did not become a citizen on that date
[paragraph 3(1)(m)]

Citizen's date of birth: before January 1, 1947

Paragraph 3(1)(m) sets out that persons are Canadian citizens if they were British subjects born abroad (who never naturalized in Canada) who were ordinarily resident in Canada but who did not have "Canadian domicile" under the 1947 Act (see note below) on January 1, 1947, and therefore did not become Canadian citizens when the first *Canadian Citizenship Act* came into force. This provision was introduced in the legislative amendments made to the *Citizenship Act* on June 11, 2015, and has the effect of retroactively giving citizenship to those described as of January 1, 1947 [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(j)].

Persons who are citizens under paragraph 3(1)(m) and who had previously become Canadian citizens by way of grant before June 11, 2015, are deemed never to have been a citizen by way of grant pursuant to subsection 3(6.2). Also, a person who is described in paragraph 3(1)(m) but who is also described in paragraph 3(1)(o), (p), (q), or (r) is deemed to be a Canadian citizen only under paragraph 3(1)(o), (p), (q), or (r) [pursuant to subsection 3(6.3)].

Pursuant to subsection 3(2.1), persons did not become Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(m) if they

- renounced their British subject status (made a declaration of alienage)
- renounced their citizenship with the Canadian government

Note: The 1947 *Canadian Citizenship Act* provided that any person who was a British subject immediately before January 1, 1947, and was in possession of "Canadian Domicile" on that date was a Canadian citizen. Canadian domicile was defined in subsection 4(1) of the *Immigration Act* and read as follows: "Canadian domicile is acquired for the purposes of this Act by a person having his place of domicile for at least five years in Canada after having been landed in Canada".

Determining whether a person is "ordinarily resident" is a fact-based assessment. Interpretation is meant to provide officers with flexibility when assessing these cases.

British subject born outside Canada ordinarily resident in Newfoundland and Labrador on April 1, 1949, who did not become a citizen on or before that date [paragraph 3(1)(n)]

Citizen's date of birth: before April 1, 1949

Paragraph 3(1)(n) sets out that persons are Canadian citizens if they were British subjects born abroad (who never naturalized in Newfoundland or Labrador) who were ordinarily resident in Newfoundland and Labrador (but not considered to have "Newfoundland domicile" under the 1947 Act [see note below]) on April 1, 1949, and who did not become Canadian citizens on or before April 1, 1949, when the Newfoundland and Labrador citizenship provisions were added to the *Canadian Citizenship Act*. This provision was introduced in the legislative amendments made to the *Citizenship Act* on

June 11, 2015, and has the effect of retroactively giving citizenship to those described as of April 1, 1949, [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(f)].

Persons who are citizens under paragraph 3(1)(n) and who became Canadian citizens by way of grant before June 11, 2015, are deemed never to have been citizens by way of grant pursuant to subsection 3(6.2). Also, a person who is described in paragraph 3(1)(m) but who is also described in paragraph 3(1)(o), (p), (q), or (r) is deemed to be a Canadian citizen only under paragraph 3(1)(o), (p), (q), or (r) [pursuant to subsection 3(6.3)].

Pursuant to subsection 3(2.3), persons did not become Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(n) if they

- renounced their British subject status (made a declaration of alienage)
- renounced their citizenship with the Canadian government

Note: “Newfoundland Domicile” under the 1947 Act meant domicile in Newfoundland for at least five years.

Determining whether a person is “ordinarily resident” is a fact-based assessment. Interpretation is meant to provide officers with flexibility when assessing these cases.

Born before January 1, 1947, outside Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador to a parent who became a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(k) or (m), and did not become a citizen on that date [paragraph 3(1)(o)]

Citizen’s date of birth: before January 1, 1947

Paragraph 3(1)(o) sets out that persons are Canadian citizens if they were born outside Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador before January 1, 1947, to a parent who is a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(k) or (m) and who did not become a Canadian citizen with the coming into force of the *Canadian Citizenship Act* on January 1, 1947. This provision was introduced in the legislative amendments made to the *Citizenship Act* on June 11, 2015, and has the effect of retroactively giving citizenship to those described as of January 1, 1947 [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(k)].

Persons who are citizens under paragraph 3(1)(o) and who had previously become Canadian citizens by way of grant before June 11, 2015, are deemed never to have been citizens by way of grant pursuant to subsection 3(6.2).

Pursuant to subsection 3(2.1), persons did not become Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(o) if they

- renounced their British subject status (made a declaration of alienage)
- renounced their citizenship with the Canadian government

Born before April 1, 1949, outside Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador to a parent who became a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(l) or (n), and did not become a citizen on or before that date [paragraph 3(1)(p)]

Citizen’s date of birth: before April 1, 1949

Paragraph 3(1)(p) sets out that persons are Canadian citizens if they were born outside Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador before April 1, 1949, to a parent who is a

citizen under paragraph 3(1)(l) or (n), and did not become a Canadian citizen on or before April 1, 1949. This provision was introduced in the legislative amendments made to the *Citizenship Act* on June 11, 2015, and has the effect of retroactively giving citizenship to those described as of April 1, 1949 [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(m)].

Persons who are citizens under paragraph 3(1)(p) and who had previously become Canadian citizens by way of grant before June 11, 2015, are deemed never to have been a citizen by way of grant pursuant to subsection 3(6.2).

Pursuant to subsection 3(2.3), persons did not become Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(p) if they

- renounced their British subject status (made a declaration of alienage)
- renounced their citizenship with the Canadian government

Born before January 1, 1947, in the first generation outside Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador to a parent who became a Canadian citizen on January 1, 1947, and did not become a citizen on that date [paragraph 3(1)(q)]

Citizen's date of birth: before January 1, 1947

Paragraph 3(1)(q) sets out that persons are Canadian citizens if they were born outside Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador before January 1, 1947, to a parent who became a Canadian citizen on January 1, 1947, when the first *Canadian Citizenship Act* came into force on January 1, 1947, and did not themselves become citizens on that day. This provision was introduced in the legislative amendments made to the *Citizenship Act* on June 11, 2015, and has the effect of retroactively giving citizenship to those described as of January 1, 1947 [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(k)].

Persons who had previously become Canadian citizens by way of grant before June 11, 2015 or CIF, are deemed never to have been a citizen by way of grant [pursuant to subsection 3(6.2) or 3(6.5)].

Pursuant to subsection 3(2.1), persons did not become Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(q) if they

- renounced their British subject status (made a declaration of alienage)
- renounced their citizenship with the Canadian government

Born before April 1, 1949, in the first generation outside Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador to a parent who became a citizen on April 1, 1949, and did not become a citizen on or before that date [paragraph 3(1)(r)]

Citizen's date of birth: before April 1, 1949

Paragraph 3(1)(r) sets out that persons are Canadian citizens if they were born outside Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador before April 1, 1949, to a parent who became a citizen on April 1, 1949, when the Newfoundland and Labrador citizenship provisions were added to the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, and did not themselves become citizens on or before that day. This provision was introduced in the legislative amendments made to

the *Citizenship Act* on June 11, 2015, and has the effect of retroactively giving citizenship to those described as of April 1, 1949 [pursuant to paragraph 3(7)(m)].

Persons who had previously become Canadian citizens by way of grant before June 11, 2015 or CIF, are deemed never to have been a citizen by way of grant [pursuant to subsection 3(6.2) or 3(6.5)].

Pursuant to subsection 3(2.3), persons did not become Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(r) if they

- renounced their British subject status (made a declaration of alienage);
- renounced their citizenship with the Canadian government;

Exception to birth on Canadian soil [subsection 3(2)]

Pursuant to subsection 3(2), despite being born in Canada, a person is not a Canadian citizen if, at the time of their birth, neither one of their parents was a citizen or lawfully admitted to Canada for permanent residence and either of that person's parents was

- a diplomat or a consular officer of a foreign government (or an employee in the service of these persons);
- an employee or another representative of a foreign government (or an employee in the service of these persons);
- an officer or an employee of a specialized agency of the United Nations; or
- an officer or an employee of any other international organization with diplomatic privileges and immunities.

Limit to citizenship by descent [subsection 3(3) and 5.1(4)]

The *Citizenship Act* limits citizenship by descent to the first-generation born outside Canada to a Canadian parent unless the Canadian parent was physically present in Canada for 1,095 days before the person's birth or adoption.

Any person who was born outside Canada to a Canadian parent on or after CIF date is **not** Canadian if:

- their Canadian parent was
 - also born outside Canada to a Canadian parent (the person is therefore the second or subsequent generation born outside Canada) or
 - granted Canadian citizenship as an adopted person under section 5.1 of the *Citizenship Act* (the person is therefore the second generation born outside Canada)
- their Canadian parent was not physically present in Canada for at least 1,095 days before the birth or adoption of that person.

Subsection 3(3) of the *Citizenship Act* specifies that the limit to citizenship by descent applies to persons born on or after CIF who are described under paragraph 3(1)(b), (i.e., born outside Canada to Canadian parents) and for whom only one parent is a Canadian citizen or both parents are Canadians who were:

- at the time of that person's birth, citizens described under either paragraph 3(1)(b), (c.1), (e), (g) to (j) and (o) to (r),

- at any time, Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(d), (i), or (j) but who are also citizens by descent and were therefore previously citizens under one of the subparagraphs listed under paragraph 3(3)(b) of the Act;

Note: A child born outside Canada to a parent who was a citizen under section 9 or 40 of the 1947 Act is considered the first generation born outside Canada.

Refer to subsection 3(5) for more information on the exceptions to the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent.

Adopted persons

The first-generation limit to citizenship also applies to adopted persons granted citizenship under section 5.1 of the *Citizenship Act*. Therefore, persons who have been granted citizenship under section 5.1 [cannot pass citizenship onto any of their children who are born or adopted outside of Canada [by descent or by section 5.1 grant] unless one of the exceptions to the first-generation limit apply to their case.

Refer to subsection 5.1(4) for more information on the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent for adoptions and to subsection 5.1(5) for the exception to this limit for adopted persons.

Exception to limit to citizenship by descent (child or grandchild of person in service abroad) [subsection 3(5)]

The first-generation limit to citizenship by descent does not apply to a person born outside Canada on or after CIF after the first generation if,

- at the time of the person's birth, their **parent** was employed outside Canada in or with the Canadian Armed Forces, the federal public administration or the public service of a province or territory, other than as a locally engaged person (a Crown servant); or
- at the time of their parent's birth or adoption, the person's **grandparent** was employed outside Canada in or with the Canadian Armed Forces, the federal public administration or public service of a province or territory, other than as a locally engaged person (a Crown servant).

Citizenship other than by way of grant for certain persons who became citizens on April 17, 2009 [subsections 3(6) and 3(7)]

Persons who are Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(h), (i), or (j) are deemed never to have been citizens by way of grant. Instead, these persons are deemed to be citizens by operation of law under subsection 3(7).

Citizenship other than by way of grant for certain persons born after February 14, 1977 [subsections 3(6.1) and 3(7)]

Persons born after February 14, 1977, who became Canadian citizens by way of grant before April 17, 2009, and were born to a parent who was born or naturalized in Canada and is described under paragraph 3(1)(h) or (i) (citizenship of their parent was restored upon the coming into force in 2009) are deemed never to have been citizens by way of grant. Instead, these persons are now deemed to be citizens by operation of law under subsection 3(7).

Citizenship other than by way of grant for certain persons who became citizens on June 11, 2015 [subsections 3(6.2) and 3(7)]

Persons who are Canadian citizens under paragraphs 3(1)(k) to (r) and who became Canadian citizens by way of grant before June 11, 2015, are deemed never to have been citizens by way of grant.

Persons who are Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(b) or (g) [as a result of their parent becoming a citizen under paragraphs 3(1)(k) to (n)] and who became Canadian citizens by way of grant before June 11, 2015, are deemed never to have been a citizen by way of grant. Instead, these persons are now deemed to be citizens by operation of law under subsection 3(7).

Deemed application [subsection 3(6.3)]

Persons who are Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(o), (p), (q), or (r) and who are also described under paragraph 3(1)(k), (l), (m), or (n) are deemed to be citizens only under paragraph 3(1)(o), (p), (q), or (r).

Deemed application [subsection 3(6.4)]

Persons who are Canadian citizens under paragraph 3(1)(f) and who are also described under paragraph 3(1)(b) are deemed to be citizens only under paragraph 3(1)(f).

Citizenship other than by way of grant for certain persons who became citizens on CIF DATE [subsections 3(6.5) and 3(7)]

Persons who are Canadian citizens under paragraphs 3(1)(b), (f) to (j), (q) and (r) and who became Canadian citizens by way of grant before CIF DATE, are deemed never to have been citizens by way of grant. Instead, these persons are now deemed to be citizens by operation of law under subsection 3(7).

2009 and 2015 legislative amendments to the *Citizenship Act*

For additional information on the 2009 and 2015 legislative amendments, the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent, and the exceptions to this limit, refer to the changes to citizenship rules in 2009 and 2015 and the section on loss of citizenship and British subject status, and restoration and acquisition of citizenship.

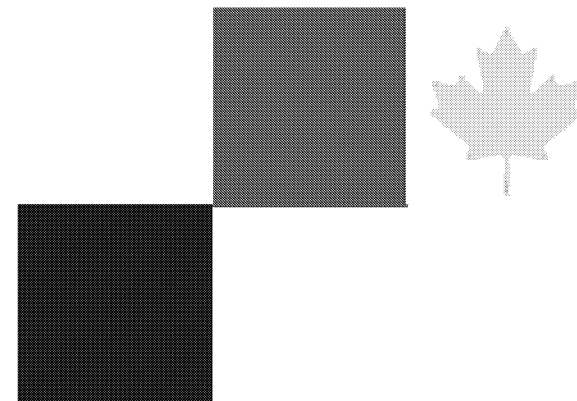
Citizenship by adoption

For additional information on the 2009 and 2015 legislative amendments for adopted persons, refer to *Citizenship law and adoption*.

December 15, 2025

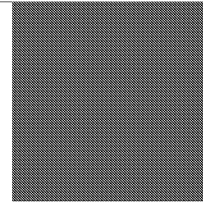
Bill C-3 - An Act to Amend the Citizenship Act

Information Session for Officers December 4, 2025



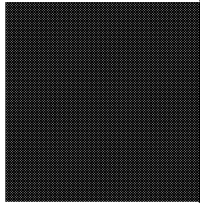
Overview

Information Session for Officers December 4, 2025



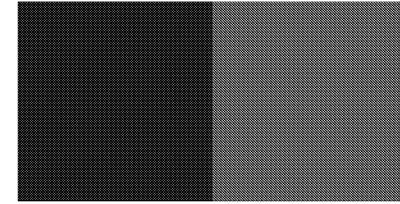
| Key Objectives of Bill C-3

1. Restore and bestow citizenship to more individuals and their descendants.
2. Establish a revised framework governing citizenship by descent.
3. Minimize distinctions for children adopted abroad by a Canadian parent.
4. Implement coherent and clear legislation.



How the Legislation Now Works: Born Pre-CIF

Automatic Citizenship By Descent For Persons Born Abroad to a Canadian
Citizen Parent



John is born in 2011 in England. John's parent is a Canadian citizen who was also born abroad.

Prior to Bill C-3 - As John was born in the second generation abroad, John is subject to the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent and is not a Canadian citizen.

Upon coming into force of Bill C-3 - John becomes an automatic citizen by descent, retroactive to John's date of birth.

How the Legislation Now Works: Born Pre-CIF

Automatic Citizenship By Descent For Descendants of “Lost Canadians”

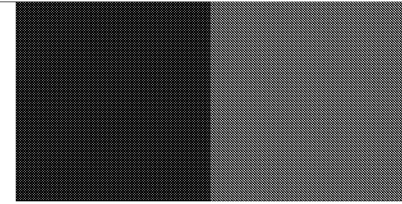
Clifford was born in the United States in 1998. Clifford’s grandparent was born in Canada in 1938 and moved to the United States. Clifford’s grandparent lost Canadian citizenship upon acquisition of American citizenship due to the legislation in place at the time. In 2009, Canadian citizenship was restored to Clifford’s grandparent.

Prior to Bill C-3 - The first-generation limit was introduced in 2009; while Clifford’s parent is a Canadian born abroad in the first generation, Clifford is not a citizen because Clifford was born in the second generation abroad.

Upon coming into force of Bill C-3 - Clifford is a citizen retroactive to Clifford’s date of birth in 1998.

Information Session for Officers December 4, 2025

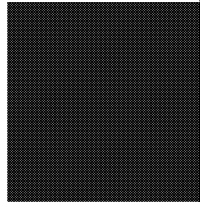
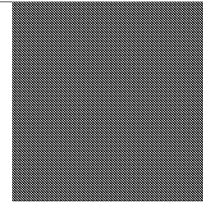
| Subparagraph 3(1)(f)(iii) - Pre-CIF



(f) before the coming into force of this paragraph, the person ceased to be a citizen for any reason other than the following reasons and did not subsequently become a citizen:....

REPEALED:

(iii) the person failed to make an application to retain his or her citizenship under section 8 as it read before the coming into force of this paragraph or did make such an application that subsequently was not approved;



Requirement to demonstrate the parent's physical presence – 3(3)(a)(ii)

3(3) Paragraph (1)(b) does not apply to a person born outside Canada on or after the day on which *An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)* comes into force...

(a) if...

(ii) neither of the person's parents who was a citizen was physically present in Canada for at least **1,095 days before the person's birth**

Requirement to demonstrate the parent's physical presence – 3(3)(b)(ii)

3(3) Paragraph (1)(b) does not apply to a person born outside Canada on or after the day on which *An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)* comes into force...

(b) if...

(ii) neither of the person's parents who was a citizen was physically present in Canada for at least **1,095 days before the person's birth**

How the Legislation Now Works: Born On or After CIF

Automatic Citizenship By Descent For Persons Born Abroad To
A Canadian Citizen Parent

Amy is born in 2026 in Germany. Amy's parent is a Canadian citizen by descent who was also born abroad. Before Amy was born, their parent lived in Canada for four years and attended university.

Prior to Bill C-3 - As Amy is in the second generation born abroad, Amy is subject to the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent and is not a Canadian citizen.

Upon coming into force of Bill C-3 - Since Amy's parent meets the requirement of 1,095 days cumulative physical presence, Amy automatically becomes a citizen by descent retroactive to Amy's date of birth.

Amendments to 5.1(4) – Adoption ‘FGL’

For those adopted abroad **pre-CIF** in the second or subsequent generations:

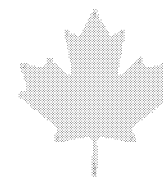
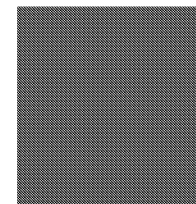
- Bill C-3 provides access to the direct grant of citizenship to all persons adopted abroad by a Canadian citizen adoptive parent, including in the second or subsequent generations.

For those adopted abroad **on or after CIF** in the second or subsequent generations:

- Bill C-3 provides access to the direct grant of citizenship beyond the first generation to those born abroad and adopted by a Canadian parent where that Canadian adoptive parent can demonstrate that they accumulated 1095 days of physical presence in Canada prior to the adoption.

How the Legislation Now Works

Access to Direct Adoptions Grant for Persons Adopted Abroad by a Canadian Citizen Parent Pre-CIF



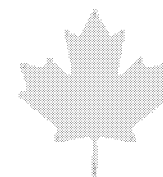
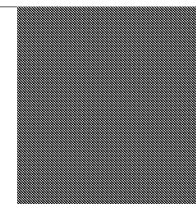
Ali is born in 2023 in Spain. Ali is adopted by Canadian citizen parents in 2024, who were also born abroad.

Prior to Bill C-3 - Ali is unable to apply for the direct grant of citizenship for an adopted person because Ali's Canadian parents are unable to pass on citizenship to Ali. This is because they were born in the first generation outside Canada.

Upon coming into force of Bill C-3 - Ali can apply for the direct grant of citizenship and, once Ali's application is granted, is a citizen as of the date of grant.

How the Legislation Now Works:

Access to Direct Adoptions Grant for Persons Adopted Abroad by a Canadian Citizen Parent On or After CIF



Jeff is born in 2026 in the United States. Jeff is adopted by Canadian citizen parents in 2027, who were also born abroad. Before Jeff's adoption, Jeff's Canadian citizen adoptive parents spent five years in Canada.

Prior to Bill C-3 - Jeff's parents are unable to apply for the direct grant of citizenship for an adopted person because they cannot pass on citizenship to Jeff. This is because they were born in the first generation outside Canada.

Upon coming into force of Bill C-3 - Upon coming into force, Jeff's parents can apply for the direct grant of citizenship because they have met the requirement of 1,095 days cumulative physical presence. Just like all 5.1 applicants, once Jeff's application is granted, Jeff is a citizen as of the date of grant.

Pages 46 to / à 47
are withheld pursuant to section
sont retenues en vertu de l'article

23

of the Access to Information Act
de la Loi sur l'accès à l'information

Revised first generation limit to citizenship by descent

Bill C-3, *An Act to Amend the Citizenship Act (2025)*, amended the *Citizenship Act* to provide automatic Canadian citizenship to children born abroad on or after the coming into force of the legislation to a Canadian parent who was also a citizen by descent, if that parent was physically present in Canada for a cumulative total of at least 1,095 days before the child's birth.

Limits to citizenship by descent under the *Citizenship Act*

In general, persons who were born abroad to a Canadian parent on or after December 15, 2025 are not Canadian citizens under the Act if one of the following is true:

- their Canadian parent was also born outside Canada to a Canadian parent (the person is therefore the second or subsequent generation born outside Canada) **and** the parent has not established a cumulative total of 1,095 days of physical presence in Canada before the person's birth;
- their Canadian parent was granted citizenship as an adopted person (the person is therefore the second generation born outside Canada) **and** the parent has not established a cumulative total of 1,095 days of physical presence in Canada before the child's birth.

Note: For those born before the coming into force of Bill C-3, the intent is for the amendments to retroactively restore citizenship to "Lost Canadians," and gives citizenship to their descendants, and persons impacted by the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent.

Exceptions to the first-generation limit

A Canadian parent is not required to demonstrate a cumulative total of 1,095 days of physical presence in Canada if:

- at the time of their child's birth or at the time of adoption, they were employed outside Canada in or with the Canadian Armed Forces, the federal public administration or the public service of a province or territory (a Crown servant), other than as a locally engaged person; or,
- at the time of the child's birth or at the time of adoption their Canadian parent (the applicant's **grandparent**) was employed outside Canada in or with the Canadian Armed Forces, the federal public administration or the public service of a province or territory (a Crown servant), other than as a locally engaged person.

Canadian parent's 1,095 days of cumulative physical presence in Canada requirement and submissions

Citizenship applicants subject to the first-generation limit who are born on or after December 15, 2025, must complete the physical presence form and provide documentary evidence in support to demonstrate that their Canadian citizen parent has at least 1,095 days cumulative of physical presence in Canada prior to the applicant's birth.

Canadian parent's physical presence in Canada

Physical presence for the Canadian citizen parent is to be recorded in the Physical Presence form. Physical presence can be accumulated from the parent's date of birth up until the date of

adoption of the applicant. The applicant is required to populate the form with the following information about their Canadian parent:

- Date of their Canadian parent's birth;
- Date their Canadian parent entered Canada;
- Date their Canadian parent left Canada;
- Destination in Canada;
- Reason for their presence in Canada;
- Total number of days of presence in Canada.

A **day of physical presence in Canada** is defined as any calendar day spent physically present in Canada regardless of the length of time they were present for the day or reasons for the stay. If the applicant is unsure of the exact dates their parent was present in Canada, they are to complete the table with the information that they know, to the best of their ability.

Note: Time residing outside Canada and employed as a Crown servant cannot be counted as physical presence in Canada

Time spent serving a sentence in Canada

No period may be counted as a period of physical presence in Canada during which the applicant's Canadian parent spent time serving a sentence for an offence in Canada. This includes imprisonment, probation and/or parole.

Exceptions:

- Time on probation as a result of a conditional discharge can count towards physical presence if the probation was completed successfully (i.e. the applicant's Canadian parent was not charged with a breach of probation or a failure to comply during that probation).
- Time spent imprisoned or on probation does not impact the Canadian parent's physical presence if:
 - they were convicted under the Youth Criminal Justice Act, received a youth sentence, and successfully completed that sentence; or
 - they were convicted under the previous Young Offenders Act and successfully completed that sentence.

When an applicant declares that their Canadian parent spent time serving a sentence for an offence committed in Canada, they may be asked to provide an RCMP Conviction Report and/or court documents in order to clarify if the time spent serving a sentence can be counted towards the parent's physical presence requirement.

Workload Management Strategy: Applications in Interim Measures Processing

When Bill C-3 comes into force, IRCC will cease processing applications from individuals impacted by the first-generation limit (FGL) under the interim measure (IM). Generally, FGL impacted persons will no longer be eligible to receive a grant of citizenship since Bill C-3 will make them Canadian citizens through automatic operation of law preventing them from being granted in accordance with the legislation. This document establishes the strategy to deal with IM applications at various stages in processing.

Upon coming into force (CIF) of Bill C-3, the IM will cease and all existing applications will be reverted to proof of citizenship processing per the instructions in the table below.

Post CIF, in cases where the proof application is refused (i.e., was incorrectly identified as being impacted by the FGL when accepted into processing under the IM) the file should be referred to the senior decision maker (SDM) for 'routine' 5(4) consideration (i.e., not through the IM 5(4) process).

Stages in FGL IM processing:

#	Scenario	Stage in Processing	Communication	Action	Processing Priority
1	Client submitted proof or adoption application	Application has been identified as FGL – No IM invitation letter sent	Web information	- No Correspondence required. - Process the proof or adoption application in accordance with Bill C-3 legislation.	First-in, first-out (FIFO) unless urgent
2	IRCC sent FGL Correspondence letter no response (896)*	Application has been identified as FGL – No client response received yet.	Correspondence 1	- Send notice to the client. - Process the proof or adoption application in accordance with Bill C-3 legislation.	FIFO unless urgent
3	Client requested 5(4) – 5(4) Application not opened (1929)*	Application has been identified as FGL – IM invitation letter sent, client responded requesting 5(4), file may be complete but 5(4) not yet opened in GCMS.	Correspondence 1	- Do not create a grant application. - Send notice to the client. - Process the proof or adoption application in accordance with Bill C-3 legislation.** **If proof refused – refer to SDM for 5(4) consideration.	FIFO unless urgent
4	Client requested 5(4) – Application opened in GCMS (611)*	Application has been identified as FGL – IM invitation letter sent, client responded	Correspondence 1 5(4) Closure Letter	- Place the 5(4) application on hold. - Process the proof or adoption application in accordance with Bill C-3 legislation.** Note: If the proof application has already been	To be processed on a priority basis.

		requesting 5(4), file is complete and 5(4) is open in GCMS. Underlying application has not been withdrawn.		withdrawn, begin by re-opening the application. - Document 5(4) refusal decision based on citizenship through automatic operation of law under section 3 in GCMS notes. - After the proof has been processed, close the 5(4) application and send the 5(4) Closure Letter. - Refund the RoC fee. **If proof refused – refer to SDM for 5(4) consideration.	IM applicants with open 5(4) grants will be processed on a priority basis in order to resolve the open 5(4) inventory as quickly as possible. A decision will be rendered on their proof followed by close-out of the 5(4).
5	Client requested final decision on Proof or adoption application (89)*	Application has been identified as FGL – IM invitation letter sent, client responded declining 5(4) and requested a decision on their proof application. Underlying application is still Open.	N/A	Process the proof or adoption application in accordance with Bill C-3 legislation.	FIFO unless urgent
6	5(4) approved – Ceremony not scheduled	Application has been identified as FGL – IM invitation letter sent, client responded requesting 5(4), file is complete and 5(4) is granted but application is not finalized – awaiting ceremony. Ceremony invitation not yet sent..	5(4) Refusal Letter	- Re-open the Proof application - Process the proof application in accordance with Bill C-3 legislation.** - Un-grant the 5(4). - After the proof has been processed, refuse the 5(4) as they are already a citizen. - Send 5(4) refusal letter to the applicant. - Refund the RoC fee. **If proof refused – refer to SDM for 5(4)	To be processed on a priority basis. Applicant has received notification of 5(4) decision and is awaiting ceremony invitation. Timely issuance of the certificate will eliminate the requirement for the client to attend a ceremony.

7	5(4) approved – Ceremony scheduled	Application has been identified as FGL – IM invitation letter sent, client responded requesting 5(4), file is complete and 5(4) granted but application is not finalized – ceremony has been scheduled but has not yet taken place..	5(4) Refusal Letter	• Re-open the Proof application • Process the proof or adoption application in accordance with Bill C-3 legislation.** • Un-Grant the 5(4). • Cancel the scheduled ceremony. • After the proof has been processed, refuse the 5(4) as they are already a citizen. • Send 5(4) refusal letter to the applicant. • Refund the RoC fee. **If proof refused – refer to SDM for 5(4)	To be processed on a priority basis. Applicant has been scheduled for a ceremony. Timely issuance of the certificate is required in order to cancel the ceremony invitation.
8	5(4) approved – Certificate in queue (under 14)	Application has been identified as FGL – IM invitation letter sent, client responded requesting 5(4), file is complete and 5(4) granted. No oath is required.	N/A	• Since the date of Grant was before the CIF of Bill C-3, the decision was made in accordance with the legislation in place at the time the decision was made. • Because the grant date is the effective date (i.e. no oath required) and it was made prior to the CIF, certificate must be sent to the applicant.	N/A
9	5(4) approved – Certificate sent	Processed to completion and closed. Citizenship certificate was issued.	General Web	• No further action. Should the applicant interact with IRCC in the future their records will be updated to recognize under the provisions of C-3.	N/A
10	Proof / 5(4) refused	Processed to completion and was refused.	General Web	• No further action is required. The applicant may submit a new Proof or Adoption application. • Requests for re-opening should be considered in accordance with existing procedure if requested by the client.	N/A

- *Volumes from Nov 1, 2025 dashboard report added for context* <https://gcdocs2.ci.gc.ca/otcs/cs.exe/Overview/615411004>

Client correspondence 1 – more details :

- We will process your proof application
- We will not open a 5(4) application

For Proofs: <https://gcdocs2.ci.gc.ca/otcs/cs.exe/link/616560809>

For Adoption: <https://gcdocs2.ci.gc.ca/otcs/cs.exe/link/616983845>

5(4) Closure letter template – more details:

- Proof application was processed
- Client is a citizen under section 3
- 5(4) grant is closed

For proofs: <https://gcdocs2.ci.gc.ca/otcs/cs.exe/link/616905614>

For Adoption: <https://gcdocs2.ci.gc.ca/otcs/cs.exe/link/616995535>

5(4) Refusal letter template – more details:

- Proof application was processed
- Client is a citizen under section 3
- 5(4) grant is refused

For Proofs: <https://gcdocs2.ci.gc.ca/otcs/cs.exe/link/616747786>

For Adoption: <https://gcdocs2.ci.gc.ca/otcs/cs.exe/link/616999731>

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Questions and Answers

Changes to Citizenship by Descent 2025

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7. [Bjorkquist Decision](#)

Bill C-3 – New Legislation (2025)

1.1 What did Bill C-3 do?

Bill C-3 added a framework for citizenship by descent for those born or adopted on or after December 15, 2025. Children born on or after December 15, 2025 to a Canadian parent who was also born abroad, will become an automatic Canadian citizen if their parent has a [substantial connection](#) to Canada. Access to the direct grant of citizenship is provided for children born abroad and adopted, beyond the first generation, provided that their parent has a substantial connection to Canada.

For those born before December 15, 2025, the amendments retroactively restore citizenship to “Lost Canadians,” their descendants, and persons impacted by the FGL. Access to the direct grant of citizenship is provided for children born abroad and adopted.

1.2 Are those restored or given citizenship under the new legislation who previously received a grant of citizenship before December 15, 2025 recognized as citizens by operation of law? How will these persons know about their conversion?

Those restored or given citizenship on December 15, 2025, who previously received a grant of citizenship before that date will be recognized as citizens by operation of law. This includes individuals previously affected by the FGL who received a grant of citizenship through the interim measure.

This means naturalized citizens who benefit from the new legislation will now be recognized as citizens by automatic operation of law, rather than by naturalization. Their citizenship effective date is retroactive to their date of birth or date of loss which aligns with previous changes included in both the 2009 and 2015 legislative amendments.

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By doing this, the legislation ensured that individuals are not described under multiple categories of citizenship under the *Citizenship Act* and allows individuals to be recognized as citizens retroactively back to their date of birth or date of loss.

The descendants of converted citizens by descent are automatic citizens too if they were born prior to legislation being in force, even if they are second generation or beyond. This ensures that no new cohorts of “Lost Canadians” are created. The substantial connection requirement only applies to parents of children born (or adopted) after legislation is in force. This information is proactively communicated to the public to ensure that parents have the necessary information to make an informed decision for their family.

Interim Measure (Applications submitted before December 15, 2025)

2.1 Will those who received a discretionary grant of citizenship, via the interim measure, require a conversion process for the new citizenship by descent rules?

On December 15, 2025, upon coming into force of Bill C-3, individuals previously affected by the first-generation limit who received a grant of citizenship become Canadian citizens through automatic operation of law. For adoption applications, they will continue to be recognized as Canadian citizens as of the date of their grant decision.

2.2 Will certificates issued under the interim measure by grant need to be replaced following the coming into force of Bill C-3?

Clients who received a certificate through grant do not need to request a replacement certificate with the new effective date of citizenship retroactive to their date of birth or loss.

2.3 What happens to applications still in progress through the interim measure on December 15, 2025?

All ‘in progress’ Proof and Adoption applications that are impacted by the first-generation limit will be processed in accordance with the new legislation once it comes into force regardless of the processing stage they are at, under the interim measure. Even if an applicant has opted to be considered for a 5(4) discretionary grant of citizenship, the grant application processing will halt immediately following the coming into force of Bill C-3 and processing of the original proof or adoption application will resume, since the application remains ‘open’ right up until the 5(4) discretionary grant decision is made.

There will be no action required by the applicants as they would be recognized as Canadian citizens through automatic operation of law retroactive to their date of birth or loss and cannot therefore be granted citizenship. For adoption applications, they will be recognized as Canadian citizens on the date of their grant decision. The first-in, first-out processing order of the original application will be maintained with the exception of urgent processing, i.e. those who qualify (or have already qualified) for urgent processing will be prioritized.

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2.4 Does this mean that applications will be placed at the back of the processing queue on December 15, 2025?

No. Individuals who have an application in progress under the interim measure, at the time of coming into force of the new legislation, will have their processing order and priority maintained.

2.5 How far back does the new legislation extend? Will those born before 1947 and their descendants be able to obtain citizenship by descent if they were born beyond the first generation?

Most people born before CIF to a Canadian parent or grandparent would be Canadian citizens by automatic operation of law when Bill C-3 comes into force.

Any person born abroad before the CIF of Bill C-3 to a parent who became a Canadian citizen on January 1, 1947 or April 1, 1949 (in Newfoundland), or who would have become a Canadian citizen on those dates as a result of this bill, will be a Canadian citizen by descent. This includes persons born before January 1, 1947.

In many of these cases, the individual being conferred citizenship as a result of Bill C-3 would have had a parent and/or grandparent who benefited from the 2009 and 2015 amendments to the *Citizenship Act* that remedied “Lost Canadians”.

As is currently the case, it is possible that an assessment might need to go as far back as the *Naturalization Act* (1868) in order to determine whether the ancestor would have been described as a Canadian citizen on January 1, 1947. In turn, this would allow for the assessment of the claim to citizenship for subsequent generations.

All claims to citizenship by descent must be supported by the appropriate documentary evidence.

Substantial Connection – Parent’s Physical Presence Requirement

3.1 Why does Bill C-3 introduce the substantial connection requirement for those who are born or adopted on or after December 15, 2025?

Bill C-3 recognizes that the current rules that restrict the transmission of citizenship by descent to the second generation born abroad may exclude individuals who may in fact have a genuine connection to Canada. This can have consequences for families and impact life choices, such as where individuals may choose to live, work, pursue education opportunities, or even where to have children and raise a family.

The new legislation provides access to citizenship by descent or the citizenship adoption grant to children of Canadian parents who can demonstrate a substantial connection to Canada through their parents’ physical presence before their birth/adoption. The framework strikes a balance between implementing reasonable limits on automatic citizenship by descent on a go-forward basis and protecting the value of Canadian citizenship.

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3.2 Why is the 1095 days cumulative and not consecutive?

A Canadian parent's 1095 days of physical presence in Canada is cumulative and not consecutive as we recognize that Canadians born abroad may have established a substantial connection to Canada and that this connection can continue to be maintained while pursuing opportunities abroad.

For example, a Canadian born abroad may spend more of their childhood in Canada or choose to study in Canada. Or, they may accumulate time by visiting and taking time to care for family in Canada over a period of, for example, 20 years.

By making the physical presence requirement cumulative, it provides more choice for Canadians born abroad and allows them to make important decisions for their family with flexibility.

3.3 When does the physical presence requirement apply?

The physical presence requirement applies to applicants who:

- are born on or after December 15, 2025,
- are born or adopted abroad in the second or subsequent generation, and
- do not benefit from the crown service exception.

3.4 How will people demonstrate substantial connection and what would be considered proof?

The substantial connection is defined as the Canadian parent's 1095 days cumulative physical presence in Canada prior to the birth or adoption of their child abroad.

Applicants will be asked to complete and submit the How to Calculate Physical Presence In Canada for a Canadian parent form (CIT0555E) and include evidence of the Canadian parent's physical presence in Canada along with their proof of citizenship application. Evidence could include: pay stubs, educational records, enrollment records, tax returns, lease agreements, utility bills, passport entry stamps, or any other documentation that could help demonstrate that they were in Canada.

Officers will assess the totality of information provided and determine whether or not they are satisfied.

3.5 Does the Canadian parent have to be a citizen during the time they spent in Canada for it to count as physical presence?

No, a Canadian parent's time spent in Canada does not require that they were citizens during the time they spent in Canada. For example, a client may have been in Canada as a permanent resident, studying in Canada on a student visa, etc.

3.6 Are Crown Servants employed abroad required to meet the substantial connection test?

The *Citizenship Act* provides exceptions to the FGL for Crown servants, who are, at the time of their child's or grandchild's birth or adoption, employed outside Canada by the Canadian Armed Forces, or the federal public administration, or provincial public service (other than as a locally engaged staff member).

The exception for the children of Crown servants was introduced in tandem with the introduction of the FGL in 2009, and the exception was extended to the grandchildren of Crown servants in 2015. Bill C-3

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maintains these exceptions. Crown servants are not required to demonstrate physical presence in Canada and their children and grandchildren will automatically be Canadian citizens at birth or have access to the direct grant of citizenship for persons born abroad and adopted by Canadian citizens.

Simplified Renunciation

4.1 Who has access to simplified renunciation under the new legislation and regulations?

Persons born before coming into force who automatically acquire citizenship status retroactively as a result of the CIF of the new legislation, and who have not previously been granted citizenship, will be able to access the existing simplified renunciation process if desired.

For example, a person who is already a citizen of a country that does not allow dual citizenship, may not want to keep their Canadian citizenship which was bestowed on them on December 15, 2025. To resolve this issue, they are able to access simplified renunciation.

The regular renunciation process remains available to all eligible persons who wish to renounce their citizenship.

4.2 Are minors able to access simplified renunciation under the new legislation and regulations?

Yes, minors are able to access simplified renunciation. Minors 14 years and older are required to countersign the application. Applications made on behalf of minors must be signed by the child's parents, unless evidence is presented to demonstrate that this is impossible or not feasible.

Adoptions

5.1 Why will Canadians adopted abroad need to meet the substantial connection to be able to pass on their citizenship?

The intent and structure of the *Citizenship Act* has been, and remains, to ensure that children adopted abroad by Canadians and children born abroad to Canadians are treated as similarly as possible.

Since citizens who were adopted abroad are treated the same as citizens by descent who were born abroad, meaning on or after December 15, 2025 they too will need to meet the substantial connection requirement in order to be able to pass on their citizenship to their child born or adopted abroad.

Passport Services

6.1 What if someone born in the second or subsequent generation on or after December 15, 2025 applies for a limited validity passport – are they considered Canadian citizens through these changes?

All those impacted by the first-generation limit born after December 15, 2025, will not be citizens by descent unless their Canadian parent meets the physical presence requirement (exception for Crown Service).

When requesting confirmation of status the same process must be followed by the mission:

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- completes and asks applicant's parent to sign the PPTC 445 and
- emails it to DIOD
- sends the following to DIOD through normal mailing procedures by diplomatic bag:
 - original proof application (which must now include the CIT0555, How to Calculate Physical Presence In Canada for a Canadian parent form and accompanying evidence)
 - referral form
 - photos
 - evidence of fee payment
 - copies of supporting documents

Once DIOD assesses the information, they will respond to the mission with the results of the PPTC 445. In situations where the child was born before December 15, 2025 DIOD will have the information necessary to complete confirmation however, for those children born on or after December 15, 2025, the parent's physical presence must be assessed as part of the application for proof. This means that the response on the confirmation process will likely be inconclusive until the full application is assessed.

Missions should continue to flag if urgent processing is being requested and provide an explanation to support the request.

Bjorkquist Decision

7.1 How are the Bill C-3 legislative changes different than the *Bjorkquist* declaration?

If the Bjorkquist declaration had come into force, there would have been no limit to the passage of citizenship by descent for many born abroad to a Canadian citizen parent regardless of generation or substantial connection to Canada. However, others who were not addressed by the Court's decision, would have remained limited by the first-generation limit (FGL).

Bill C-3 brought in a new framework which extends citizenship by descent beyond the first generation in a way that is inclusive and protects the value of Canadian citizenship. The new legislation provides access to citizenship by descent beyond the first generation for those included in the Court decision, as well as those excluded from the Court decision but who should have benefitted from Canadian citizenship. They are:

- section 8 "Lost Canadians" and the descendants of "Lost Canadians";
- those born abroad and adopted by a Canadian citizen parent beyond the first generation; and,
- a subset of persons born abroad before April 1, 1949.

Bill C-3 also allows persons who automatically obtained citizenship upon coming into force of the bill to renunciation of their citizenship should they not wish to keep it.

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7.2 Will the *Bjorkquist* declaration come into effect on January 20, 2026?

Despite being granted an extension of time to the period of invalidity of the Court's declaration until January 20, 2026, the declaration will have no effect given the introduction of the remedial legislation brought in by Bill C-3 upon coming into force (CIF). The *Bjorkquist* declaration cannot be applied to the new legislation as it replaced the legislation that was subject of the litigation.

Bill C-3 Transition Guide

This document has been developed to provide general guidance to assist Digitization and Identity Operations Division staff apply changes resulting from the coming into force (CIF) of Bill C-3.

The information and instructions shared below are intended to be short to medium-term instructions that will be phased out as changes are fully implemented.

Program Delivery Instructions (PDIs) remain foundational documents and should be referred to for further information.

The following PDIs have been updated and will be published shortly. Until such time, refer to the links below.

- [Acquisition of citizenship](#)
- [Applications for citizenship certificates](#)
- [Canadian parent's physical presence requirement](#)
- [Parental consent](#)
- [Proof of citizenship for travel and government purposes](#)
- [Renunciation of citizenship under section 7.1](#)

Direct any questions or clarifications regarding this document to Citizenship Program Guidance at IRCC.CITOperations-OperationsCIT.IRCC@cic.gc.ca

Updates to Kits and Forms

This section applies to Intake/Digitization Centre, and Level 1 and Level 2 decision-makers.

General Information

Proof and adoption

Proof of citizenship, and part 1 adoption application kits and forms have been updated in response to Bill C-3 legislative amendments to the *Citizenship Act*.

A new form (CIT 0555) has been created and will be provided by proof and adoption applicants who are subject to the parental physical presence requirement.

Major updates to the forms are listed below.

Proofs

Application form (CIT 001)

Published on: December 15, 2025

- Date of death (if applicable)
 - Added to parent and grandparent sections (8 and 9)
- Canadian Crown Service
 - Removed from parent and grandparent sections (8D and 9)
 - Moved to the new Section 13 “Born on or after December 15, 2025”

- Parental Physical Presence
 - Added to the new Section 13 “Born on or after December 15, 2025”

Document Checklist (CIT 0014)

Published on: December 15, 2025

- Parental Physical Presence
 - Added table to Section 3 for persons born outside Canada on or after December 15, 2025 whose Canadian parent(s) was also born outside of Canada to a Canadian parent.

***New* How to Calculate Physical Presence in Canada for a Canadian Parent (CIT 0555)**

Published on: December 15, 2025

- New form to declare a parent’s physical presence in Canada
- Note: This form is only required when:
 - The applicant is born on or after December 15, 2025
 - The applicant is born abroad in the second or subsequent generation
 - The Crown Service exception does not apply
 - This is a first time application (not required for replacement applications)

Adoptions Part 1

Application form (CIT 0010)

Published on: December 15, 2025

- Date of death (if applicable)
 - Added to parent and grandparent sections (3A and 3F)
- Canadian Crown Service
 - Removed from parent and grandparent sections (3B and 3F)
 - Moved to the new Section 4 “Was the adoption completed after December 15, 2025, or will it be completed after December 15, 2025?”
- Parental Physical Presence
 - Added to the new Section 4 “Was the adoption completed after December 15, 2025, or will it be completed after December 15, 2025?”

Document Checklist (CIT 0484)

Published on: December 15, 2025

- Parental Physical Presence
 - CIT 0555 and supporting documents listed in “other documents” table.

***New* How to Calculate Physical Presence in Canada for a Canadian Parent (CIT 0555)**

Published on: December 15, 2025

- New form to declare a parent’s physical presence in Canada
- Note: This form is only required when:

- The applicant is born on or after December 15, 2025
- The applicant is born abroad in the second or subsequent generation
- The Crown Service exception does not apply

Renunciation

Addendum A (CIT 0556) has been developed as a separate form to assist applicants if they have more than two parents.

Major updates to the forms are listed below.

Application form (CIT 0496)

Published on: December 15, 2025

- Legal Parent at Birth
 - Replaced “natural parent” with “biological parent” and “legal parent at birth”
- Grandparents
 - New section 11 requesting information about grandparents
- Date of death
 - Added to parent and grandparent sections (10 and 11)
- Crown Service
 - Added to parent and grandparent sections (10 and 11)
- Minors and more than two parents
 - Clarified signature requirements for minors
 - Added signature lines for parents/guardians

Document Checklist (CIT 0501)

Published on: December 15, 2025

- Crown service
 - Added to “forms if applicable”
- More than two parents
 - Added Addendum A to “forms if applicable”
- Minors
 - Added explanatory letter requirement if parental signatures are missing to “forms if applicable”
- Born outside Canada before December 15, 2025 and automatically acquired citizenship on December 15, 2025
 - New table added outlining required documents.

***New* Addendum A (CIT 0556)**

Published on: December 15, 2025

- New form intended for persons with more than two parents
- Additional signature lines for minors with more than two parents

5(5) Statelessness and 11(1) Resumption

The application kit for the grant of citizenship for stateless individuals, and the application kit for resumptions have not been updated and will be reviewed at a later date.

GAC Forms

Global Affairs (GAC) will continue to use the current versions of the Referral Form (CIT 1004) and the Consular staff completeness check (CIT 1005) until further notice.

Instructions

- Accept applications into processing if old versions of the form have been used.
- Accept applications into processing even if new forms CIT 0555 and CIT 0556 are not provided.
- Contact the client for missing information only if the missing information is necessary to make a decision.
- Contact Program Guidance before accepting 5(5) statelessness grant applications into processing.

Tracking applications

This section applies to Level 1 and Level 2 decision makers

General Information

ORG IDs are being used to track C-3 related proof applications until GCMS changes can be implemented.

A change request (CR) has been submitted and the program will have the changes in place as soon as possible.

The proper use of ORG IDs is important to ensure accurate reporting which leads to informed decision-making regarding future policy, procedures, and workload management.

Instructions

These instructions apply to proof applications where a final decision has not been rendered as of December 15, 2025. This includes open applications that were previously identified under the Expanded Interim Measures.

The following ORG IDs need to be associated to the relevant proof applications in GCMS. The ORG IDs apply even if the application is eventually refused or administratively closed.

Contact Program Guidance if an applicant is a citizen as a result of changes to the *Citizenship Act* enacted through Bill C-3 but there is not an applicable ORG ID.

ORG ID	Name	Description	Reason
0181359896802	3(1)(b) Born 77-09 Parent C-3 / 3(1)(b) Né 77-09 Parent C-3		• Persons described under 3(1)(b) • Born in Generation 2+ abroad • Born between Feb 15, 1977 and April 16, 2009

			• Parent remedied by C-3 or previous legislation
O181363773548	3(1)(b) Born 09-25 C-3 claim / 3(1)(b) Né 09-25 demande C-3		• Persons described under 3(1)(b) • Born in Generation 2+ abroad • Born between April 17, 2009 and CIF (minus 1 day) • No Crown Servant exception
O181367938988	3(1)(b) Born post 25 C-3 claim / 3(1)(b) Né après 25 demande C-3		• Persons described under 3(1)(b) • Born in Generation 2+ abroad • Born on or after CIF • No Crown Servant exception
O181367939362	3(1)(f) Restoration C-3 / 3(1)(f) Réintégration C-3		• Persons described under 3(1)(f) • Lost citizenship under former section 8 • Did not resume citizenship before April 17, 2009
O181367939516	3(1)(g) Born out 47-77/C-3 / 3(1)(g) Né(e) étr. 47-77/C-3		• Persons described under 3(1)(g) • Born in Generation 2+ abroad • Born between Jan 1, 1947 and Feb 14, 1977 • Was not a citizen before April 17, 2009 • Parent remedied by C-3 or previous legislation
O181367939720	3(1)(h) 47-77/Grant/C-3 / 3(1)(h) 47-77/attribution/C-3		• Persons described under 3(1)(h) • Born in Generation 2+ abroad • Born before February 15, 1977 • Granted citizenship before April 17, 2009
O181369685964	3(1)(i) Loss pre-77/C-3 / 3(1)(i) Perdue av. 1977/C-3		• Persons described under 3(1)(i) • Lost citizenship under former section 8 • Resumed citizenship before April 17, 2009 OR • Persons described under 3(1)(i) • Born in Generation 2+ abroad • Former citizen by operation of law under 1947 Act • Resumed citizenship before April 17, 2009 through the current Act
O181369686268	3(1)(j) loss pre-77/C-3 / 3(1)(j) Perdue av. 1977/C-3		• Persons described under 3(1)(j) • Born in Generation 2+ abroad • Born before Feb 15, 1977 • Former citizen by operation of law under 1947 Act

			Resumed citizenship through the 1947 Act
O181369686362	3(1)(q) pre-47/Par CC/C-3 / 3(1)(q) av. 47/par. CC/47/C-3		- Persons described under 3(1)(q) - Born in Generation 2+ abroad - Born before Jan 1, 1947 - Did not become a citizen on Jan 1, 1947 - Parent became a citizen on Jan 1, 1947
O181369686426	3(1)(r) pre-49/Par CC/C-3 / 3(1)(q) av. 49/par CC/49/C-3		- Person described under 3(1)(r) - Born in Generation 2+ abroad - Born before April 1, 1949 - Did not become a citizen on April 1, 1949 - Parent became a citizen on April 1, 1949

Updated instructions will be provided once the CR is finalized and the new functions are available in GCMS.

Parental Physical Presence

This section applies to Intake/Digitization Centre, and Level 1 and Level 2 decision makers.

General Information

The new Proof and Adoption application kits (2025 versions) help applicants identify for themselves if they need to provide information on parental physical presence. The updated guides explains what additional evidence must be provided.

Instructions

- Accept applications into processing even if the physical presence form and evidence is missing.
- Review any/all evidence provided to support the parent's physical presence declaration.
- Once it is published, send the applicant CIT 0555 and request that the client return a completed and signed version. Request any additional evidence if insufficient.
- Do not finalize the application until the applicant has had the opportunity to respond, and procedural fairness steps have been followed.
- Reminder: Parental Physical Presence is not required if the Crown Servant exception applies.

Contact Program Guidance if there is any uncertainty about the assessment of the physical presence requirement.

Citizen despite death of a parent (C-3)

This section applies to Level 2 decision makers.

General Information

Intended to add greater certainty, a new citizen despite death of parent clause has been added to the *Citizenship Act*. It reads:

(1.5) A person who would not become a citizen under one of the paragraphs of subsection (1) for the sole reason that their parent or both their parent and their parent's parent died before the coming into force of *An Act to amend the Citizenship Act* (2025) is a citizen under that paragraph if that parent — or both that parent and that parent's parent — but for their death, would have been a citizen as a result of the coming into force of that Act.

As a precautionary measure, new fields requesting the date of death for parents and grandparents have been added to the proof application (CIT 0001), the part 1 adoption application (CIT 0010) and the 7.1 renunciation application (CIT0496).

Instructions

These instructions apply to all open applications, including applications that were identified under the interim measure.

- Add case note: “Application on hold as per instructions from Program Guidance”
- Add ORG ID O182884345242
- Ensure that the Notice of Delay letter is sent to the client.

See Program Bulletin for full details: [Processing Pause on Certain Proof Applications](#) P...

Updated instructions will be provided once clarification has been received.

Child of 3(1)(q) born before January 1, 1947 [and 3(1)(r)]

This section applies to Level 2 decision makers.

General Information

Instructions

These instructions apply to all open applications, including applications that were identified under the interim measure.

- Add case note: “Application on hold as per instructions from Program Guidance”
- Add ORG ID O182884345242
- Ensure that the Notice of Delay letter is sent to the client.

See Program Bulletin for full details: [Processing Pause on Certain Proof Applications – P...](#)

Updated instructions will be provided once clarification has been received.

7.1 Renunciations

This section applies to Intake/Digitization Centre and Level 2 decision makers.

General Information

Refusal grounds for 7.1 Renunciations are not yet available in GCMS. Refusal grounds have been identified and will be part of the C-3 GCMS Release.

Instructions

- Contact Program Guidance for support if 7.1 applications are received using the 2019, or earlier, version of the application form.
- Contact Program Guidance for support before refusing a 7.1 renunciation.

5(5) Statelessness Grant

This section applies to Intake/Digitization Centre and Level 2 decision makers.

General Information

Paragraph 5(5)(a) of the *Citizenship Act* has been amended.

Previous wording: **(a)** is born outside Canada after the coming into force of this subsection

Current wording: **(a)** is born outside Canada on or after the day on which *An Act to amend the Citizenship Act* (2025) comes into force

There are no further changes to subsection 5(5).

The application kit for grant of citizenship for stateless persons born to a Canadian parent under subsection 5(5) has not been updated yet. This application type is very rarely used.

Instructions

Current applications (if applicable)

- Determine if the applicant is now a citizen by descent through the C-3 changes.
- Contact Program Guidance for further assistance

New applications

- Do not complete intake
- Contact Program Guidance for assistance

11(1) Resumption

This section applies to Intake/Digitization Centre and Level 2 decision makers.

General Information

Persons who are remedied by C-3 legislative changes are not eligible to resume Canadian citizenship as they are considered citizens by descent. Instead, they should apply for a proof.

To clarify, a person who is remedied by C-3 by automatic operation of law would need to renounce citizenship before being eligible to apply to resume.

The application kit to resume Canadian citizenship under section 11 has not been updated.

Instructions

These instructions apply to all open applications, and any future applications.

- Contact Program Guidance before refusing a resumption application because the applicant is remedied by C-3 legislative changes.

Jaglal, Chandradat (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him | il, lui)

From: CPD PALS / PPC PALS (IRCC)
Sent: December 15, 2025 10:28 AM
To: Robertson.Emilie; Poirier, Francine (IRCC/IRCC); CE Client Impact / Impact Client EC (IRCC); Agnew, Jennifer (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Anglinova, Olga (IRCC/IRCC); Armstrong-Connors, Melissa (IRCC/IRCC); Baldwin.Jillian; Bargiel, Jean-Sebastien (IRCC/IRCC); Bastien, Cristina (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Beaulieu, Anne-Marie (IRCC/IRCC); Bernard, Allison (IRCC/IRCC); Bissessar, Carlton (IRCC/IRCC); Brideau, Celine (IRCC/IRCC); Arthur, Michael (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him | il, lui); Chochinov, Michael (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him | il, lui); Cutts, Carolyne (IRCC/IRCC); Deschamps, Gabrielle (IRCC/IRCC); Dewan, Jody (IRCC/IRCC); Fang, Crystal (IRCC/IRCC); Bird, Sharon (IRCC/IRCC); Grenier, Amelie (IRCC/IRCC); Hayles, Andrea (IRCC/IRCC); Hunsperger, Judith (IRCC/IRCC); Jacques, Sophie (IRCC/IRCC); Johnson, Karen (IRCC/IRCC); Leith, Gayle (IRCC/IRCC); Magne, Carrie (IRCC/IRCC); Marsh, Miriam (IRCC/IRCC); Milord, Patrice (IRCC/IRCC); Niasse, Mamadou (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him, his | il, le, lui); Noiles, Bailey (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Petschulat, Courtney (IRCC/IRCC); Rao, Jianhua (IRCC/IRCC); Rustandjaja, Nadya (IRCC/IRCC); Stenzler, Jordan (IRCC/IRCC); Tsai, Tracy (IRCC/IRCC); Vlachos, Georgia (IRCC/IRCC); Zeggane, Lydia (IRCC/IRCC); Marchand.Gregory-Adam; Ferris, Joey (IRCC/IRCC); Rana, Ruby (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Riebertz, Lorri (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her, hers | elle, la, lui); Leir-Taha, Clarissa (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Aitkens, Blaine (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him | il, lui); Bendadda, Ouafae (IRCC/IRCC); Asch, Patrick (IRCC/IRCC); Horne, Lynn (IRCC/IRCC); Craddock, FrancisTrent (IRCC/IRCC); Belanger, Guillaume (IRCC/IRCC); Minaeian, Sepehr (IRCC/IRCC); Begin, Nicolas (IRCC/IRCC); Silva, Elise (IRCC/IRCC); Cantin, Jean-Simon (IRCC/IRCC); Thibodeau, David (IRCC/IRCC); Coleman, Lorna (IRCC/IRCC); Williams, Anthony (IRCC/IRCC); Lalande, Suzanne (IRCC/IRCC); Dumervil.Marc-Olivier; HIOB Citizenship / Citoyenneté DGOHI (IRCC); Lafave, Jason (IRCC/IRCC); Rallo, Karine (IRCC/IRCC); Paredes, Marcela (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); PPT Functional Guidance / Orientation Fonctionnelle PPT (IRCC); Pousett, Kaleigh (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Santos.Aloisa; IOB Citizenship / Citoyenneté DGOI (IRCC)
Cc: Williams, Emma (IRCC/IRCC); Leblanc, Dominic (IRCC/IRCC); Desalliers, Natalie (IRCC/IRCC); Hordyk, William (IRCC/IRCC); Jellis, Rebecca (IRCC/IRCC); Casey, Meghan (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Riel, Shawn (IRCC/IRCC); De-Matos, Goretti (IRCC/IRCC); Morris, Julita (IRCC/IRCC); Burns, Steven (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him | il, lui); King, Shauna (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Cantin, Jean-Simon (IRCC/IRCC); PFO Operations / Opérations OPE (IRCC)
Subject: Coming into force of Bill C-3, An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025) / Entrée en vigueur du projet de loi C-3, Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté (2025)
Attachments: Bill C-3 - QA_FAQ - French - Final2.pdf; C-3 Q&As.pdf
Importance: High

Le message en français suit...

Hello colleagues,

Bill C-3, *An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)* has come into force (CIF) today, December 15, 2025 ([Change to citizenship rules in 2025 - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/2025/12/15-bill-c-3-citizenship-act-2025)).

This means individuals born outside of Canada before today, December 15, 2025, and previously impacted by the first-generation limit (FGL) to citizenship by descent, are Canadian citizens by automatic operation of law.

Individuals who are born outside of Canada in the second or subsequent generation, on or after today, are citizens if their Canadian parent spent at least 1,095 cumulative days in Canada before the individual's date of birth.

Individuals can apply for a proof of citizenship to confirm their citizenship status ([Get proof of Canadian citizenship - Canada.ca](#)).

IRCC will assess their claim to citizenship based on their application and information provided.

The new legislative framework also applies to individuals born outside of Canada and adopted.

In addition, now that the new legislation is in force, the interim measure for citizenship applications affected by the FGL is **no longer in effect**.

Open interim measure applications will be processed under the new legal framework in the order that they were received. Urgent applications will continue to be prioritized.

The Citizenship webpages and forms have been updated to reflect the changes under the new legislation.

Thank you for your understanding and continued collaboration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact IRCC.CITOperations-OperationsCIT.IRCC@cic.gc.ca

C-3 Q&As.pdf

<https://gcdocs2.ci.gc.ca/otcs/cs.exe/link/620734393>

Bonjour chers collègues,

Le projet de loi C-3, *Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté* (2025), est entré en vigueur aujourd'hui, le 15 décembre 2025 ([Modification des règles relatives à la citoyenneté en 2025 - Canada.ca](#)).

Cela signifie que les personnes nées à l'extérieur du Canada avant aujourd'hui, le 15 décembre 2025, et qui étaient auparavant touchées par la limite à la première génération (LPG) à la citoyenneté par filiation, sont automatiquement citoyennes canadiennes en vertu de la loi.

Les personnes nées à l'extérieur du Canada dans la deuxième génération ou les générations suivantes, à compter d'aujourd'hui, sont citoyennes si leur parent canadien a passé au moins 1 095 jours cumulatifs au Canada avant leur date de naissance.

Les personnes peuvent demander une preuve de citoyenneté pour confirmer leur statut de citoyen ([Obtenir une preuve de citoyenneté canadienne - Canada.ca](#)).

IRCC évaluera leur demande de citoyenneté en fonction de leur demande et des informations fournies.

Le nouveau cadre législatif s'applique également aux personnes nées à l'extérieur du Canada et adoptées.

De plus, maintenant que la nouvelle loi est en vigueur, la mesure provisoire pour les demandes de citoyenneté touchées par la LPG **n'est plus en vigueur**.

Les demandes reçues dans le cadre de la mesure provisoire seront traitées en vertu de la nouvelle législation, dans l'ordre où elles ont été reçues. Les demandes urgentes continueront d'être traitées en priorité.

Les pages Web et les formulaires relatifs à la citoyenneté ont été mis à jour afin de refléter les changements apportés par la nouvelle législation.

Nous vous remercions de votre compréhension et de votre collaboration continue. Si vous avez des questions, n'hésitez pas à communiquer avec nous à l'adresse courriel suivante : IRCC.CITOperations-OperationsCIT.IRCC@cic.gc.ca.

Projet de loi C-3 - FAQ.pdf

<https://gcdocs2.ci.gc.ca/otcs/cs.exe/link/620748595>

Foire aux questions

Changements à la citoyenneté par filiation 2025

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5. [Adoptions](#)
6. [Services de passeports](#)
7. [Décision Bjorkquist](#)

Projet de loi C-3 – Nouvelle législation (2025)

1.1 Que prévoit le projet de loi C-3?

Le projet de loi C-3 a établi un nouveau cadre pour la citoyenneté par filiation pour les personnes nées ou adoptées à l'étranger à compter du 15 décembre 2025. Les enfants nés à compter du 15 décembre 2025 d'un parent canadien également né à l'étranger deviendront automatiquement citoyen canadien si leur parent a un lien substantiel avec le Canada. L'accès à l'attribution directe de la citoyenneté est prévu pour les enfants nés à l'étranger et adoptés, au-delà de la première génération, pourvu que leur parent ait un lien substantiel avec le Canada.

Pour les personnes nées avant le 15 décembre 2025, les modifications rétablissent rétroactivement la citoyenneté aux «Canadiens perdus», de leurs descendants et des personnes touchées par la limite à la première génération (LPG). L'accès à l'attribution directe de la citoyenneté est prévu pour les enfants nés à l'étranger et adoptés.

1.2 Les personnes qui ont obtenu la citoyenneté en vertu de la nouvelle législation ou qui se sont vues attribuer la citoyenneté avant le 15 décembre 2025 sont-elles citoyennes par effet de la loi? Comment ces personnes seront-elles informées de cette conversion?

Les personnes qui se voient restaurer ou attribuer la citoyenneté le 15 décembre 2025 et qui avaient obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution avant cette date seront reconnues citoyen par effet de la loi. Cela inclut les personnes précédemment touchées par la limite à la première génération qui ont obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution en vertu de la mesure provisoire.

Cela signifie que les citoyens naturalisés qui bénéficient de la nouvelle législation seront reconnus comme citoyen par effet de la loi plutôt que par naturalisation. La date d'entrée en vigueur de leur citoyenneté sera modifiée rétroactivement à leur date de naissance ou à la date de perte de leur

citoyenneté, ce qui correspond aux modifications précédentes incluses dans les amendements législatifs de 2009 et 2015.

Ainsi, la législation garantit que les personnes ne seront pas décrites sous plusieurs catégories en vertu de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté* et permet aux personnes d'être reconnues comme citoyens rétroactivement à compter de leur date de naissance ou leur date de perte de citoyenneté.

Les descendants de citoyens convertis par filiation sont également automatiquement citoyens s'ils sont nés avant l'entrée en vigueur de la nouvelle législation même s'ils appartiennent à la deuxième génération ou à une génération ultérieure. Cela permet d'éviter de créer de nouvelles cohortes de «Canadiens perdus». L'exigence d'un lien substantiel ne s'applique qu'aux parents d'enfants nés (ou adoptés) après l'entrée en vigueur de la nouvelle législation. Cette information est communiquée de manière proactive au public pour garantir que les parents disposent des informations nécessaires pour prendre une décision éclairée pour leur famille.

Mesure provisoire (Demandes soumises avant le 15 décembre 2025)

2.1 Les personnes qui ont obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution discrétionnaire, en vertu de la mesure provisoire devront-elles voir leur citoyenneté convertie pour se conformer aux nouvelles règles relatives à la citoyenneté par filiation?

Le 15 décembre 2025, à l'entrée en vigueur du projet de loi C-3, les personnes précédemment touchées par la limite à la première génération qui ont obtenu la citoyenneté deviendront automatiquement citoyens canadiens par effet de la loi. En ce qui concerne les demandes d'adoption, ils continueront d'être reconnus comme citoyens canadiens à compter de la date de leur attribution.

2.2 Les certificats émis en vertu de la mesure provisoire devront-ils être remplacés après l'entrée en vigueur du projet de loi C-3?

Les personnes qui ont reçu leur certificat de citoyenneté par attribution n'auront pas besoin d'un certificat de remplacement avec la nouvelle date d'entrée en vigueur de leur citoyenneté rétroactive à leur date de naissance ou de perte.

2.3 Qu'advient-il des demandes en cours soumises en vertu de la mesure provisoire, le 15 décembre 2025?

Toutes les demandes de preuves ou d'adoption «en cours» de traitement touchées par la limite à la première génération seront traitées conformément à la nouvelle législation dès son entrée en vigueur, quel que soit l'étape d'évaluation auquel elles se trouvent. Même si le demandeur a choisi la décision d'être pris en considération pour une attribution discrétionnaire de la citoyenneté en vertu de l'article 5(4), le traitement de la demande sera interrompu dès l'entrée en vigueur du projet

de loi C-3 et le traitement de la demande initiale de preuve ou d'adoption reprendra, car la demande reste « ouverte » jusqu'à ce que la décision d'attribution discrétionnaire en vertu de l'article 5(4) soit prise.

Les demandeurs n'auront aucune démarche à effectuer, car ils seront reconnus citoyens canadiens par fonction automatique de la loi de leur date de naissance ou leur date de perte et ne pourront pas être attribué leur citoyenneté. En ce qui concerne les adoptions, ils seront reconnus comme citoyens canadiens par effet automatique de la loi rétroactif à leur date de naissance ou de perte et ne pourront donc pas se voir attribuer la citoyenneté. L'ordre de traitement des demandes initiales, selon le principe du premier arrivé, premier servi, sera respecté, à l'exception des demandes urgentes, c'est-à-dire que les personnes qui sont admissibles (ou qui étaient déjà admissibles à un traitement urgent) seront prioritaires.

2.4 Est-ce que ces demandes seront placées au début de la file d'attente le 15 décembre 2025?

Non. Les personnes dont la demande est en cours de traitement en vertu de la mesure provisoire au moment de l'entrée en vigueur de la nouvelle législation conserveront leur ordre de traitement et leur priorité.

2.5 Jusqu'à quand remonte la nouvelle législation? les personnes nées avant 1947 et leurs descendants pourront-ils obtenir la citoyenneté par filiation s'ils sont nés après la première génération?

La plupart des personnes nées avant l'entrée en vigueur d'un parent ou d'un grand-parent canadien deviendront automatiquement citoyens canadiens par effet de la loi lorsque le projet de loi C-3 entrera en vigueur.

Toute personne née à l'étranger avant la date d'entrée en vigueur du projet de loi C-3, d'un parent qui est devenu citoyen canadien le 1^{er} janvier 1947 ou le 1^{er} avril 1949 (à Terre-Neuve) ou qui seraient devenu citoyen canadien à ces dates en vertu de cette loi sera reconnu citoyen canadien par filiation. Cela inclut les personnes nées avant le 1^{er} janvier 1947.

Dans plusieurs de ces cas, la personne à qui la citoyenneté est conférée en vertu du projet de loi C-3 aurait eu un parent et/ou grand-parent qui a bénéficié des modifications apportées à la *Loi sur la citoyenneté* en 2009 et 2015 qui ont remédiés au problème des « Canadiens perdus ».

Comme c'est le cas actuellement, que l'évaluation doive remonter jusqu'à Loi concernant la naturalisation (1868) afin de déterminer si un ancêtre aurait été décrit comme un citoyen canadien au 1^{er} janvier 1947. Cela permettrait ensuite d'évaluer la demande de citoyenneté des générations suivantes.

Toutes demandes de citoyenneté par filiation doivent être accompagnées par des preuves justificatives appropriées.

Lien substantiel – Exigence de présence effective du parent

3.1 Pourquoi il y a une exigence de connexion substantive pour ceux qui sont nés le 15 décembre 2025 ou après dans la nouvelle loi?

Le projet de loi C-3 reconnaît que les règles qui limitent la citoyenneté par filiation à la première génération née à l'étranger pourrait exclure des individus qui ont une connexion véritable au Canada. Ceci peut engendrer des conséquences négatives pour des familles et peut influencer le choix des individus sur où ils voudront vivre, travailler, étudier et élever leurs enfants.

La nouvelle loi donne accès à la citoyenneté par filiation ou l'attribution de citoyenneté par adoption aux enfants de parents canadiens qui peuvent démontrer une connexion substantive au Canada à travers la présence physique de leur parent avant leur naissance ou adoption. Le cadre de la loi crée un équilibre entre la création de limites raisonnables à la citoyenneté par filiation pour l'avenir tout en préservant la valeur de la citoyenneté canadienne.

3.2 Pourquoi les 1 095 jours sont-ils cumulatifs et non consécutifs?

Les 1 095 jours de présence physique au Canada d'un parent canadien sont cumulatifs et non consécutifs, car nous reconnaissons que les Canadiens nés à l'étranger peuvent avoir établi un lien important avec le Canada et que ce lien peut continuer à être maintenu tout en poursuivant des opportunités à l'étranger.

Par exemple, un Canadien né à l'étranger peut passer une plus grande partie de son enfance au Canada ou choisir d'étudier au Canada. Il peut également accumuler du temps en rendant visite à sa famille au Canada et en prenant le temps de s'en occuper pendant une période de 20 ans, par exemple.

En rendant l'exigence de présence effective cumulative, cela offre plus de choix aux Canadiens nés à l'étranger et leur permet de prendre des décisions importantes pour leur famille avec souplesse.

3.3 Quand l'exigence de présence effective s'applique-t-elle?

L'exigence de présence effective s'applique aux demandeurs qui :

- sont nés le 15 décembre 2025 ou après cette date,
- sont nés ou ont été adoptés à l'étranger dans la deuxième génération ou les générations suivantes, et
- ne bénéficient pas de l'exception relative aux fonctionnaires de la Couronne.

3.4 Comment les personnes concernées pourront-elles démontrer l'existence d'un lien substantiel et quels documents seront considérés comme des preuves justificatives?

Le lien substantiel est défini comme la présence effective cumulative de 1095 jours au Canada du parent canadien avant la naissance ou l'adoption de son enfant à l'étranger.

Les demandeurs devront remplir et soumettre le formulaire Comment calculer la présence effective au Canada pour un parent canadien (CIT0555F) et joindre à leur demande de preuve de citoyenneté des preuves justificatives confirmant la présence effective du parent canadien au Canada. Ces preuves justificatives peuvent inclure : des bulletins de paie, des dossiers scolaires, des dossiers d'inscription, des déclarations de revenus, des contrats de location, des factures de services publics, des tampons d'entrée sur le passeport ou tout autre document pouvant aider à démontrer qu'ils se trouvaient au Canada.

Les agents évalueront l'ensemble des informations fournies et détermineront si elles sont satisfaisantes ou non.

3.5 Le parent canadien doit-il être citoyen pendant la période où il a séjourné au Canada pour que cela compte comme présence effective ?

Non, le temps passé au Canada par un parent canadien ne nécessite pas qu'il ait été citoyen pendant cette période. Par exemple, un client peut avoir séjourné au Canada en tant que résident permanent, étudiant titulaire d'un visa d'études, etc.

3.6 Les fonctionnaires de la Couronne employés à l'étranger sont-ils tenus de satisfaire au critère du lien substantiel?

La Loi sur la citoyenneté prévoit des exceptions à la Loi sur la citoyenneté pour les fonctionnaires de la Couronne qui, au moment de la naissance ou de l'adoption de leur enfant ou petit-enfant, sont employés à l'étranger par les Forces armées canadiennes, l'administration publique fédérale ou la fonction publique provinciale (à l'exception des membres du personnel recrutés sur place).

L'exception pour les enfants des fonctionnaires de la Couronne a été introduite en même temps que l'introduction de la Loi sur la citoyenneté en 2009, et l'exception a été étendue aux petits-enfants des fonctionnaires de la Couronne en 2015. Le projet de loi C-3 maintient ces exceptions. Les fonctionnaires de la Couronne ne sont pas tenus de démontrer leur présence effective au Canada et leurs enfants et petits-enfants seront automatiquement citoyens canadiens à la naissance ou auront accès à l'octroi direct de la citoyenneté pour les personnes nées à l'étranger et adoptées par des citoyens canadiens.

Renonciation simplifiée

4.1 Qui peut bénéficier de la renonciation simplifiée en vertu de la nouvelle législation et de la nouvelle réglementation?

Les personnes nées avant l'entrée en vigueur de la nouvelle législation qui acquièrent automatiquement la citoyenneté de manière rétroactive en vertu de l'EEV de la nouvelle législation, et qui n'ont pas déjà obtenu la citoyenneté, pourront bénéficier du processus de renonciation simplifié existant si elles le souhaitent.

Par exemple, une personne qui est déjà citoyenne d'un pays qui n'autorise pas la double nationalité peut ne pas souhaiter conserver la citoyenneté canadienne qui lui a été accordée le 15 décembre 2025. Pour résoudre ce problème, elle peut recourir à la renonciation simplifiée.

La procédure de renonciation normale reste accessible à toutes les personnes éligibles qui souhaitent renoncer à leur citoyenneté.

4.2 Les mineurs peuvent-ils bénéficier de la renonciation simplifiée en vertu de la nouvelle législation et réglementation?

Oui, les mineurs peuvent bénéficier de la renonciation simplifiée. Les mineurs âgés de 14 ans et plus doivent contresigner la demande. Les demandes faites au nom de mineurs doivent être signées par les parents de l'enfant, sauf si des preuves sont présentées pour démontrer que cela est impossible ou irréalisable.

Adoptions

5.1 Pourquoi les Canadiens adoptés à l'étranger devront-ils satisfaire à l'exigence d'un lien substantiel pour pouvoir transmettre leur citoyenneté?

L'intention et la structure de la Loi sur la citoyenneté ont toujours été, et restent, de garantir que les enfants adoptés à l'étranger par des Canadiens et les enfants nés à l'étranger de parents canadiens soient traités de la manière la plus similaire possible.

Étant donné que les citoyens adoptés à l'étranger sont traités de la même manière que les citoyens par filiation nés à l'étranger, cela signifie qu'à compter du 15 décembre 2025, ils devront eux aussi satisfaire à l'exigence d'un lien substantiel afin de pouvoir transmettre leur citoyenneté à leur enfant né ou adopté à l'étranger.

Services des passeports

6.1 Que se passe-t-il si une personne née dans la deuxième génération ou dans une génération ultérieure à compter du 15 décembre 2025 demande un passeport à validité limitée? Est-elle considérée comme citoyenne canadienne en vertu de ces changements ?

Toutes les personnes touchées par la limite de première génération nées après le 15 décembre 2025 ne seront pas citoyennes par filiation, à moins que leur parent canadien ne satisfasse à l'exigence de présence effective (exception pour les fonctionnaires de la Couronne).

Lorsqu'une personne demande une confirmation de statut, la mission doit suivre la même procédure :

- remplir le formulaire PPTC 445 et demander au parent du demandeur de le signer
- l'envoyer par courriel à la DONI

- envoyer les documents suivants à la DONI par courrier diplomatique selon la procédure normale :
 - demande originale (qui doit désormais inclure le formulaire CIT0555, Comment calculer la présence effective au Canada pour un parent canadien, et les pièces justificatives qui l'accompagnent)
 - formulaire de transmission
 - photos
 - preuve du paiement des frais
 - copies des pièces justificatives

Une fois que la DONI aura évalué les informations, elle répondra à la mission en communiquant les résultats du PPTC 445. Dans les cas où l'enfant est né avant le 15 décembre 2025, la DONI disposera des informations nécessaires pour procéder à la confirmation. Cependant, pour les enfants nés à partir du 15 décembre 2025, la présence effective des parents devra être évaluée dans le cadre de la demande de preuve. Cela signifie que la réponse concernant le processus de confirmation sera probablement peu concluante tant que la demande complète n'aura pas été évaluée.

Les missions doivent continuer à signaler si un traitement urgent est demandé et fournir une explication à l'appui de cette demande.

Décision Bjorkquist

7.1 En quoi les modifications législatives proposées dans le projet de loi C-3 diffèrent-elles de la déclaration Bjorkquist?

Si la déclaration Bjorkquist était entrée en vigueur, il n'y aurait eu aucune limite à la transmission de la citoyenneté par filiation pour de nombreuses personnes nées à l'étranger d'un parent citoyen canadien, indépendamment de leur génération ou de leur lien substantiel avec le Canada. Cependant, d'autres personnes qui n'étaient pas visées par la décision de la Cour auraient continué d'être soumises à la limite à la première génération (LPG).

Le projet de loi C-3 a instauré un nouveau cadre qui étend la citoyenneté par filiation au-delà de la première génération d'une manière inclusive et qui protège la valeur de la citoyenneté canadienne. La nouvelle loi permet l'accès à la citoyenneté par filiation au-delà de la première génération pour les personnes visées par la décision de la Cour, ainsi que pour celles qui ne sont pas visées par la décision de la Cour, mais qui auraient dû bénéficier de la citoyenneté canadienne. Il s'agit :

- des « Canadiens perdus » visés à l'article 8 et de leurs descendants ;
- les personnes nées à l'étranger et adoptées par un parent citoyen canadien au-delà de la première génération ; et
- un sous-ensemble de personnes nées à l'étranger avant le 1er avril 1949.

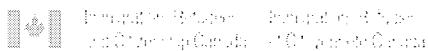
Le projet de loi C-3 permet également aux personnes qui ont automatiquement obtenu la citoyenneté à l'entrée en vigueur du projet de loi de renoncer à leur citoyenneté si elles ne souhaitent pas la conserver.

7.2 La déclaration Bjorkquist entrera-t-elle en vigueur le 20 janvier 2026 ?

Bien qu'une prolongation de la période d'invalidité de la déclaration de la Cour ait été accordée jusqu'au 20 janvier 2026, la déclaration n'aura aucun effet compte tenu de l'introduction de la législation corrective prévue par le projet de loi C-3 dès son entrée en vigueur (EEV). La déclaration Bjorkquist ne peut s'appliquer à la nouvelle législation, car celle-ci remplace la législation qui faisait l'objet du litige.

Jaglal, Chandradat (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him | il, lui)

From: CIT Operations / Operations CIT (IRCC)
Sent: December 12, 2025 3:42 PM
To: IRCC.F CIT List / Liste CIT F.IRCC; Hoang, Uyen (IRCC/IRCC); Marchand.Gregory-Adam
Cc: IRCC.F CIT All / Tous CIT F.IRCC; CIT Operations / Operations CIT (IRCC); IRCC.F CIT Assistant Directors / CIT Directeurs Adjointes F.IRCC; CIT DGO / BDG CIT (IRCC); HRM ECLA SOLUTIONS / SOLUTIONS ECAA GRH (IRCC); HIOB C&P SDO / BDP C&P DGOHI (IRCC); HIOB CIT CER Secretariat / Secretariat CER CIT DGOHI (IRCC); IOB Citizenship / Citoyenneté DGOI (IRCC); IOB Risk Assessment Unit / Unité Évaluation des Risques DGOI (IRCC); IEC NHQ / AC EIC (IRCC); Scott, Catherine (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Hunsperger, Judith (IRCC/IRCC); OPP Citizenship Stats / Stats Citoyenneté PRO (IRCC); Agnew, Jennifer (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); IRCC.F COMM Events / Événements COMM F.IRCC; Eastern Regional Comms / Comms Régionales de l'est (IRCC); IRCC.F COMM Ontario Regional Office / Bureau Régional de l'Ontario COMM F.IRCC; Begin, Nicolas (IRCC/IRCC); CIT Operations / Operations CIT (IRCC)
Subject: Coming into force of Bill C-3, An Act to Amend the Citizenship Act| Entrée en vigueur du projet de loi C-3, Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté
Importance: High



Citizenship Program Bulletin	Bulletin du programme de la citoyenneté
Contact / Contactez Cit Operations / Opérations Cit	
Coming into force of Bill C-3, An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025) Topics covered in this message: - Coming into force of Bill C-3 - Expiry of the interim measure for citizenship applications affected by the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent - Transitional guidance and instructions Coming into force of Bill C-3 Bill C-3, <i>An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)</i>, will be coming into force (CIF) on December 15, 2025.	Entrée en vigueur du projet de loi C-3, Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté Sujets abordés dans ce message : - Entrée en vigueur du projet de loi C-3 - Fin de la mesure provisoire pour les demandes de citoyenneté touchées par la limite à la première génération à la citoyenneté par filiation - Orientation et directives relatives à la transition Entrée en vigueur du projet de loi C-3 Le projet de loi C-3, <i>Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté (2025)</i>, entrera en

Supporting changes to the Regulations and Regulations No. 2 also come into force on that date.

Bill C-3 makes several important changes to the Act, including:

1. The first-generation limit (FGL) to citizenship by descent will cease to apply to those born or adopted abroad before December 15, 2025.
2. The FGL will continue to apply to those born or adopted abroad on or after December 15, 2025.
3. Those born abroad on or after December 15, 2025, in the second or subsequent generations are automatically Canadian citizens if their Canadian parent spent at least 1,095 days in Canada prior to their birth.
4. Those adopted abroad on or after December 15, 2025, who are in the second or subsequent generations, are eligible to apply for the 5.1 direct grant of citizenship if their Canadian parent spent at least 1,095 days in Canada prior to the adoption.
5. Certain people who previously lost citizenship due to repealed provisions of the *Citizenship Act* will have their citizenship restored (i.e., section 8 Lost Canadians).
6. Simplified renunciations will be available to those born before December 15, 2025, who automatically become citizens as a result of these changes (except those who were previously granted citizenship) but do not wish to keep it.

vigueur le 15 décembre 2025. Les modifications à l'appui du *Règlement* et du *Règlement n° 2* entrent également en vigueur à cette date.

Le projet de loi C-3 apporte plusieurs modifications importantes à la *Loi*, notamment :

1. La limite à la première génération à la citoyenneté par filiation cessera de s'appliquer aux personnes nées ou adoptées à l'étranger avant le 15 décembre 2025.
2. La limite à la première génération continuera de s'appliquer aux personnes nées ou adoptées à l'étranger le 15 décembre 2025 ou après cette date.
3. Les personnes nées à l'étranger le 15 décembre 2025 ou après cette date de la deuxième génération ou d'une génération subséquente sont automatiquement des citoyens canadiens si leur parent canadien a passé au moins 1 095 jours au Canada avant leur naissance.
4. Les personnes adoptées à l'étranger le 15 décembre 2025 ou après cette date, qui font partie de la deuxième génération ou d'une génération subséquente, peuvent présenter une demande d'attribution directe de la citoyenneté au titre de l'article 5.1 si leur parent canadien a passé au moins 1 095 jours au Canada avant l'adoption.
5. Certaines personnes qui ont déjà été dépossédées de leur citoyenneté en raison de dispositions abrogées de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté* verront leur citoyenneté rétablie (c.-à-d. l'article 8, Canadiens dépossédés de leur citoyenneté).

Expiry of the interim measure for citizenship applications affected by the first-generation limit

IRCC implemented an interim measure to address proof of citizenship and adoption applications in response to the Ontario Superior Court of Justice declaration that the FGL was generally unconstitutional.

As remedial legislation is now coming into force with Bill C-3, the [interim measure for citizenship applications affected by the first-generation limit](#) will **no longer be in effect** as of December 15, 2025.

Open FGL impacted citizenship applications will be processed under the new legal framework. A detailed workload management strategy for applications currently in interim measure processing is available here: [Bill C-3 Workload Management Strategy](#).

Transitional guidance and instructions

To assist with transitioning to the new legal framework, a [Transition Guide for Bill C-3](#) has been developed, which

- summarizes key operational changes
- details changes to application forms and guides
- provides guidance and interim instructions
- links to advanced copies of new and updated program delivery instructions (PDIs) with C-3 related changes.

The relevant PDIs will be posted on Connexion as soon as possible after CIF.

6. Les personnes nées avant le 15 décembre 2025, qui obtiennent automatiquement la citoyenneté à la suite de ces changements (sauf celles qui ont obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution auparavant), mais qui ne souhaitent pas la conserver, pourront répudier la citoyenneté de façon simplifiée.

Fin de la mesure provisoire pour les demandes de citoyenneté touchées par la limite à la première génération

IRCC a mis en œuvre une mesure provisoire pour traiter les demandes de preuve de citoyenneté et d'adoption en réponse à la déclaration de la Cour supérieure de justice de l'Ontario selon laquelle la limite à la première génération était généralement inconstitutionnelle.

Étant donné que la loi réparatrice entre maintenant en vigueur avec le projet de loi C-3, la [mesure provisoire pour les demandes de citoyenneté touchées par la limite à la première génération](#) **ne sera plus en vigueur** à compter du 15 décembre 2025.

Les demandes de citoyenneté ouvertes touchées par la limite à la première génération seront traitées en vertu du nouveau cadre législatif. Une stratégie détaillée sur la gestion de la charge de travail pour les demandes qui font actuellement l'objet d'une mesure provisoire est disponible ici : [Projet de loi C-3 – Stratégie de gestion de la charge de travail](#).

Orientation et directives relatives à la transition

Pour faciliter la transition vers le nouveau cadre législatif, un [Guide de transition](#) dans le cadre du projet de loi C-3 a été élaboré, celui-ci :

Please contact CIT Operations /
Opérations CIT (IRCC) for all your
functional guidance questions.

Reminder that a repository of all
program bulletins can be found here.

Thank you for your continued
cooperation.

- résume les principaux changements opérationnels
- présente en détail les modifications apportées aux formulaires de demande et aux guides
- donne une orientation et des directives provisoires
- fournit des liens vers des copies préalables des Instructions sur l'exécution de programmes (IEP) nouvelles et mises à jour avec les modifications liées au projet de loi C-3.

Les IEP pertinentes seront affichées sur Connexion dès que possible après l'entrée en vigueur.

Veuillez contacter CIT Operations /
Opérations CIT (IRCC) pour vos questions
fonctionnelles.

Nous tenons à vous rappeler que tous les
bulletins du programme se retrouvent
sous ce répertoire.

Merci de votre collaboration soutenue.

*Orientation du programme, Direction Générale de la citoyenneté
Program Guidance, Citizenship Branch*

Jaglal, Chandradat (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him | il, lui)

From: CIT Operations / Operations CIT (IRCC)
Sent: December 16, 2025 1:55 PM
To: IRCC.F CIT List / Liste CIT F.IRCC; Hoang, Uyen (IRCC/IRCC)
Cc: IRCC.F CIT All / Tous CIT F.IRCC; CIT Operations / Operations CIT (IRCC); IRCC.F CIT Assistant Directors / CIT Directeurs Adjointes F.IRCC; CIT DGO / BDG CIT (IRCC); HRM ECLA SOLUTIONS / SOLUTIONS ECAA GRH (IRCC); HIOB C&P SDO / BDP C&P DGOHI (IRCC); HIOB CIT CER Secretariat / Secretariat CER CIT DGOHI (IRCC); IOB Citizenship / Citoyenneté DGOI (IRCC); IOB Risk Assessment Unit / Unité Évaluation des Risques DGOI (IRCC); IEC NHQ / AC EIC (IRCC); Scott, Catherine (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Hunsperger, Judith (IRCC/IRCC); OPP Citizenship Stats / Stats Citoyenneté PRO (IRCC); Agnew, Jennifer (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); IRCC.F COMM Events / Événements COMM F.IRCC; Eastern Regional Comms / Comms Régionales de l'est (IRCC); IRCC.F COMM Ontario Regional Office / Bureau Régional de l'Ontario COMM F.IRCC; WST-Communications@cic.gc.ca; CIT Operations / Operations CIT (IRCC); Begin, Nicolas (IRCC/IRCC)
Subject: Grant Applicants Affected by Bill-C3 | Demandes d'attribution affectées par le projet de loi C-3
Importance: High



Citizenship Program Bulletin / Bulletin du programme de la citoyenneté	
Contact / Contactez Cit Operations / Opérations Cit	
Grant Applicants Affected by Bill-C3 Effective December 15, 2025, some clients who have an open application for a grant of citizenship will become automatic citizens by law as a result of the coming into force of Bill C-3, <i>An Act to Amend the Citizenship Act</i> . A client who is a Canadian citizen by operation of law cannot be granted citizenship through naturalization. To mitigate the risk of this occurrence, decision-makers must take a 'second look' before granting applications that	Demandes d'attribution affectées par le projet de loi C-3 À partir du 15 décembre 2025, certains clients qui ont une demande d'attribution ouverte deviendront automatiquement citoyens par l'effet de la loi à la suite de l'entrée en vigueur du projet de loi C-3 : <i>Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté</i> . Un client qui est canadien par l'effet de la loi ne peut se voir attribuer la citoyenneté à travers le processus de naturalisation. Pour atténuer le risque que cela se produise, les décideurs doivent examiner de plus près les demandes d'attributions déposées avant le 15 décembre 2025.

were submitted prior December 15, 2025.

Prior to granting, decision-makers must verify the following:

Non-concurrent minors only:

- Whether the client respond yes to question 7f on application form CIT0003.

All applicants:

- Whether the client has a previous application for proof of citizenship that was refused based on the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent.
- Any other indication that the applicant may be a Canadian citizen by operation of law as of December 15, 2025.

Should decision-makers encounter any applications that they believe may be impacted, they should place the application on hold and contact CIT Operations / Opérations CIT (IRCC) for next steps.

Reminder that a repository of all program bulletins can be found here.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Avant l'attribution, les décideurs, doivent vérifier ce qui suit :

Demandes de mineurs non-simultanées :

- Si le client a répondu oui à la question 7f du formulaire de demande CIT0003.

Tous les demandeurs :

- Si le client a eu une demande antérieure de preuve de citoyenneté refusée en raison de la limite à la première génération pour la citoyenneté par filiation.
- Tout autre indication que le demandeur pourrait être un citoyen canadien par l'effet de la loi à compter du 15 décembre 2025.

Veuillez contacter CIT Operations / Opérations CIT (IRCC) pour vos questions fonctionnelles.

Nous tenons à vous rappeler que tous les bulletins du programme se retrouvent sous ce répertoire.

Merci de votre collaboration soutenue.

Orientation du programme, Direction Générale de la citoyenneté
Program Guidance, Citizenship Branch

Jaglal, Chandradat (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him | il, lui)

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Sent: November 21, 2025 3:28 PM
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Subject: Important Updates on Changes to the Citizenship Act Related to the First-Generation Limit / Mises à jour importantes concernant les modifications apportées à la Loi sur la citoyenneté relatives à la limite à la première génération

Le français suit

Hello colleagues,

You may recall that on December 19, 2023, the Ontario Superior Court of Justice declared that the first-generation limit (FGL) to citizenship by descent is generally unconstitutional. The Court's decision includes a period of invalidity of the declaration which is set to expire on January 20, 2026. To address the Court's decision and while remedial legislation passes through the Parliamentary process, IRCC implemented an interim measure to address proof of citizenship and adoption applications affected by the FGL during the period of invalidity. **We are pleased to inform you that on**

November 20, 2025, Bill C-3, *An Act to Amend the Citizenship Act (2025)*, achieved Royal Assent and we are currently targeting a coming into force (CIF) of December 15, 2025.

Until CIF of Bill C-3, the current rules governing the FGL and the interim measure remain in effect.

When C-3 comes into force, the interim measure will no longer be in effect and all FGL impacted citizenship applications will be processed under the new legal framework.

Below is a summary of the changes that Bill C-3 will introduce:

1. The FGL will cease to apply to those born or adopted abroad before CIF.
2. Those born or adopted abroad on or after CIF, in the second or subsequent generations will need to demonstrate that their Canadian parent spent at least 1,095 days in Canada prior to their birth or adoption in order to derive Canadian citizenship.
3. Certain people who previously lost citizenship due to repealed provisions of the *Citizenship Act* will have their citizenship restored (i.e., section 8 Lost Canadians).
4. Simplified renunciations will be available to those who automatically become citizens as a result of these changes (except those who were previously granted citizenship) but do not wish to keep it.

Thank you for your understanding and continued collaboration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact

Bonjour chers collègues,

Vous vous souvenez peut-être que le 19 décembre 2023, la Cour supérieure de justice de l'Ontario a déclaré que la limite à la première génération (LPG) à la citoyenneté par filiation était généralement inconstitutionnelle. La décision de la Cour prévoit une période d'invalidité de la déclaration qui expirera le 20 janvier 2026. Afin de donner suite à la décision de la Cour et pendant que la législation corrective suit son cours au Parlement, IRCC a mis en place une mesure provisoire pour traiter les demandes de preuve de citoyenneté et d'adoption touchées par la limite à la première génération pendant la période d'invalidité. **Nous sommes heureux de vous informer que le 20 novembre 2025, le projet de loi C-3, Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté (2025), a reçu la sanction royale et que nous prévoyons actuellement son entrée en vigueur le 15 décembre 2025.**

Jusqu'à l'entrée en vigueur du projet de loi C-3, les règles actuelles régissant la LPG et la mesure provisoire restent en vigueur.

Lorsque le projet de loi C-3 entrera en vigueur, la mesure provisoire ne sera plus applicable et toutes les demandes de citoyenneté touchées par la LPG seront traitées dans le cadre du nouveau cadre juridique.

Vous trouverez ci-dessous un résumé des changements que le projet de loi C-3 introduira :

1. La LPG cessera de s'appliquer aux personnes nées ou adoptées à l'étranger avant la date d'entrée en vigueur.
2. Les personnes nées ou adoptées à l'étranger à compter de la date d'entrée en vigueur de la Loi, qui appartiennent à la deuxième génération ou à une génération ultérieure, devront démontrer que leur parent canadien a passé au moins 1 095 jours au Canada avant leur naissance ou leur adoption afin d'obtenir la citoyenneté canadienne.
3. Certaines personnes qui avaient perdu leur citoyenneté en raison de dispositions abrogées de la Loi sur la citoyenneté verront leur citoyenneté rétablie (c'est-à-dire les Canadiens perdus visés à l'article 8).

s.16(2)(c)

4. Une procédure simplifiée de renonciation sera offerte aux personnes qui obtiennent automatiquement la citoyenneté à la suite de ces changements (à l'exception de celles qui ont déjà obtenu la citoyenneté), mais qui ne souhaitent pas la conserver.

Nous vous remercions de votre compréhension et de votre collaboration continue. Si vous avez des questions, n'hésitez pas à communiquer avec .

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Interim measure for citizenship applications affected by the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent

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- [March 9, 2026](#) – Citizenship: Knowledge and language assessment

Note: This interim measure expired on December 15, 2025. All applications received under the interim measure are to be processed as per the legislative changes to the *Citizenship Act* implemented with Bill C-3.

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Overview

The first-generation limit (FGL) to citizenship by descent requirements of the Citizenship Act are changing. The FGL generally limits citizenship by descent to persons who are born to or adopted by a Canadian parent abroad in the first generation (with some exceptions for children born outside Canada to Crown servants). Until the changes take effect, the current FGL rules remain in force.

On December 19, 2023, the Ontario Superior Court of Justice found that paragraphs 3(3)(a) and 3(3)(b) of the Citizenship Act are unconstitutional. The Court's declaration was suspended until further notice. The Court's decision did not address all cohorts of individuals impacted by the FGL, including the following:

- those adopted abroad by Canadian citizens
- individuals who ceased to be citizens under the former section 8 of the Citizenship Act

- a subset of individuals born before January 1, 1947, or April 1, 1949, (Newfoundland and Labrador) where only 1 of the parents was a citizen described in paragraphs 3(1)(o), (p), (q) or (r) on those dates
- certain individuals whose parents are deceased

Until the changes take effect, the current rules remain in force for all impacted applicants and this procedure is to be followed.

The following interim measure has been implemented to address proof of citizenship and adoption applications that are impacted by the FGL.

Scenario 1: The applicant submits a citizenship application that is subject to the FGL and was born or adopted **before** December 19, 2023.

Scenario 2: The applicant submits a citizenship application that is subject to the FGL and was born or adopted **on or after** December 19, 2023.

Scenario 3: The applicant has submitted or is submitting a citizenship application that is subject to the FGL and requests urgent processing based on the urgent processing criteria.

The Digitization and Identity Operations Division (DIOD) at IRCC will apply the following triage criteria:

1. For applicants born **before** December 19, 2023, the applicant will be sent a letter providing the option to be considered for a discretionary grant of citizenship under subsection 5(4). Once the subsection 5(4) application is created, it will be referred to the senior citizenship decision maker for regular processing, as outlined in this procedure.
2. For applicants born **on or after** December 19, 2023, the applicant will be sent a letter providing the option to be considered for a discretionary grant of citizenship under subsection 5(4) and requesting submissions on their Canadian parent's (or parent who would be entitled to Canadian citizenship if not for the FGL) substantial connection to Canada. Substantial connection is defined as the parent having accrued 1,095 days (cumulative) of physical presence in Canada prior to the birth or adoption of their child (the applicant). The subsection 5(4) application will be created, and if substantial connection is established, the application will be referred to the senior citizenship decision maker for priority processing. Where substantial connection is not established, the application will be created and referred to the senior citizenship decision maker for regular processing, as outlined in this procedure.
3. Applicants with urgent processing needs, regardless of date of birth, may request and may be eligible for urgent processing priority as determined by DIOD.

Once the proof of citizenship or adoption application is received at DIOD, it will be processed in the order of receipt. DIOD will provide the applicant with a letter that includes all of the following:

- a notice that the FGL is still in force

- the option to request a discretionary grant of citizenship under subsection 5(4) of the Citizenship Act and the relevant instructions to request the grant
- the option to demonstrate if at least 1 of their parents who is a Canadian citizen (or would be entitled to Canadian citizenship if not for the FGL) has a substantial connection to Canada, if the applicant was born on or after December 19, 2023
 - This would allow the applicant to benefit from priority processing

In the letter, DIOD will advise the applicant to provide additional documentation to support consideration for a discretionary grant of citizenship under subsection 5(4) and to pay the right of citizenship fee, if applicable. Once that is done, DIOD will create the application for subsection 5(4) consideration, triage the application accordingly and refer the application to the Minister or a delegated decision maker who will assess the subsection 5(4) application.

Assessment of the subsection 5(4) application

- If the subsection 5(4) application is approved, the applicant will be granted citizenship
- If the subsection 5(4) application is not approved, the applicant will not be granted citizenship
- If the applicant does not respond to the initial offer to be considered under subsection 5(4) or if the applicant refuses the offer, a second letter will be sent
 - If the applicant does not respond to or refuses the second offer, a decision will be made by DIOD on their proof of citizenship or adoption application in accordance with the Citizenship Act

Eligibility

Limits to citizenship by descent under the Citizenship Act

Since April 17, 2009, Canadian citizenship by birth outside Canada to a Canadian parent (citizenship by descent) is limited to the first generation.

The first-generation limit (FGL) means that, in general, a person is not Canadian and does not have access to the direct grant of citizenship for adopted persons under section 5.1 of the Citizenship Act if they were not already a Canadian citizen by April 17, 2009, and were born outside Canada to a Canadian parent or adopted by a Canadian parent, and 1 of the following is true:

- their Canadian parent was also born outside Canada to a Canadian parent (the person is therefore the second or subsequent generation born outside Canada)
- their Canadian parent was granted citizenship under section 5.1, the adoption provisions of the Citizenship Act (the person is therefore the second generation born outside Canada)

The FGL did not take Canadian citizenship away from anyone who was a Canadian citizen before the rules came into effect on April 17, 2009.

Exceptions to the first-generation limit (FGL)

The FGL does not apply to a person born outside Canada in the second or subsequent generation if 1 of the following is true:

- at the time of the person's birth or adoption, their Canadian **parent** was employed outside Canada in or with the Canadian Armed Forces, the federal public administration or the public service of a province or territory (a Crown servant), other than as a locally engaged person
- at the time of their Canadian parent's birth or adoption, the person's Canadian **grandparent** was employed outside Canada in or with the Canadian Armed Forces, the federal public administration or the public service of a province or territory (a Crown servant), other than as a locally engaged person

Clients who think the above exception may apply to them or their children can contact IRCC for further information via the [Web form](#) on the IRCC website.

Pathways to citizenship for persons not eligible for citizenship by descent

Persons who are not eligible for citizenship by descent or a direct citizenship grant for adopted persons under the Citizenship Act may use other pathways to citizenship:

- They may be eligible to be sponsored as permanent residents under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act
 - An application for a grant of citizenship under subsection 5(2) for a minor or a grant of citizenship under subsection 5(1) of the Citizenship Act may be submitted as soon as the person becomes eligible
- If stateless, they may be eligible for a grant of citizenship for stateless persons under subsection 5(5) of the Citizenship Act and may complete the [Application for Grant of Citizenship for Stateless Persons Born to a Canadian Parent \(Subsection 5\(5\)\)](#)
 - Additionally, for use in exceptional cases, the Citizenship Act provides the Minister with discretion to grant citizenship under subsection 5(4) to alleviate cases of statelessness
 - More information can be found on [Citizenship grants: Statelessness](#)

Substantial connection assessment

Citizenship applicants subject to the first-generation limit who are born or adopted on or after December 19, 2023, and who wish to be considered for a discretionary grant will be asked to demonstrate if at least 1 of their parents who is a Canadian citizen (or would be entitled to Canadian citizenship if not for the FGL) has a substantial connection to Canada. Substantial connection is defined as the parent having accrued 1,095 days (cumulative) of physical presence in Canada prior to the birth or adoption of their child (the applicant).

The substantial connection assessment will be used for the sole purpose of determining priority processing offered to applicants whose Canadian parent (or parent who would be entitled to

Canadian citizenship if not for the FGL) has a substantial connection to Canada as outlined in these instructions.

Individuals born on or after December 19, 2023, whose Canadian parent (or parent who would be entitled to Canadian citizenship if not for the FGL) does not meet the substantial connection assessment will be offered consideration under subsection 5(4) but will not be eligible for priority processing.

Applicants who do not respond to the letter requesting information relating to their parent's substantial connection will be offered consideration under subsection 5(4) but will not be eligible for priority processing.

Only those who do not respond to or refuse the offer to be considered under subsection 5(4) will have their proof of citizenship or adoption application decided in accordance with the Citizenship Act.

Urgent processing

IRCC will continue to process proof of citizenship applications urgently in [special cases or situations](#). Applications for citizenship for persons adopted by Canadian citizens will continue to be processed on a priority basis.

IRCC will examine requests for urgent processing on a case-by-case basis to ensure the requests qualify for urgent processing. If the application does not qualify for urgent processing, the file will be annotated and the application will remain in regular processing. Applicants may re-apply for urgent processing should their circumstances change. Urgent processing is not guaranteed.

Offering consideration for a discretionary grant of citizenship under subsection 5(4) of the Citizenship Act

Once the subsection 5(4) application is received by the senior citizenship decision maker, applications will be processed in order of priority and then by the date they were received. The senior citizenship decision maker will assess the subsection 5(4) application and render a decision, or will contact the applicant if further information is required to complete the application for decision.

Information on subsection 5(4) of the Citizenship Act can be found at [Citizenship: Ministerial discretion to grant citizenship in special cases](#).

Applicants who do not respond to or do not wish to be considered for a discretionary grant of citizenship

If an applicant elects not to request consideration under subsection 5(4), or does not respond to the second notice from DIOD, their proof of citizenship or adoption application will be processed in accordance with the Citizenship Act.

Assessment of proof of citizenship applications subject to the FGL (available internally only)

Assessment and triage at the Digitization and Identity Operations Division (DIOD)

DIOD will

1. Assess proof applications and triage based on date of birth, case type and FGL eligibility.
2. Record FGL impacted files in the Global Case Management System (GCMS) with Org ID number O290382664462.

Urgent processing request (applies to any request, regardless of date of birth [DOB])

1. Assess urgent processing requests (if applicable) using the list of urgent circumstances as guidance. Aim to be as facilitative as possible.
2. Annotate the ineligibility for urgent processing in GCMS notes. The client's file will remain in first in, first out processing.
3. If the urgent processing request is deemed eligible for priority processing, annotate eligibility in GCMS notes.
4. Send the applicant the invitation to be considered for subsection 5(4). There is no requirement to ask for submissions on substantial connection in this case, as the application is already deemed priority due to urgent circumstances.
5. If the applicant responds with the information and documents required for subsection 5(4) consideration, create the subsection 5(4) application. Associate ORG ID O173469035978 on the 5(4) application.
6. If the applicant does not respond to or refuses the invitation, send the second notice invitation for subsection 5(4). If the applicant responds positively, create the file as outlined in step 5.
7. If the applicant does not respond to or refuses the second notice, annotate the file and render a decision on the proof of citizenship application in accordance with the Citizenship Act (applying the FGL).
8. Refer subsection 5(4) applications that have been approved for urgent processing to the senior citizenship decision maker.
9. If the application has already been referred to a senior citizenship decision maker, notify them of the urgent priority designation by sending an email to the appropriate senior citizenship decision maker mailbox.
10. Once the 5(4) application is ready to be granted/complete, process the request to withdraw the underlying application.

Applicants born before December 19, 2023

1. DIOD will send the applicant an invitation for subsection 5(4) consideration.
2. If the applicant responds with the information and documents required for subsection 5(4) consideration, create the subsection 5(4) application. Associate ORG ID O294463076672 on the 5(4) application.

3. If the applicant does not respond to or refuses the invitation, send the second notice invitation for subsection 5(4). If the applicant responds positively, create the file as outlined in step 2.
4. If the applicant does not respond to the second notice, annotate the file and render a decision on the proof of citizenship application in accordance with the Citizenship Act (applying the FGL).
5. Refer subsection 5(4) applications that have been created for regular processing to a senior citizenship decision maker.
6. Once the 5(4) application is ready to be granted/complete, process the request to withdraw the underlying application.

Applicants born on or after December 19, 2023

1. Send the applicant an invitation for subsection 5(4) consideration along with the “Calculating Substantial Connection to Canada” form.
2. If the applicant responds to the letter, assess the applicant’s submission on substantial connection. If the applicant’s Canadian parent has 1,095 days of physical presence in Canada (or more), then the substantial connection test is met. If the applicant’s Canadian citizen parent has less than 1,095 days of physical presence in Canada, then they did not demonstrate a substantial connection.
3. Substantial connection is assessed solely based on the submitted form. If the applicant has properly completed the form, demonstrated that the parent’s physical presence requirement has been met and signed to attest that the form is accurate and true, then the assessment can be based on this information. It is not necessary for the applicant to provide supporting documentation for the officer to assess. Aim to be as facilitative as possible.
4. Record the assessment on substantial connection in GCMS notes. Example wording:
 - Application has been reviewed for Canadian parent’s substantial connection to Canada and it is (choose 1 eligible/ineligible) for priority processing.
5. Create the 5(4) application, and if the substantial connection test is met, associate Org ID O173469036151 to the file. If the substantial connection test is not met, associate Org ID O177314660848.
6. If the applicant does not respond to or refuses the request for substantial connection or consideration under subsection 5(4), send a second request notice to the applicant using the template letter. If the applicant still does not respond or elects not to be considered under subsection 5(4), render a decision on the proof of citizenship application in accordance with the Citizenship Act (applying the FGL).
7. If the applicant provides the information and documents for subsection 5(4) consideration, convert the proof of citizenship application to a subsection 5(4) application. Record the created FGL subsection 5(4) file as outlined in step 5.

8. Forward the subsection 5(4) application to the senior citizenship decision maker for processing. Note: There is no requirement to inform the applicant of the outcome of the substantial connection assessment.
9. Once the 5(4) application is ready to be granted/complete, process the request to withdraw the underlying application.

Assessment of section 5.1 adoption applications subject to the FGL (available internally only)

Part 1: Assessment and triage at the Digitization and Identity Operations Division (DIOD)

DIOD will

1. Assess Part 1 of section 5.1 adoption applications and identify those that are affected by the FGL.
2. Record FGL impacted files in GCMS with Org ID number O290382664462.
3. If all eligibility criteria is met and the refusal ground for Part 1 would be solely due to the FGL, do not enter a refusal decision.
4. Instead of sending the Part 1 refusal letter, send the interim measure Part 1 FGL letter to the applicant. The letter will advise the applicant of the option to be considered for a discretionary grant through subsection 5(4). Send the Part 2 application and request completion of the “Calculating Substantial Connection to Canada” form if the applicant was adopted on or after December 19, 2023.
5. If the applicant responds to the letter, assess the applicant’s submission on substantial connection. If the applicant’s Canadian parent has 1,095 days of physical presence in Canada (or more), then the substantial connection test is met. If the applicant’s Canadian citizen parent has less than 1,095 days of physical presence in Canada, then they did not demonstrate a substantial connection.
6. Record the assessment on substantial connection in GCMS notes. Example wording: Application has been reviewed for Canadian parent’s substantial connection to Canada and it is (choose 1 eligible/ineligible) for priority processing.
7. If the applicant does not respond to or refuses the request for substantial connection or consideration under subsection 5(4), send a second request notice to the applicant using the template letter. If the applicant still does not respond or elects not to be considered under subsection 5(4), render a decision on the section 5.1 application in accordance with the Citizenship Act (applying the FGL).
8. If the applicant provides the information and documents for subsection 5(4) consideration, refer the section 5.1 application, which is subject to the first-generation limit, for Part 2 assessment without recording a refusal decision in GCMS.

Note: There is no requirement to inform the applicant of the outcome of the substantial connection assessment.

Part 2: Assessment of an FGL affected section 5.1 adoption application

The processing office will

1. Verify that the Part 1 adoption application is tagged with the Org ID O290382664462.
2. Assess Part 2 of section 5.1 adoption applications to ensure all application and adoption requirements are met (as usual).
3. If all requirements are met, annotate the decision in GCMS notes but do not grant the application, as the FGL restrictions identified in the Part 1 assessment must be addressed.
4. Proceed with subsection 5(4) consideration on the 5.1 application. Do not convert to another type of grant application. If the substantial connection test is met, associate the Org ID O173469036151 to the file. If the substantial connection test is not met, associate the Org ID O177314660848.
5. Forward the subsection 5(4) “application” to the senior citizenship decision maker for processing.

Assessment by the senior citizenship decision maker

The senior citizenship decision maker will

1. Receive the triaged subsection 5(4) applications and, in accordance with the triage assigned by DIOD (priority or regular), process the applications for a discretionary grant of citizenship under subsection 5(4).
2. If information or documentation is required, the senior citizenship decision maker will request the information directly from the applicant.

Criteria for subsection 5(4) consideration

A grant of citizenship under subsection 5(4) of the Citizenship Act is discretionary, and each case is considered on its own merit based on the following: to alleviate cases of special and unusual hardship, to alleviate cases of statelessness and/or to reward services of an exceptional value to Canada.

Considerations

The following are examples of circumstances that might warrant consideration on the basis of “special and unusual hardship”:

- The individual is not a permanent resident of Canada but is currently living in Canada (physically present) at the time of the application
- Whatever temporary status the individual has in Canada may have expired or will be expiring
- The individual has lived most of their life in Canada
- The individual had a reasonable but mistaken belief in their status as a Canadian citizen

The following information may be taken into consideration when someone is seeking a discretionary grant to alleviate statelessness. A person is considered stateless if that individual is not recognized as a citizen or national by any country or state under its domestic law.

While there may be challenges in obtaining proof of statelessness, the following are examples of documentation that may help demonstrate that the applicant is stateless:

- Documents from a relevant state authority (for example, the country of origin or country of former habitual residence) certifying that the individual concerned is not a national
- Evidence of correspondence with the relevant authorities of the country of origin or country of former habitual residence indicating their refusal to issue certified documents attesting that the person is a national
- If a state refuses to confirm that a person is a national, the refusal, in itself, is a form of evidence, as states would normally extend diplomatic protection to their citizens
- If documentation from the country of origin is unavailable, other evidence may be sufficient, such as reviews of relevant nationality laws and declarations made by witnesses and other third parties, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Indication from the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) that they are unable to obtain travel documents for the applicant from the applicant's country of origin or country of habitual residence
- Any other documentation that may be available to the applicant that can support their claim of being stateless

In cases where the individual has provided documentation that they are not recognized as a citizen or national by any country or state under its domestic law, the following are examples of circumstances that may warrant subsection 5(4) consideration on the basis of "statelessness":

- The individual is living in Canada (physically present) at the time of the application
- The individual has attempted to regularize their status in Canada (for example, explored other avenues for immigration or refugee protection and been unsuccessful)
- The individual has not voluntarily renounced their other citizenship
- The individual does not have a concurrent immigration application in process

Cases relating to services of exceptional value to Canada are also dealt with on a case-by-case basis, taking into account all the facts of the case.

A person must have valid criminal and security clearances in order to be granted citizenship under subsection 5(4). A person who has resided outside Canada for more than 6 months must also provide a valid police clearance certificate from the country where they resided.

Decision by the Minister

1. The senior citizenship decision maker drafts a memo to the Minister for decision. The memo should not include a recommendation as to whether to grant or refuse citizenship.
2. The Minister decides to grant or refuse citizenship.
3. The Minister's Office informs the senior citizenship decision maker of the decision and provides the reasons for the decision.
4. The senior citizenship decision maker notifies the applicant of the Minister's decision and closes the application in GCMS.
5. For applicants over the age of 14 who are granted citizenship, IRCC will send an invitation to take the oath of citizenship.

Request functional guidance (available internally only)

Officers requiring functional guidance on these interim measures should contact ircc.citoperations-operationscit.ircc@cic.gc.ca.

Date modified:

2026-01-09

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Jaglal, Chandradat (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him | il, lui)

From: CPD PALS / PPC PALS (IRCC)
Sent: November 12, 2025 3:08 PM
To: Robertson.Emilie; Poirier, Francine (IRCC/IRCC); CE Client Impact / Impact Client EC (IRCC); Agnew, Jennifer (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Anglinova, Olga (IRCC/IRCC); Armstrong-Connors, Melissa (IRCC/IRCC); Baldwin.Jillian; Bargiel, Jean-Sebastien (IRCC/IRCC); Bastien, Cristina (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Beaulieu, Anne-Marie (IRCC/IRCC); Bernard, Allison (IRCC/IRCC); Bissessar, Carlton (IRCC/IRCC); Brideau, Celine (IRCC/IRCC); Arthur, Michael (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him | il, lui); Chochinov, Michael (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him | il, lui); Cutts, Carolyne (IRCC/IRCC); Deschamps, Gabrielle (IRCC/IRCC); Dewan, Jody (IRCC/IRCC); Fang, Crystal (IRCC/IRCC); Bird, Sharon (IRCC/IRCC); Grenier, Amelie (IRCC/IRCC); Hayles, Andrea (IRCC/IRCC); Hunsperger, Judith (IRCC/IRCC); Jacques, Sophie (IRCC/IRCC); Johnson, Karen (IRCC/IRCC); Leith, Gayle (IRCC/IRCC); Magne, Carrie (IRCC/IRCC); Marsh, Miriam (IRCC/IRCC); Milord, Patrice (IRCC/IRCC); Niasse, Mamadou (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him, his | il, le, lui); Noiles, Bailey (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Petschulat.Courtney; Rao, Jianhua (IRCC/IRCC); Rustandjaja, Nadya (IRCC/IRCC); Stenzler, Jordan (IRCC/IRCC); Tsai, Tracy (IRCC/IRCC); Vlachos, Georgia (IRCC/IRCC); Zeggane, Lydia (IRCC/IRCC); Marchand.Gregory-Adam; Ferris, Joey (IRCC/IRCC); Rana, Ruby (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Riebertz, Lorri (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her, hers | elle, la, lui); Leir-Taha, Clarissa (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Aitkens, Blaine (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him | il, lui); Bendadda, Ouafae (IRCC/IRCC); Asch, Patrick (IRCC/IRCC); Horne, Lynn (IRCC/IRCC); Craddock, FrancisTrent (IRCC/IRCC); Belanger, Guillaume (IRCC/IRCC); Minaeian, Sepehr (IRCC/IRCC); Begin, Nicolas (IRCC/IRCC); Silva, Elise (IRCC/IRCC); Cantin, Jean-Simon (IRCC/IRCC); Thibodeau, David (IRCC/IRCC); Coleman, Lorna (IRCC/IRCC); Williams, Anthony (IRCC/IRCC); Lalande, Suzanne (IRCC/IRCC); Dumervil.Marc-Olivier; HIOB Citizenship / Citoyenneté DGOHI (IRCC); Lafave, Jason (IRCC/IRCC); Rallo, Karine (IRCC/IRCC); Paredes, Marcela (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); PPT Functional Guidance / Orientation Fonctionnelle PPT (IRCC); Pousett, Kaleigh (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Santos.Aloisa; IOB Citizenship / Citoyenneté DGOI (IRCC)
Cc: Williams, Emma (IRCC/IRCC); Leblanc, Dominic (IRCC/IRCC); Desalliers, Natalie (IRCC/IRCC); Hordyk, William (IRCC/IRCC); Jellis, Rebecca (IRCC/IRCC); Casey, Meghan (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Riel, Shawn (IRCC/IRCC); De-Matos, Goretti (IRCC/IRCC); Morris, Julita (IRCC/IRCC); Burns, Steven (IRCC/IRCC) (he, him | il, lui); King, Shauna (IRCC/IRCC) (she, her | elle, la); Cantin, Jean-Simon (IRCC/IRCC); PFO Operations / Opérations OPE (IRCC)
Subject: Update on extension to the period of invalidity for FGL rules / Mise à jour sur la prolongation de la période d'invalidité des règles entourant la LPG

Le français suit

Hello colleagues,

On December 19, 2023, the Ontario Superior Court of Justice declared that the first-generation limit (FGL) to citizenship by descent is generally unconstitutional. The Court's decision includes a period of invalidity which was set to expire on **November 20, 2025**; however, IRCC filed a motion to extend the expiry date this message is to inform you that the Court has granted a further extension to **January 20, 2026**.

Until further notice, the current rules governing the FGL as well as the expanded interim measure for citizenship applications affected by the FGL remain in effect. Additional information may be found on our external website here:

[Changes to the first generation limit on citizenship - Canada.ca](#) [Interim measure for citizenship applications affected by the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent - Canada.ca](#)

Please note that IRCC's webpages have not yet been updated to reflect the January 20, 2026, extension date but the content will be updated as soon as possible.

Thank you for your understanding and continued collaboration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to

Bonjour chers collègues,

Le 19 décembre 2023, la Cour supérieure de justice de l'Ontario a déclaré que la limite de la citoyenneté par filiation à la première génération (LPG) est généralement inconstitutionnelle. La décision de la Cour inclut une période d'invalidité qui devait expirer le **20 novembre 2025**; cependant, le présent message a pour but de vous informer que la Cour a accordé une nouvelle prolongation jusqu'au **20 janvier 2026**.

Jusqu'à nouvel ordre, les règles actuelles concernant la LPG ainsi que la mesure provisoire élargie pour les demandes de preuve de citoyenneté touchées par la LPG demeurent en vigueur. Des informations supplémentaires sont disponibles sur notre site Web externe ici: [Modification de la limite à la première génération en matière de citoyenneté - Canada.ca](#)
[Mesure provisoire pour les demandes de citoyenneté touchées par la limite à la première génération pour la citoyenneté par filiation - Canada.ca](#)

Veuillez noter que les pages web d'IRCC n'ont pas encore été mises à jour pour refléter la date de prolongation du 20 janvier 2026, mais que leur contenu sera mis à jour dès que possible.

Merci de votre compréhension et de votre collaboration. Si vous avez des questions, n'hésitez pas à contacter

4/13/26, 8:44 AM

Applicants' identity for citizenship purposes - Canada.ca



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[Canada.ca](#) > [Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada](#) > [Corporate information](#)

> [Publications and Manuals](#) > [Operational instructions and guidelines](#) > [Canadian Citizenship](#)

> [Citizenship administration](#)

Applicants' identity for citizenship purposes



This section contains policy, procedures and guidance used by IRCC staff. It is posted on the department's website as a courtesy to stakeholders.

This section provides guidance on how to verify applicant's identity for citizenship purposes.

Need for originals vs. accepting copies

Originals of identity documents are always verified at the time of the program integrity interview.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/operational-bulletins-manuals/canadian-citizenship/administration/identity.html>

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Applicants' identity for citizenship purposes - Canada.ca

Verification is necessary if there is any doubt about the applicant's identity or if there are concerns about the validity or authenticity of the identity documents submitted.

Certified copy acceptable

A certified copy of a document is acceptable for determining whether or not the content and the nature of the document is adequate. The CPC-S, local offices, Case Management Branch, judges and the Registrar have the right to request original documents for audit purposes or where the validity of the document is in question.

When to accept photocopies

Photocopies are requested in the following application kits and must be on file when the applications are received at the CPC-S:

- grant applicants under subsection 5(1) (including 5(1.2) and 5(1.3)) who will be seen during the application process;
- grant applicants under subsection 5(2) who are older than 14 years who will be seen during the application process; and
- replacement proof applications.

4/13/26, 8:44 AM

Applicants' identity for citizenship purposes - Canada.ca

When in doubt, do not accept photocopies, and ask to see the original document(s).

Verifying identity and ensuring certificates created have the proper information:

- [Acceptable documents to show identity for citizenship applications](#)
- [Identity documents applicants must provide at citizenship interviews and tests](#)
- [Establishing names on the citizenship certificate](#)
- [Verifying sex/gender](#)

Handling changes in identity

- [Names](#)
- [Dates of birth](#)
- [Establishing parentage](#)
- [Change of sex and gender reassignment](#)

4/13/26, 8:44 AM

Applicants' identity for citizenship purposes - Canada.ca

Date modified: 2019-01-02



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> [Publications and Manuals](#) > [Operational instructions and guidelines](#)

> [Canadian Citizenship](#) > [Proof and certificates of citizenship](#)

Applications for citizenship certificates

i This section contains policy, procedures and guidance used by IRCC staff. It is posted on the department's website as a courtesy to stakeholders.

Who can apply for a citizenship certificate (proof of citizenship)?

A certificate of citizenship may be issued to a Canadian citizen who

- has never had a certificate;
- wants to update a certificate;
- wants to replace a damaged, lost, destroyed or stolen certificate.

Application process

A Canadian citizen who wants a certificate of citizenship must follow the [instruction guide](#) and send the following to the Case Processing Centre in Sydney (CPC-S):

- the Application for a Citizenship Certificate for Adults and Minors (Proof of Citizenship) Under Section 3 (CIT 0001)  form, completed, dated and signed;
- the required documents outlined in the document checklist at the end of the application form.

Procedures for citizenship certificates

What must be verified before an officer approves an application for a citizenship certificate?

The following must be verified before an application is approved:

- full proper name;
- aliases;
- date of birth;
- effective date of citizenship and sections of the current and former Acts;
- possibility of loss of Canadian citizenship or British subject status;
- whether citizenship was acquired or restored under the legislative changes that occurred on April 17, 2009;
- whether citizenship was acquired under the legislative changes that occurred on June 11, 2015;
- for citizenship by descent, confirmation that the Canadian parent was either born in Canada or became a naturalized Canadian citizen BEFORE the applicant was born;
- for citizenship by descent, confirmation that the Canadian parent is either the legal parent at birth or biological parent of the applicant born abroad;

- if applicable, change of name or date of birth documents including Immigration amendment letter verifying change in date of birth and/or full proper name;
- if applicable, accounting for previously issued certificates; and
- any other required documents.

In the case of a replacement, the officer must verify and match the information against the Global Case Management System (GCMS) and microfilmed records.

Applications made by minors

A minor citizen, regardless of age, may file an application for proof of citizenship on their own behalf in accordance with the *Citizenship Regulations*.

When a child is under 14 years of age, a parent should be encouraged to make or countersign the application or, alternatively, should be advised that the child has made an application.

The responsibility for ensuring that parents are advised rests with the official processing the application.

Learn more about [parental consent](#).

Stolen birth certificates

There is a list of stolen blank provincial birth certificates available through the CPC-S.

Nationality laws of other countries

Citizenship officers at the CPC-S and the local offices do not rule on the nationality laws of other countries. Where documentation from another country is required for an officer to make a determination of Canadian citizenship, the onus is on the applicant to obtain the necessary documentation from the authorities of the country concerned.

Applications for citizenship certificates: required documents

The documents required to establish citizenship vary depending on the requirements of the provision of the *Citizenship Act* under which citizenship is being established. High-quality colour copies of the required documents are to be included with the completed application for persons applying for a first-time or replacement proof of citizenship.

All applicants must provide

- two pieces of personal identification, with one containing a photo, and, if applicable, other documents to support a change in name or a change in date of birth;
- documents establishing citizenship outlined in the document checklist at the end of the *Application for a Citizenship Certificate for Adults and Minors (Proof of Citizenship) Under Section 3* form;
- other documents, as required, for the assessment of the claim to Canadian citizenship and the possible loss of citizenship.

Date modified: 2025-01-29

First Session, Forty-fifth Parliament,
3 Charles III, 2025

Première session, quarante-cinquième législature,
3 Charles III, 2025

HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES DU CANADA

BILL C-3

PROJET DE LOI C-3

An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)

Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté (2025)

FIRST READING, JUNE 5, 2025

PREMIÈRE LECTURE LE 5 JUIN 2025

MINISTER OF IMMIGRATION, REFUGEES AND
CITIZENSHIP

MINISTRE DE L'IMMIGRATION, DES RÉFUGIÉS ET DE LA
CITOYENNETÉ

SUMMARY

This enactment amends the *Citizenship Act* to, among other things,

- (a)** ensure that citizenship by descent is conferred on all persons who were born outside Canada before the coming into force of this enactment to a parent who was a citizen;
- (b)** confer citizenship by descent on persons born outside Canada after the first generation, on or after the coming into force of this enactment, to a parent who is a citizen and who had a substantial connection to Canada before the person's birth;
- (c)** allow citizenship to be granted under section 5.1 of that Act to all persons born outside Canada who were adopted before the coming into force of this enactment by a parent who was a citizen;
- (d)** allow citizenship to be granted under section 5.1 of that Act to persons born outside Canada who are adopted on or after the coming into force of this enactment by a parent who is a citizen and who had a substantial connection to Canada before the person's adoption;
- (e)** restore citizenship to persons who lost their citizenship because they did not make an application to retain it under the former section 8 of that Act or because they made an application under that section that was not approved; and
- (f)** allow certain persons who become citizens as a result of the coming into force of this enactment to access a simplified process to renounce their citizenship.

SOMMAIRE

Le texte modifie la *Loi sur la citoyenneté* pour, notamment :

- a)** veiller à ce que soit accordée la citoyenneté par filiation à toute personne née à l'étranger, avant l'entrée en vigueur du texte, d'un parent ayant qualité de citoyen;
- b)** accorder la citoyenneté par filiation au-delà de la première génération à toute personne née à l'étranger, à la date d'entrée en vigueur du texte ou après cette date, d'un parent ayant qualité de citoyen si le parent avait un lien substantiel avec le Canada avant la naissance;
- c)** permettre à toute personne née à l'étranger et adoptée, avant l'entrée en vigueur du texte, par une personne ayant qualité de citoyen de se voir attribuer la citoyenneté sous le régime de l'article 5.1 de cette loi;
- d)** permettre à toute personne née à l'étranger et adoptée, à la date d'entrée en vigueur du texte ou après cette date, par une personne ayant qualité de citoyen et ayant eu, avant l'adoption, un lien substantiel avec le Canada de se voir attribuer la citoyenneté sous le régime de l'article 5.1 de cette loi;
- e)** rétablir la citoyenneté de toute personne qui a cessé d'être citoyen au motif qu'elle n'a pas présenté la demande visée à l'ancien article 8 de cette loi pour conserver sa citoyenneté ou que, si elle l'a fait, la demande a été rejetée;
- f)** permettre à certaines personnes qui deviennent citoyens par suite de l'entrée en vigueur du texte d'accéder au processus simplifié de répudiation de la citoyenneté.

1st Session, 45th Parliament,
3 Charles III, 2025

HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA

BILL C-3

An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)

His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

R.S., c. C-29

Citizenship Act

2008, c. 14, s. 2(1)

1 (1) Paragraph 3(1)(f) of the *Citizenship Act* is amended by adding “or” at the end of subparagraph (i), by striking out “or” at the end of subparagraph (ii) and by repealing subparagraph (iii).

2008, c. 14, s. 2(1)

(2) Paragraph 3(1)(h) of the Act is replaced by the following:

(h) the person was granted citizenship on or after January 1, 1947 but before April 17, 2009, the person would have, but for that grant, been a citizen under paragraph (g) and, if it was required, the person took the oath of citizenship;

2008, c. 14, s. 2(1)

(3) The portion of paragraph 3(1)(i) of the Act before subparagraph (i) is replaced by the following:

(i) the person had been a citizen other than by way of grant, ceased to be a citizen for a reason other than the reasons referred to in subparagraphs (f)(i) and (ii), was subsequently granted citizenship before the coming into force of this paragraph under any of the following provisions and, if it was required, took the oath of citizenship;

(4) Section 3 of the Act is amended by adding the following after subsection (1.4):

1^{re} session, 45^e législature,
3 Charles III, 2025

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES DU CANADA

PROJET DE LOI C-3

Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté (2025)

Sa Majesté, sur l'avis et avec le consentement du Sénat et de la Chambre des communes du Canada, édicte :

L.R., ch. C-29

Loi sur la citoyenneté

2008, ch. 14, par. 2(1)

1 (1) Le sous-alinéa 3(1)f)(iii) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté* est abrogé.

2008, ch. 14, par. 2(1)

(2) L'alinéa 3(1)h) de la même loi est remplacé par ce qui suit :

h) qui a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution le 1^{er} janvier 1947 ou après cette date mais avant le 17 avril 2009 — et, si elle y était tenue, prêté le serment de citoyenneté — et qui, n'eût été cette attribution, aurait été une personne visée à l'alinéa g);

2008, ch. 14, par. 2(1)

(3) Le passage de l'alinéa 3(1)i) de la même loi précédant le sous-alinéa (i) est remplacé par ce qui suit :

i) qui, avant l'entrée en vigueur du présent alinéa, a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution sous le régime de l'une des dispositions ci-après — et, si elle y était tenue, prêté le serment de citoyenneté — après avoir cessé d'être citoyen, pour un motif autre que les motifs visés aux sous-alinéas f)(i) et (ii), alors qu'elle avait qualité de citoyen autrement que par attribution :

(4) L'article 3 de la même loi est modifié par adjonction, après le paragraphe (1.4), de ce qui suit :

Citizen despite death of parent

(1.5) A person who would not become a citizen under one of the paragraphs of subsection (1) for the sole reason that their parent or both their parent and their parent's parent died before the coming into force of *An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)* is a citizen under that paragraph if that parent — or both that parent and that parent's parent — but for their death, would have been a citizen as a result of the coming into force of that Act.

2014, c. 22, s. 2(6)

(5) Paragraphs 3(2.1)(a) and (b) of the Act are replaced by the following:

(a) before January 1, 1947, the person made a declaration of alienage; or

(b) the person became a citizen by way of grant on or after January 1, 1947 and subsequently renounced their citizenship under any of the provisions referred to in clauses (1)(f)(i)(A) to (F).

2014, c. 22, s. 2(6)

(6) Subsection 3(2.2) of the Act is replaced by the following:

Not applicable — paragraphs (1)(b), (g) and (h)

(2.2) Paragraphs (1)(b), (g) and (h) do not apply to a person — who, but for this subsection, would be a citizen under one of those paragraphs for the sole reason that one or both of their parents are persons referred to in any of paragraphs (1)(k), (m), (o) and (q) — if the person became a citizen by way of grant on or after January 1, 1947 and subsequently renounced their citizenship under any of the provisions referred to in clauses (1)(f)(i)(A) to (F).

2014, c. 22, s. 2(6)

(7) Paragraphs 3(2.3)(a) and (b) of the Act are replaced by the following:

(a) before April 1, 1949, the person made a declaration of alienage; or

(b) the person became a citizen by way of grant on or after April 1, 1949 and subsequently renounced their citizenship under any of the provisions referred to in clauses (1)(f)(i)(A) to (F).

2008, c. 14, s. 2(2); 2014, c. 22, ss. 2(6), (8) and (9)(F)

(8) Subsections 3(2.4) and (3) of the Act are replaced by the following:

Citoyen malgré le décès du parent

(1.5) Toute personne qui ne deviendrait pas citoyen au titre de l'un des alinéas du paragraphe (1) pour la seule raison que, à l'entrée en vigueur de la *Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté (2025)*, son père ou sa mère est décédé — ou son père ou sa mère ainsi que le père ou la mère de celui-ci ou de celle-ci sont décédés — a qualité de citoyen au titre de l'alinéa en cause si, n'eût été ce décès, le père ou la mère — ou le père ou la mère ainsi que le père ou la mère de celui-ci ou de celle-ci — aurait eu qualité de citoyen par suite de l'entrée en vigueur de cette loi.

2014, ch. 22, par. 2(6)

(5) Les alinéas 3(2.1)a) et b) de la même loi sont remplacés par ce qui suit :

a) a fait une déclaration d'extranéité avant le 1^{er} janvier 1947;

b) a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution le 1^{er} janvier 1947 ou après cette date et a subséquemment renoncé à sa citoyenneté au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions (1)f(i)(A) à (F).

2014, ch. 22, par. 2(6)

(6) Le paragraphe 3(2.2) de la même loi est remplacé par ce qui suit :

Inapplicabilité — alinéas (1)b), g) et h)

(2.2) Les alinéas (1)b), g) et h) ne s'appliquent pas à la personne qui, n'eût été le présent paragraphe, aurait eu qualité de citoyen au titre de l'un de ces alinéas pour la seule raison que son père ou sa mère ou ses deux parents sont visés à l'un des alinéas (1)k), m), o) et q), si elle a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution le 1^{er} janvier 1947 ou après cette date et a subséquemment renoncé à sa citoyenneté au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions (1)f(i)(A) à (F).

2014, ch. 22, par. 2(6)

(7) Les alinéas 3(2.3)a) et b) de la même loi sont remplacés par ce qui suit :

a) a fait une déclaration d'extranéité avant le 1^{er} avril 1949;

b) a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution le 1^{er} avril 1949 ou après cette date et a subséquemment renoncé à sa citoyenneté au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions (1)f(i)(A) à (F).

2008, ch. 14, par. 2(2); 2014, ch. 22, par. 2(6), (8) et (9)(F)

(8) Les paragraphes 3(2.4) et (3) de la même loi sont remplacés par ce qui suit :

Not applicable — paragraphs (1)(b), (g) and (h)

(2.4) Paragraphs (1)(b), (g) and (h) do not apply to a person — who, but for this subsection, would be a citizen under one of those paragraphs for the sole reason that one or both of their parents are persons referred to in any of paragraphs (1)(l), (n), (p) and (r) — if the person became a citizen by way of grant on or after April 1, 1949 and subsequently renounced their citizenship under any of the provisions referred to in clauses (1)(f)(i)(A) to (F).

Not applicable — paragraphs (1)(b), (f) to (j), (q) and (r)

(2.5) Paragraphs (1)(b), (f) to (j), (q) and (r) do not apply to a person who became a citizen by way of grant before the day on which this subsection comes into force and subsequently renounced their citizenship under any of the provisions referred to in clauses (1)(f)(i)(A) to (F).

Not applicable — after first generation

(3) Paragraph (1)(b) does not apply to a person born outside Canada on or after the day on which *An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)* comes into force

(a) if

(i) at the time of the person's birth

(A) only one of the person's parents was a citizen and that parent was a citizen under any of paragraphs (1)(b), (c.1), (e), (g) to (j) and (o) to (r) and was born outside Canada,

(B) only one of the person's parents was a citizen and that parent was a citizen under paragraph (1)(f) and was born outside Canada to a parent who was a citizen at the time of their birth, or

(C) both of the person's parents were citizens under any of paragraphs (1)(b), (c.1), (e) to (j) and (o) to (r) and were born outside Canada and, in the case of a parent who was a citizen under paragraph (1)(f), that parent was born to a parent who was a citizen at the time of their birth, and

(ii) neither of the person's parents who was a citizen was physically present in Canada for at least 1,095 days before the person's birth; or

(b) if

(i) at any time, only one of the person's parents was a citizen and that parent was a citizen under any of the following provisions or both of the person's par-

Inapplicabilité — alinéas (1)b), g) et h)

(2.4) Les alinéas (1)b), g) et h) ne s'appliquent pas à la personne qui, n'eût été le présent paragraphe, aurait eu qualité de citoyen au titre de l'un de ces alinéas pour la seule raison que son père ou sa mère ou ses deux parents sont visés à l'un des alinéas (1)l), n), p) et r), si la personne a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution le 1^{er} avril 1949 ou après cette date et a subséquemment renoncé à sa citoyenneté au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions (1)f)(i)(A) à (F).

Inapplicabilité — alinéas (1)b), f) à j), q) et r)

(2.5) Les alinéas (1)b), f) à j), q) et r) ne s'appliquent pas à la personne qui a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution avant la date d'entrée en vigueur du présent paragraphe et a subséquemment renoncé à sa citoyenneté au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions (1)f)(i)(A) à (F).

Inapplicabilité après la première génération

(3) L'alinéa (1)b) ne s'applique pas à la personne qui est née à l'étranger à la date d'entrée en vigueur de la *Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté (2025)* ou après cette date et dont :

a) ou bien :

(i) d'une part, au moment de la naissance :

(A) soit seul le père ou la mère avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre de l'un des alinéas (1)b), (c.1), (e), (g) à j) et o) à r), en plus d'être né à l'étranger,

(B) soit seul le père ou la mère avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre de l'alinéa (1)f), en plus d'être né à l'étranger d'un parent qui avait alors qualité de citoyen,

(C) soit le père et la mère avaient tous deux qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre de l'un des alinéas (1)b), (c.1), (e) à j) et o) à r), en plus d'être nés à l'étranger et, dans le cas d'un père ou d'une mère qui avait qualité de citoyen au titre de l'alinéa (1)f), d'être né d'un parent qui avait alors qualité de citoyen,

(ii) d'autre part, ni le père ni la mère — ayant qualité de citoyen — n'avait été effectivement présent au Canada pendant au moins mille quatre-vingt-quinze jours avant la naissance;

b) ou bien :

(i) d'une part, à un moment donné, seul le père ou la mère avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre de

ents were citizens under any of the following provisions:

(A) paragraph 4(b) or 5(b) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, S.C. 1946, c. 15,

(B) paragraph 5(1)(b) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, S.C. 1946, c. 15, as enacted by S.C. 1950, c. 29, s. 2,

(C) paragraph 4(1)(b) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, S.C. 1946, c. 15, as enacted by S.C. 1952-53, c. 23, s. 2(1),

(D) paragraph 5(1)(b) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, S.C. 1946, c. 15, as enacted by S.C. 1950, c. 29, s. 2 and amended by S.C. 1952-53, c. 23, s. 3(1),

(E) paragraph 4(1)(b) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, R.S.C. 1952, c. 33, as enacted by S.C. 1952-53, c. 23, s. 13(1),

(F) paragraph 5(1)(b) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, R.S.C. 1952, c. 33, as amended by S.C. 1952-53, c. 23, s. 14(1),

(G) subsection 39B(1) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, R.S.C. 1952, c. 33, as enacted by S.C. 1967-68, c. 4, s. 10, or

(H) paragraph 4(1)(b) or 5(1)(b) or subsection 42(1) of the former Act, and

(ii) neither of the person's parents who was a citizen was physically present in Canada for at least 1,095 days before the person's birth.

2014, c. 22, ss. 2(10) and (11)

(9) Subsections 3(4) and (4.1) of the Act are repealed.

2014, c. 22, s. 2(13)

(10) Subsections 3(5.1) and (5.2) of the Act are repealed.

2014, c. 22, s. 2(15)

(11) Subsection 3(6.2) of the Act is replaced by the following:

Citizenship other than by way of grant

(6.2) A person referred to in any of paragraphs (1)(k) to (r) — or a person referred to in paragraph (1)(b) or (g) who is a citizen under that paragraph for the sole reason

l'une des dispositions ci-après, ou les parents avaient tous deux cette qualité au titre de l'une de celles-ci :

(A) les alinéas 4b) ou 5b) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.C. 1946, ch. 15,

(B) l'alinéa 5(1)b) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.C. 1946, ch. 15, édicté par S.C. 1950, ch. 29, art. 2,

(C) l'alinéa 4(1)b) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.C. 1946, ch. 15, édicté par S.C. 1952-53, ch. 23, par. 2(1),

(D) l'alinéa 5(1)b) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.C. 1946, ch. 15, édicté par S.C. 1950, ch. 29, art. 2 et modifié par S.C. 1952-53, ch. 23, par. 3(1),

(E) l'alinéa 4(1)b) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.R.C. 1952, ch. 33, édicté par S.C. 1952-53, ch. 23, par. 13(1),

(F) l'alinéa 5(1)b) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.R.C. 1952, ch. 33, modifié par S.C. 1952-53, ch. 23, par. 14(1),

(G) le paragraphe 39B(1) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.R.C. 1952, ch. 33, édicté par S.C. 1967-68, ch. 4, art. 10,

(H) les alinéas 4(1)b) ou 5(1)b) ou le paragraphe 42(1) de l'ancienne loi,

(ii) d'autre part, ni le père ni la mère — ayant qualité de citoyen — n'avait été effectivement présent au Canada pendant au moins mille quatre-vingt-quinze jours avant la naissance.

2014, ch. 22, par. 2(10) et (11)

(9) Les paragraphes 3(4) et (4.1) de la même loi sont abrogés.

2014, ch. 22, par. 2(13)

(10) Les paragraphes 3(5.1) et (5.2) de la même loi sont abrogés.

2014, ch. 22, par. 2(15)

(11) Le paragraphe 3(6.2) de la même loi est remplacé par ce qui suit :

Citoyenneté sans attribution

(6.2) La personne visée à l'un des alinéas (1)k) à r) — ou celle visée aux alinéas (1)b) ou g) qui a qualité de citoyen pour la seule raison que son père ou sa mère ou ses deux

that one or both of their parents are persons referred to in any of paragraphs (1)(k) to (n) — who became a citizen by way of grant before the coming into force of this subsection is deemed, except for the purposes of paragraph (2.1)(b), subsection (2.2), paragraph (2.3)(b), subsections (2.4) and (2.5) and subparagraphs 27(1)(j.1)(ii) to (iv), never to have been a citizen by way of grant.

(12) Section 3 of the Act is amended by adding the following after subsection (6.3):

Deemed application

(6.4) A person who is referred to in paragraph (1)(b) and also in paragraph (1)(f) is deemed to be a citizen only under paragraph (1)(f).

Citizenship other than by way of grant

(6.5) A person who is referred to in any of paragraphs (1)(b), (f) to (j), (q) and (r) as a result of the coming into force of *An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)* and who became a citizen by way of grant before the coming into force of that Act is deemed, except for the purposes of paragraphs (1)(h) to (j) and (2.1)(b), subsection (2.2), paragraph (2.3)(b), subsections (2.4) and (2.5) and subparagraph 27(1)(j.1)(iv), never to have been a citizen by way of grant.

2008, c. 14, s. 2(2)

(13) The portion of paragraph 3(7)(a) of the Act before subparagraph (i) is replaced by the following:

(a) a person referred to in paragraph (1)(c) who was, before the coming into force of this subsection, granted citizenship under any of the following provisions after ceasing to be a citizen by way of grant for any reason other than the reasons referred to in subparagraphs (1)(f)(i) and (ii) is deemed to be a citizen under paragraph (1)(c) from the time that the person ceased to be a citizen:

2014, c. 22, ss. 2(16) and (17)

(14) Paragraphs 3(7)(h) and (i) of the Act are replaced by the following:

(h) a person referred to in paragraph (1)(b) is deemed to be a citizen under that paragraph from the time that the person was born;

2014, c. 22, s. 2(19)

(15) Subsection 3(9) of the Act is replaced by the following:

parents sont visés à l'un des alinéas (1)k) à n) — qui a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution avant l'entrée en vigueur du présent paragraphe est réputée, sauf pour l'application de l'alinéa (2.1)b), du paragraphe (2.2), de l'alinéa (2.3)b), des paragraphes (2.4) et (2.5) et des sous-alinéas 27(1)j.1(ii) à (iv), n'avoir jamais obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution.

(12) L'article 3 de la même loi est modifié par adjonction, après le paragraphe (6.3), de ce qui suit :

Précision

(6.4) La personne qui est visée à la fois aux alinéas (1)b) et f) est réputée avoir qualité de citoyen seulement au titre de l'alinéa (1)f).

Citoyenneté sans attribution

(6.5) La personne qui est visée à l'un des alinéas (1)b), f) à j), q) et r) par suite de l'entrée en vigueur de la *Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté (2025)* et qui, avant l'entrée en vigueur de cette loi, a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution est réputée, sauf pour l'application des alinéas (1)h) à j) et (2.1)b), du paragraphe (2.2), de l'alinéa (2.3)b), des paragraphes (2.4) et (2.5) et du sous-alinéa 27(1)j.1(iv), n'avoir jamais obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution.

2008, ch. 14, par. 2(2)

(13) Le passage de l'alinéa 3(7)a) de la même loi précédant le sous-alinéa (i) est remplacé par ce qui suit :

a) la personne visée à l'alinéa (1)c) qui, avant l'entrée en vigueur du présent paragraphe, a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution sous le régime de l'une des dispositions ci-après après avoir cessé d'être citoyen — pour un motif autre que les motifs visés aux sous-alinéas (1)f)(i) et (ii) — alors qu'elle avait obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution, est réputée être citoyen au titre de cet alinéa à partir du moment où elle a cessé d'être citoyen :

2014, ch. 22, par. 2(16) et (17)

(14) Les alinéas 3(7)h) et i) de la même loi sont remplacés par ce qui suit :

h) la personne visée à l'alinéa (1)b) est réputée être citoyen au titre de cet alinéa à partir du moment de sa naissance;

2014, ch. 22, par. 2(19)

(15) Le paragraphe 3(9) de la même loi est remplacé par ce qui suit :

Definition of *by way of grant*

(9) In subsections (2.1) to (2.5), (6.2) and (6.5), **by way of grant** means by way of grant under this Act or under prior legislation, by way of acquisition under this Act or by way of resumption under prior legislation.

2 Subsection 4(2) of the Act is replaced by the following:

Child born after death of parent

(2) For the purposes of paragraph 3(1)(b), subsection 3(2) and subparagraph 3(3)(a)(i), if a child is born after the death of either of their parents, the child is deemed to have been born before the death of that parent.

2008, c. 14, s. 4(2)

3 Paragraph 5(5)(a) of the Act is replaced by the following:

(a) is born outside Canada on or after the day on which *An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)* comes into force;

2014, c. 22, ss. 4(9) and (10)

4 (1) Subsection 5.1(4) of the Act is replaced by the following:

Not applicable — after first generation

(4) No person who is adopted on or after the day on which *An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)* comes into force may be granted citizenship under any of subsections (1) to (3)

(a) if

(i) at the time of the person's adoption

(A) only one of the person's adoptive parents was a citizen and that adoptive parent was a citizen under any of paragraphs 3(1)(b), (c.1), (e), (g) to (j) and (o) to (r) and was born outside Canada,

(B) only one of the person's adoptive parents was a citizen and that adoptive parent was a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(f) and was born outside Canada to a parent who was a citizen at the time of the adoptive parent's birth, or

(C) both of the person's adoptive parents were citizens under any of paragraphs 3(1)(b), (c.1), (e) to (j) and (o) to (r) and were born outside Canada and, in the case of an adoptive parent who was a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(f), that

Définition de *obtenir la citoyenneté par attribution*

(9) Aux paragraphes (2.1) à (2.5), (6.2) et (6.5), **obtenir la citoyenneté par attribution** s'entend du fait d'obtenir la citoyenneté par attribution en vertu de la présente loi ou de la législation antérieure, par acquisition en vertu de la présente loi ou par reprise en vertu de la législation antérieure.

2 Le paragraphe 4(2) de la même loi est remplacé par ce qui suit :

Enfant né après le décès d'un de ses parents

(2) Pour l'application de l'alinéa 3(1)b), du paragraphe 3(2) et du sous-alinéa 3(3)a)(i), l'enfant né après le décès de son père ou de sa mère est réputé être né avant ce décès.

2008, ch. 14, par. 4(2)

3 L'alinéa 5(5)a) de la même loi est remplacé par ce qui suit :

a) il est né à l'étranger à la date d'entrée en vigueur de la *Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté (2025)* ou après cette date;

2014, ch. 22, par. 4(9) et (10)

4 (1) Le paragraphe 5.1(4) de la même loi est remplacé par ce qui suit :

Inapplicabilité après la première génération

(4) La citoyenneté ne peut être attribuée, sous le régime de l'un des paragraphes (1) à (3), à la personne qui a été adoptée à la date d'entrée en vigueur de la *Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté (2025)* ou après cette date et dont :

a) ou bien :

(i) d'une part, au moment de l'adoption :

(A) soit seul le père adoptif ou la mère adoptive avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre de l'un des alinéas 3(1)b), c.1), e), g) à j) et o) à r), en plus d'être né à l'étranger,

(B) soit seul le père adoptif ou la mère adoptive avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre de l'alinéa 3(1)f), en plus d'être né à l'étranger d'un parent qui avait alors qualité de citoyen,

(C) soit le père adoptif et la mère adoptive avaient tous deux qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre de l'un des alinéas 3(1)b), c.1), e) à j) et o) à r), en plus d'être nés à l'étranger et, dans le cas d'un père adoptif ou d'une mère adoptive qui avait qualité de citoyen au titre de l'alinéa 3(1)f),

adoptive parent was born to a parent who was a citizen at the time of the adoptive parent's birth, and

(ii) neither of the person's adoptive parents who was a citizen was physically present in Canada for at least 1,095 days before the person's adoption; or

(b) if

(i) at any time, only one of the person's adoptive parents was a citizen and that adoptive parent was a citizen under any of the provisions referred to in clauses 3(3)(b)(i)(A) to (H) or both of the person's adoptive parents were citizens under any of those provisions, and

(ii) neither of the person's adoptive parents who was a citizen was physically present in Canada for at least 1,095 days before the person's adoption.

2014, c. 22, s. 4(11)

(2) Subsection 5.1(6) of the Act is replaced by the following:

Death of parent

(6) A person who would not be granted citizenship under any of subsections (1) to (3) for the sole reason that their adoptive parent or both their adoptive parent and their adoptive parent's parent died before the coming into force of *An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)* may be granted citizenship under that subsection if that adoptive parent — or both that adoptive parent and that adoptive parent's parent — but for their death, would have been a citizen as a result of the coming into force of that Act.

2014, c. 22, s. 5

5 The portion of section 5.2 of the Act before paragraph (a) is replaced by the following:

Citizenship by way of grant under section 5.1 — grandchild of person in service abroad

5.2 A person born outside Canada who was adopted by a parent referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) and who is either a citizen under prior legislation or the former Act — other than under any provision referred to in any of clauses 3(3)(b)(i)(A) to (H) — or was granted citizenship under paragraph 5(2)(a) of this Act, as it read before April 17, 2009, or under subsection 5(1), (2), or (4) or 11(1) of this Act is deemed, as of the coming into force of

d'être né d'un parent qui avait alors qualité de citoyen,

(ii) d'autre part, ni le père adoptif ni la mère adoptive — ayant qualité de citoyen — n'avait été effectivement présent au Canada pendant au moins mille quatre-vingt-quinze jours avant l'adoption;

b) ou bien :

(i) d'une part, à un moment donné, seul le père adoptif ou la mère adoptive avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions 3(3)(b)(i)(A) à (H), ou les parents adoptifs avaient tous deux cette qualité au titre de l'une de ces dispositions,

(ii) d'autre part, ni le père adoptif ni la mère adoptive — ayant qualité de citoyen — n'avait été effectivement présent au Canada pendant au moins mille quatre-vingt-quinze jours avant l'adoption.

2014, ch. 22, par. 4(11)

(2) Le paragraphe 5.1(6) de la même loi est remplacé par ce qui suit :

Décès du parent

(6) Toute personne qui ne pourrait se voir attribuer la citoyenneté sous le régime de l'un des paragraphes (1) à (3) pour la seule raison que, à l'entrée en vigueur de la *Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté (2025)*, son père adoptif ou sa mère adoptive est décédé — ou son père adoptif ou sa mère adoptive ainsi que le père ou la mère de celui-ci ou de celle-ci sont décédés — peut se voir attribuer la citoyenneté sous le régime du paragraphe en cause si, n'eût été ce décès, le père adoptif ou la mère adoptive — ou le père adoptif ou la mère adoptive ainsi que le père ou la mère de celui-ci ou de celle-ci — aurait eu qualité de citoyen par suite de l'entrée en vigueur de cette loi.

2014, ch. 22, art. 5

5 Le passage de l'article 5.2 de la même loi précédant l'alinéa a) est remplacé par ce qui suit :

Citoyenneté par attribution sous le régime de l'article 5.1 — petit-enfant d'une personne en service à l'étranger

5.2 La personne née à l'étranger qui est adoptée par un parent visé aux alinéas a) ou b) et qui soit a qualité de citoyen au titre d'une disposition — autre que celles visées aux divisions 3(3)(b)(i)(A) à (H) — de la législation antérieure ou de l'ancienne loi, soit a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution sous le régime de l'alinéa 5(2)a) de la présente loi, dans ses versions antérieures au 17 avril 2009, ou des paragraphes 5(1), (2) ou (4) ou 11(1) de la pré-

this section, to have been granted citizenship under section 5.1:

6 Paragraph 27(1)(j.1) of the Act is amended by striking out “or” at the end of subparagraph (ii), by adding “or” at the end of subparagraph (iii) and by adding the following after subparagraph (iii):

(iv) who are citizens as a result of the coming into force of *An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)*, who were born before the day on which that Act comes into force and who did not, before that day, become citizens by way of grant as defined in subsection 3(9);

sente loi, est réputée, à compter de l'entrée en vigueur du présent article, avoir obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution sous le régime de l'article 5.1 :

6 L'alinéa 27(1)j.1 de la même loi est modifié par adjonction, après le sous-alinéa (iii), de ce qui suit :

(iv) a qualité de citoyen par suite de l'entrée en vigueur de la *Loi modifiant la Loi sur la citoyenneté (2025)*, est né avant la date d'entrée en vigueur de cette loi et n'a pas obtenu, avant cette date, la citoyenneté par attribution au sens du paragraphe 3(9);

Coming into Force

Order in council

7 This Act comes into force on a day to be fixed by order of the Governor in Council.

Entrée en vigueur

Décret

7 La présente loi entre en vigueur à la date fixée par décret.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Citizenship Act

Clause 1: (1) to (3) Relevant portion of subsection 3(1):

3 (1) Subject to this Act, a person is a citizen if

...

(f) before the coming into force of this paragraph, the person ceased to be a citizen for any reason other than the following reasons and did not subsequently become a citizen:

...

(iii) the person failed to make an application to retain his or her citizenship under section 8 as it read before the coming into force of this paragraph or did make such an application that subsequently was not approved;

...

(h) the person was granted citizenship under section 5, as it read before the coming into force of this paragraph, the person would have, but for that grant, been a citizen under paragraph (g) and, if it was required, he or she took the oath of citizenship;

(i) the person had been a citizen other than by way of grant, ceased to be a citizen for a reason other than the reasons referred to in subparagraphs (f)(i) to (iii), was subsequently granted citizenship before the coming into force of this paragraph under any of the following provisions and, if it was required, he or she took the oath of citizenship:

(4) New.

(5) to (9) Existing text of subsections 3(2.1) to (4.1):

(2.1) Paragraphs (1)(k), (m), (o) and (q) do not apply to a person if

(a) before January 1, 1947, the person made a declaration of alienage, had his or her status as a British subject revoked or ceased to be a British subject as a consequence of the revocation of another person's status as a British subject; or

(b) the person became a citizen by way of grant on or after January 1, 1947 and subsequently

(i) renounced his or her citizenship under any of the provisions set out in clauses (1)(f)(i)(A) to (F), or

NOTES EXPLICATIVES

Loi sur la citoyenneté

Article 1 : (1) à (3) Texte du passage visé du paragraphe 3(1) :

3 (1) Sous réserve des autres dispositions de la présente loi, a qualité de citoyen toute personne :

[...]

f) qui, avant l'entrée en vigueur du présent alinéa, a cessé d'être citoyen pour un motif autre que les motifs ci-après et n'est pas subséquemment devenu citoyen :

[...]

(iii) elle n'a pas présenté la demande visée à l'article 8, dans ses versions antérieures à l'entrée en vigueur du présent alinéa, pour conserver sa citoyenneté ou, si elle l'a fait, la demande a été rejetée;

[...]

h) qui a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution sous le régime de l'article 5, dans ses versions antérieures à l'entrée en vigueur du présent alinéa — et, si elle y était tenue, prêté le serment de citoyenneté — et qui, n'eût été cette attribution, aurait été une personne visée à l'alinéa g);

i) qui, avant l'entrée en vigueur du présent alinéa, a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution sous le régime de l'une des dispositions ci-après — et, si elle y était tenue, prêté le serment de citoyenneté — après avoir cessé d'être citoyen, pour un motif autre que les motifs visés aux sous-alinéas f)(i) à (iii), alors qu'elle avait qualité de citoyen autrement que par attribution :

(4) Nouveau.

(5) à (9) Texte des paragraphes 3(2.1) à (4.1) :

(2.1) Les alinéas (1)k), m), o) et q) ne s'appliquent pas à la personne qui, selon le cas :

a) a fait une déclaration d'extranéité avant le 1^{er} janvier 1947 ou dont le statut de sujet britannique a été révoqué avant cette date, ou a perdu sa qualité de sujet britannique avant cette date à la suite de la révocation du statut de sujet britannique d'une autre personne;

b) a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution le 1^{er} janvier 1947 ou après cette date et :

i) soit a subséquemment renoncé à sa citoyenneté au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions (1)f)(i)(A) à (F),

(ii) had his or her citizenship revoked for false representation, fraud or concealment of material circumstances under any of the provisions set out in clauses (1)(f)(ii)(A) to (G).

(2.2) Paragraphs (1)(b), (g) and (h) do not apply to a person — who, but for this subsection, would be a citizen under one of those paragraphs for the sole reason that one or both of his or her parents are persons referred to in any of paragraphs (1)(k), (m), (o) and (q) — if the person became a citizen by way of grant on or after January 1, 1947 and subsequently

(a) renounced his or her citizenship under any of the provisions set out in clauses (1)(f)(i)(A) to (F); or

(b) had his or her citizenship revoked for false representation, fraud or concealment of material circumstances under any of the provisions set out in clauses (1)(f)(ii)(A) to (G).

(2.3) Paragraphs (1)(l), (n), (p) and (r) do not apply to a person if

(a) before April 1, 1949, the person made a declaration of alienage, had his or her status as a British subject revoked or ceased to be a British subject as a consequence of the revocation of another person's status as a British subject; or

(b) the person became a citizen by way of grant on or after April 1, 1949 and subsequently

(i) renounced his or her citizenship under any of the provisions set out in clauses (1)(f)(i)(A) to (F), or

(ii) had his or her citizenship revoked for false representation, fraud or concealment of material circumstances under any of the provisions set out in clauses (1)(f)(ii)(A) to (G).

(2.4) Paragraphs (1)(b), (g) and (h) do not apply to a person — who, but for this subsection, would be a citizen under one of those paragraphs for the sole reason that one or both of his or her parents are persons referred to in any of paragraphs (1)(l), (n), (p) and (r) — if the person became a citizen by way of grant on or after April 1, 1949 and subsequently

(a) renounced his or her citizenship under any of the provisions set out in clauses (1)(f)(i)(A) to (F); or

(b) had his or her citizenship revoked for false representation, fraud or concealment of material circumstances under any of the provisions set out in clauses (1)(f)(ii)(A) to (G).

(3) Paragraphs (1)(b), (f) to (j), (q) and (r) do not apply to a person born outside Canada

(a) if, at the time of his or her birth, only one of the person's parents was a citizen and that parent was a citizen under paragraph (1)(b), (c.1), (e), (g), (h), (o), (p), (q) or (r) or both of the person's parents were citizens under any of those paragraphs;

(a.1) if the person was born before January 1, 1947 and, on that day, only one of the person's parents was a citizen and that parent

(ii) soit a vu sa citoyenneté subséquemment révoquée pour cause de fausse déclaration, fraude ou dissimulation de faits essentiels au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions (1)(f)(ii)(A) à (G).

(2.2) Les alinéas (1)b), g) et h) ne s'appliquent pas à la personne qui, n'eût été le présent paragraphe, aurait eu qualité de citoyen au titre de l'un de ces alinéas pour la seule raison que son père ou sa mère ou ses deux parents sont visés à l'un des alinéas (1)k), m), o) et q), si elle a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution le 1^{er} janvier 1947 ou après cette date et :

a) soit a subséquemment renoncé à sa citoyenneté au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions (1)f(i)(A) à (F);

b) soit a vu sa citoyenneté subséquemment révoquée pour cause de fausse déclaration, fraude ou dissimulation de faits essentiels au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions (1)f(ii)(A) à (G).

(2.3) Les alinéas (1)l), n), p) et r) ne s'appliquent pas à la personne qui, selon le cas :

a) a fait une déclaration d'extranéité avant le 1^{er} avril 1949 ou dont le statut de sujet britannique a été révoqué avant cette date, ou a perdu sa qualité de sujet britannique avant cette date à la suite de la révocation du statut de sujet britannique d'une autre personne;

b) a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution le 1^{er} avril 1949 ou après cette date et :

(i) soit a subséquemment renoncé à sa citoyenneté au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions (1)f(i)(A) à (F),

(ii) soit a vu sa citoyenneté subséquemment révoquée pour cause de fausse déclaration, fraude ou dissimulation de faits essentiels au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions (1)f(ii)(A) à (G).

(2.4) Les alinéas (1)b), g) et h) ne s'appliquent pas à la personne qui, n'eût été le présent paragraphe, aurait eu qualité de citoyen au titre de l'un de ces alinéas pour la seule raison que son père ou sa mère ou ses deux parents sont visés à l'un des alinéas (1)l), n), p) et r), si la personne a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution le 1^{er} avril 1949 ou après cette date et :

a) soit a subséquemment renoncé à sa citoyenneté au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions (1)f(i)(A) à (F);

b) soit a vu sa citoyenneté subséquemment révoquée pour cause de fausse déclaration, fraude ou dissimulation de faits essentiels au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux divisions (1)f(ii)(A) à (G).

(3) Les alinéas (1)b), f) à j), q) et r) ne s'appliquent pas à la personne née à l'étranger dont, selon le cas :

a) au moment de la naissance, seul le père ou la mère avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre des alinéas (1)b), c.1), e), g), h), o), p), q) ou r), ou les deux parents avaient cette qualité au titre de l'un de ces alinéas;

a.1) s'agissant d'une personne née avant le 1^{er} janvier 1947, à cette date, seul le père ou la mère avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au

was a citizen under paragraph (1)(o) or (q), or both of the person's parents were citizens under either of those paragraphs;

(a.2) if the person was born before April 1, 1949 and, on that day, only one of the person's parents was a citizen and that parent was a citizen under paragraph (1)(p) or (r), or both of the person's parents were citizens under either of those paragraphs; or

(b) if, at any time, only one of the person's parents was a citizen and that parent was a citizen under any of the following provisions, or both of the person's parents were citizens under any of the following provisions:

(i) paragraph 4(b) or 5(b) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, S.C. 1946, c. 15,

(ii) paragraph 5(1)(b) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, S.C. 1946, c. 15, as enacted by S.C. 1950, c. 29, s. 2,

(iii) paragraph 4(1)(b) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, S.C. 1946, c. 15, as enacted by S.C. 1952-53, c. 23, s. 2(1),

(iv) paragraph 5(1)(b) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, S.C. 1946, c. 15, as enacted by S.C. 1950, c. 29, s. 2 and amended by S.C. 1952-53, c. 23, s. 3(1),

(v) paragraph 4(1)(b) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, R.S.C. 1952, c. 33, as enacted by S.C. 1952-53, c. 23, s. 13(1),

(vi) paragraph 5(1)(b) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, R.S.C. 1952, c. 33, as amended by S.C. 1952-53, c. 23, s. 14(1),

(vii) subsection 39B(1) of the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, R.S.C. 1952, c. 33, as enacted by S.C. 1967-68, c. 4, s. 10, or

(viii) paragraph 4(1)(b) or 5(1)(b) or subsection 42(1) of the former Act.

(4) Subsection (3) does not apply to a person who, on the coming into force of that subsection, was a citizen. However, that subsection applies to a person who, on that coming into force, would have been a citizen under paragraph (1)(b) or (g) only by operation of any of paragraphs (7)(d) to (g) in respect of one of his or her parents.

(4.1) Subsection (3) does not apply to a person who, on the coming into force of this subsection, was a citizen. However, that subsection applies to a person who, on that coming into force, would have been a citizen under paragraph (1)(b) or (g) only by operation of paragraph (7)(i), (k) or (m) in respect of one of his or her parents.

(10) Existing text of subsections 3(5.1) and (5.2):

(5.1) A person who is born outside Canada to a parent referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) and who is either a citizen under prior legislation or the former Act — other than under any provision referred to in subparagraphs (3)(b)(i) to (viii) — or was granted citizenship under paragraph 5(2)(a) of this Act, as it read before April 17, 2009, or under subsection 5(1), (2) or (4) or 11(1) of this Act is deemed, as of the coming into force of this subsection, never to have been a citizen by way of grant:

(a) a parent one or both of whose parents, at the time of that parent's birth, were employed outside Canada in or with the Canadian Armed Forces, the federal public administration or the public

titre des alinéas (1)o) ou q), ou les deux parents avaient cette qualité au titre de l'un de ces alinéas;

a.2) s'agissant d'une personne née avant le 1^{er} avril 1949, à cette date, seul le père ou la mère avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre des alinéas (1)p) ou r), ou les deux parents avaient cette qualité au titre de l'un de ces alinéas;

b) à un moment donné, seul le père ou la mère avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre de l'une des dispositions ci-après, ou les deux parents avaient cette qualité au titre de l'une de celles-ci :

(i) les alinéas 4b) ou 5b) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.C. 1946, ch. 15,

(ii) l'alinéa 5(1)b) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.C. 1946, ch. 15, édicté par S.C. 1950, ch. 29, art. 2,

(iii) l'alinéa 4(1)b) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.C. 1946, ch. 15, édicté par S.C. 1952-53, ch. 23, par. 2(1),

(iv) l'alinéa 5(1)b) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.C. 1946, ch. 15, édicté par S.C. 1950, ch. 29, art. 2 et modifié par S.C. 1952-53, ch. 23, par. 3(1),

(v) l'alinéa 4(1)b) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.R.C. 1952, ch. 33, édicté par S.C. 1952-53, ch. 23, par. 13(1),

(vi) l'alinéa 5(1)b) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.R.C. 1952, ch. 33, modifié par S.C. 1952-53, ch. 23, par. 14(1),

(vii) le paragraphe 39B(1) de la *Loi sur la citoyenneté canadienne*, S.R.C. 1952, ch. 33, édicté par S.C. 1967-68, ch. 4, art. 10,

(viii) les alinéas 4(1)b) ou 5(1)b) ou le paragraphe 42(1) de l'ancienne loi.

(4) Le paragraphe (3) ne s'applique pas à la personne qui, à la date d'entrée en vigueur de ce paragraphe, avait qualité de citoyen. Il s'applique toutefois dans le cas où, à cette date, la personne n'aurait eu cette qualité au titre des alinéas (1)b) ou g) que par application de l'un des alinéas (7)d) à g) relativement à l'un de ses parents.

(4.1) Le paragraphe (3) ne s'applique pas à la personne qui, à l'entrée en vigueur du présent paragraphe, avait qualité de citoyen. Il s'applique toutefois dans le cas où, à cette date, la personne n'aurait eu cette qualité au titre des alinéas (1)b) ou g) que par application de l'un des alinéas (7)i), k) ou m) relativement à l'un de ses parents.

(10) Texte des paragraphes 3(5.1) et (5.2) :

(5.1) La personne qui est née à l'étranger d'un parent visé aux alinéas a) ou b) et qui soit a) qualité de citoyen au titre d'une disposition — autre que celles visées aux sous-alinéas (3)b)(i) à (viii) — de la législation antérieure ou de l'ancienne loi, soit a) obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution sous le régime de l'alinéa 5(2)a) de la présente loi, dans ses versions antérieures au 17 avril 2009, ou des paragraphes 5(1), (2) ou (4) ou 11(1) de la présente loi est réputée, à compter de l'entrée en vigueur du présent paragraphe, n'avoir jamais obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution :

a) le parent dont, au moment de sa naissance, le ou les parents étaient, sans avoir été engagés sur place, au service, à l'étranger,

service of a province, otherwise than as a locally engaged person;
or

(b) a parent one or both of whose adoptive parents, at the time of that parent's adoption, were employed outside Canada in or with the Canadian Armed Forces, the federal public administration or the public service of a province, otherwise than as a locally engaged person.

(5.2) Subsection (5.1) does not apply to a person born outside Canada after February 14, 1977 who, before April 17, 2009, ceased to be a citizen because he or she failed to make an application to retain his or her citizenship under section 8, as it read before April 17, 2009, or made an application but the application was not approved.

(11) Existing text of subsection 3(6.2):

(6.2) A person referred to in any of paragraphs (1)(k) to (r) — or a person referred to in paragraph (1)(h) or (g) who is a citizen under that paragraph for the sole reason that one or both of his or her parents are persons referred to in any of paragraphs (1)(k) to (n) — who became a citizen by way of grant before the coming into force of this subsection is deemed, except for the purposes of paragraph (2.1)(b), subsection (2.2), paragraph (2.3)(b), subsection (2.4) and subparagraphs 27(j.1)(ii) and (iii), never to have been a citizen by way of grant.

(12) New.

(13) and (14) Relevant portion of subsection 3(7):

(7) Despite any provision of this Act or any Act respecting naturalization or citizenship that was in force in Canada at any time before the day on which this subsection comes into force

(a) a person referred to in paragraph (1)(c) who was, before the coming into force of this subsection, granted citizenship under any of the following provisions after ceasing to be a citizen by way of grant for any reason other than the reasons referred to in subparagraphs (1)(f)(i) to (iii) is deemed to be a citizen under paragraph (1)(c) from the time that he or she ceased to be a citizen:

...

(h) a person referred to in paragraph (1)(b) who is a citizen under that paragraph for the sole reason that one or both of his or her parents are referred to in paragraph (1)(f) or (i) is deemed to be a citizen under paragraph (1)(b) from the time that he or she was born;

(i) a person referred to in paragraph (1)(b) who is a citizen under that paragraph for the sole reason that one or both of his or her parents are referred to in any of paragraphs (1)(k) to (n) is deemed to be a citizen under paragraph (1)(b) from the time that he or she was born;

(15) Existing text of subsection 3(9):

(9) In subsections (2.1) to (2.4) and (6.2), **by way of grant** means by way of grant under this Act or under prior legislation, by way of acquisition under this Act or by way of resumption under prior legislation.

des Forces armées canadiennes ou de l'administration publique fédérale ou de celle d'une province;

b) le parent dont, au moment de son adoption, le ou les parents adoptifs étaient, sans avoir été engagés sur place, au service, à l'étranger, des Forces armées canadiennes ou de l'administration publique fédérale ou de celle d'une province.

(5.2) Le paragraphe (5.1) ne s'applique pas à la personne née à l'étranger après le 14 février 1977 qui, avant le 17 avril 2009, a cessé d'être citoyen parce qu'elle n'a pas présenté la demande visée à l'article 8, dans ses versions antérieures à cette dernière date, pour conserver sa citoyenneté ou, si elle l'a fait, parce que la demande a été rejetée.

(11) Texte du paragraphe 3(6.2) :

(6.2) La personne visée à l'un des alinéas (1)k) à r) — ou celle visée aux alinéas (1)b) ou g) qui a qualité de citoyen pour la seule raison que son père ou sa mère ou ses deux parents sont visés à l'un des alinéas (1)k) à n) — qui a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution avant l'entrée en vigueur du présent paragraphe est réputée, sauf pour l'application de l'alinéa (2.1)b), du paragraphe (2.2), de l'alinéa (2.3)b), du paragraphe (2.4) et des sous-alinéas 27j.1)(ii) et (iii), n'avoir jamais obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution.

(12) Nouveau.

(13) et (14) Texte du passage visé du paragraphe 3(7) :

(7) Malgré les autres dispositions de la présente loi et l'ensemble des lois concernant la naturalisation ou la citoyenneté en vigueur au Canada avant l'entrée en vigueur du présent paragraphe :

a) la personne visée à l'alinéa (1)c) qui, avant l'entrée en vigueur du présent paragraphe, a obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution sous le régime de l'une des dispositions ci-après après avoir cessé d'être citoyen — pour un motif autre que les motifs visés aux sous-alinéas (1)f)(i) à (iii) — alors qu'elle avait obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution, est réputée être citoyen au titre de cet alinéa à partir du moment où elle a cessé d'être citoyen :

[...]

h) la personne visée à l'alinéa (1)b) qui a qualité de citoyen en vertu de cet alinéa pour la seule raison que son père ou sa mère ou ses deux parents sont visés aux alinéas (1)f) ou i) est réputée être citoyen au titre de cet alinéa (1)b) à partir du moment de sa naissance;

i) la personne visée à l'alinéa (1)b) qui a qualité de citoyen en vertu de cet alinéa pour la seule raison que son père ou sa mère ou ses deux parents sont visés à l'un des alinéas (1)k) à n) est réputée être citoyen au titre de l'alinéa (1)b) à partir du moment de sa naissance;

(15) Texte du paragraphe 3(9) :

(9) Aux paragraphes (2.1) à (2.4) et (6.2), **obtenir la citoyenneté par attribution** s'entend du fait d'obtenir la citoyenneté par attribution en vertu de la présente loi ou de la législation antérieure, par acquisition en vertu de la présente loi ou par reprise en vertu de la législation antérieure.

Clause 2: Existing text of subsection 4(2):

(2) For the purposes of paragraph 3(1)(b) and subsection 3(2), where a child is born after the death of either of his parents, the child shall be deemed to have been born before the death of that parent.

Clause 3: Relevant portion of subsection 5(5):

(5) The Minister shall, on application, grant citizenship to a person who

(a) is born outside Canada after the coming into force of this subsection;

Clause 4: (1) Existing text of subsection 5.1(4):

(4) No person who is adopted may be granted citizenship under any of subsections (1) to (3)

(a) if, at the time of his or her adoption, only one of the adoptive parents was a citizen and that parent was a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(b), (c.1), (e), (g), (h), (o), (p), (q) or (r), or both of the adoptive parents were citizens under any of those paragraphs;

(a.1) if the person was adopted before January 1, 1947 and, on that day, only one of the adoptive parents was a citizen and that parent was a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(o) or (q), or both of the adoptive parents were citizens under either of those paragraphs;

(a.2) if the person was adopted before April 1, 1949 and, on that day, only one of the adoptive parents was a citizen and that parent was a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(p) or (r), or both of the adoptive parents were citizens under either of those paragraphs; or

(b) if, at any time, only one of the adoptive parents was a citizen and that parent was a citizen under any of the provisions referred to in subparagraphs 3(3)(b)(i) to (viii), or both of the adoptive parents were citizens under any of those provisions.

(2) Existing text of subsection 5.1(6):

(6) Paragraphs 5.1(4)(a) and (a.1) do not apply to a person who is adopted before April 1, 1949 if

(a) only one adoptive parent was a citizen at the time of the adoption, in the case of paragraph (a), or was a citizen on January 1, 1947, in the case of paragraph (a.1); and

(b) the other adoptive parent became a citizen on April 1, 1949 further to the union of Newfoundland and Labrador with Canada, other than under paragraph 3(1)(p) or (r).

Clause 5: Relevant portion of section 5.2:

5.2 A person born outside Canada who was adopted by a parent referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) and who is either a citizen under prior legislation or the former Act — other than under any provision referred to in any of subparagraphs 3(3)(b)(i) to (viii) — or was granted citizenship under paragraph 5(2)(a) of this Act, as it read before April 17, 2009, or under subsection 5(1), (2), or (4) or 11(1) of this Act is deemed, as of the coming into force of this section, to have been granted citizenship under section 5.1:

Article 2 : Texte du paragraphe 4(2) :

(2) Pour l'application de l'alinéa 3(1)b) et du paragraphe 3(2), l'enfant né après le décès de son père ou de sa mère est réputé être né avant ce décès.

Article 3 : Texte du passage visé du paragraphe 5(5) :

(5) Le ministre attribue, sur demande, la citoyenneté à quiconque remplit les conditions suivantes :

a) il est né à l'étranger après l'entrée en vigueur du présent paragraphe;

Article 4 : (1) Texte du paragraphe 5.1(4) :

(4) La citoyenneté ne peut être attribuée, sous le régime de l'un des paragraphes (1) à (3), à la personne adoptée dans l'un ou l'autre des cas suivants :

a) au moment de l'adoption, seul le père adoptif ou la mère adoptive avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre des alinéas 3(1)b), c.1), c), g), h), o), p), q) ou r), ou les deux parents adoptifs avaient cette qualité au titre de l'un de ces alinéas;

a.1) s'agissant d'une personne adoptée avant le 1^{er} janvier 1947, à cette date, seul le père adoptif ou la mère adoptive avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre des alinéas 3(1)o) ou q), ou les deux parents adoptifs avaient cette qualité au titre de l'un de ces alinéas;

a.2) s'agissant d'une personne adoptée avant le 1^{er} avril 1949, à cette date, seul le père adoptif ou la mère adoptive avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre des alinéas 3(1)p) ou r), ou les deux parents adoptifs avaient cette qualité au titre de l'un de ces alinéas;

b) à un moment donné, seul le père adoptif ou la mère adoptive avait qualité de citoyen, et ce, au titre de l'une des dispositions visées aux sous-alinéas 3(3)b)(i) à (viii), ou les deux parents adoptifs avaient cette qualité au titre de l'une de celles-ci.

(2) Texte du paragraphe 5.1(6) :

(6) Les alinéas 5.1(4)a) et a.1) ne s'appliquent pas à la personne adoptée avant le 1^{er} avril 1949 si :

a) seul le père adoptif ou la mère adoptive avait qualité de citoyen, dans le cas de l'alinéa a), au moment de l'adoption ou, dans le cas de l'alinéa a.1), le 1^{er} janvier 1947;

b) l'autre parent adoptif est devenu citoyen le 1^{er} avril 1949 par suite de l'adhésion de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador à la Fédération canadienne, autrement qu'au titre des alinéas 3(1)p) ou r).

Article 5 : Texte du passage visé de l'article 5.2 :

5.2 La personne née à l'étranger qui est adoptée par un parent visé aux alinéas a) ou b) et qui soit a) qualité de citoyen au titre d'une disposition — autre que celles visées aux sous-alinéas 3(3)b)(i) à (viii) — de la législation antérieure ou de l'ancienne loi, soit a) obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution sous le régime de l'alinéa 5(2)a) de la présente loi, dans ses versions antérieures au 17 avril 2009, ou des paragraphes 5(1), (2) ou (4) ou 11(1) de la présente loi, est réputée, à compter de l'entrée en vigueur du présent article, avoir obtenu la citoyenneté par attribution sous le régime de l'article 5.1 :

Clause 6: Relevant portion of subsection 27(1):

27 (1) The Governor in Council may make regulations

...

(j.1) providing for the renunciation of citizenship by persons

Article 6 : Texte du passage visé du paragraphe 27(1) :

27 (1) Le gouverneur en conseil peut, par règlement :

[...]

j.1) régir la répudiation de la citoyenneté de quiconque :



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› [Canadian Citizenship](#) › [Citizenship administration](#)

Citizenship decision-making

i This section contains policy, procedures and guidance used by IRCC staff. It is posted on the department's website as a courtesy to stakeholders.

Procedural fairness

- [Administrative law](#)
- [Natural justice and procedural fairness](#)
- [Judicial review and appeals](#)

Decision-making

- [Decision-making procedures](#)
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- Procedures for refused applicants
- Referring applications to a citizenship judge
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Waivers and special grants

- Waivers for renunciation of citizenship under section 9
- Ministerial discretion to waive some requirements
- Procedure for applicants unable to act on own behalf
- Advance approvals for waivers

Guardianship, affidavits and declarations

- Parental consent

Date modified: 2025-12-02

Citizenship despite death of parent

This section provides guidance on the application of section 3(1) of the Citizenship Act as amended by Bill C-3 where an applicant's claim to citizenship is tied to a deceased ancestor. Section 3(1.5) of the Act reads:

Citizen despite death of parent

(1.5) A person who would not become a citizen under one of the paragraphs of subsection (1) for the sole reason that their parent or both their parent and their parent's parent died before the coming into force of An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025) is a citizen under that paragraph if that parent — or both that parent and that parent's parent — but for their death, would have been a citizen as a result of the coming into force of that Act.

This section is applicable when assessing a proof or simplified renunciation application for a person who is born abroad beyond the first generation whose parent or grandparent through whom they are claiming citizenship died before being eligible to become a citizen under Bill C-3. In summary, it is important to note that persons who do not fall within section 3(1.5) are not prevented from citizenship under section 3(1).

On this page

[General requirements](#)

[Background](#)

[Clarifying provision](#)

[Guidance on applying subsection 3\(1.5\)](#)

General requirements

This guidance applies to applications where

- the person:
 - is claiming or renouncing citizenship by descent; and
 - is born abroad beyond the first generation; and
 - was affected by the 2009 first-generation limit; and
 - is a citizen as a result of having a direct ancestor who would have become a citizen under previous amendments to the Citizenship Act (bills C-24, C-37 or C-3) were it not for their death

Background

A person is a citizen if they are described under subsection 3(1) of the *Citizenship Act*. In 2009, the Act was amended to add several new paragraphs to subsection 3(1), in order to restore citizenship

to or confer citizenship on certain individuals who lost or never acquired citizenship under historical rules now considered outdated (“Lost Canadians”). The Act was also amended to introduce the “first-generation limit” to citizenship by descent.

Amendments to the citizenship by descent framework in 2009 had two main objectives. First, they restored or gave citizenship to Lost Canadians, as if they had always been citizens and/or had never lost citizenship. This also had the effect of conferring citizenship on their children, but only if their children were born outside of Canada in the first generation. Second, it imposed the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent. This meant that while Lost Canadians and their children (if born abroad in the first generation) acquired citizenship by automatic operation of law, those born abroad in the second or subsequent generations did not become citizens.

Once in force, the citizenship program identified an issue with the way in which the new provisions appeared to operate. While the intent of the 2009 amendments was to ensure that Lost Canadians and their children born outside Canada in the first-generation were recognized as citizens, an issue arose as to whether the claim to citizenship by descent for some in this cohort depended on whether their parent was alive when Bill C-37 came into effect. In other words, it was unclear whether automatic citizenship by operation of law under the amended Act depended on whether the person’s Canadian parent was alive on April 17, 2009, contrary to the intention of the provisions. The issue arose as it is the Department’s longstanding position that deceased persons cannot be Canadian citizens nor acquire Canadian citizenship.

Given this ambiguity in the Act, work began to bring forward further amendments to clarify this issue, by expressly setting out in the legislation that a person would not be precluded from citizenship due to the timing of their parent’s death. In the meantime, between 2009 and 2015, the citizenship program adopted the position that any application for proof of citizenship from such persons would be facilitated (i.e. they would be considered to be a citizen), but that proof of citizenship for a deceased parent or acknowledgement of a deceased parent’s citizenship would not be issued. In other words, a deceased person would not be issued proof of citizenship but their living child or grandchild would be recognized as a citizen despite their parent’s or grandparent’s death.

In 2015, under Bill C-24, the Act was further amended to confer citizenship on several additional categories of Lost Canadians as well as their children born abroad in the first generation. Clarifying amendments regarding the interpretation of subsection 3(1), where the Canadian parent was deceased, were also added to the Act. As such, subsection 3(1.1) clarified that children born outside of Canada in the first generation who would have become citizens for the first time when Bill C-37 came into force on April 17, 2009, did in fact become citizens at that time, notwithstanding the fact that their Canadian parent had died before April 17, 2009. The Bill also introduced several additional clarifying provisions (ss. 3(1.2) – 3(1.4)) that were similarly intended to ensure that where a Canadian parent would have become a citizen under one of the new paragraphs, except for the fact they were deceased prior to 2015, their child would also become a citizen despite their parent’s death.

On December 15, 2025, the *Citizenship Act* was further amended, eliminating the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent for all persons born abroad before December 15, 2025. This includes

those whose parent, grandparent or ancestor became a citizen as a result of the 2009, 2015, or 2025 amendments to the *Citizenship Act*.

Clarifying provision

Bill C-3 includes a clarifying provision under subsection 3(1.5), which was intended to provide clarity for all cases in which a person could become a citizen as a result of Bill C-3, but for the death of their Canadian ancestor. However, subsection 3(1.5) only references persons who would not become citizens for the sole reason that their parent or parent and grandparent is deceased, and that parent or parent and grandparent, but for their death, would have become a citizen as a result of Bill C-3 coming into force. In other words, the deceased parent or grandparent would have become a citizen on December 15, 2025, were it not for the fact that they were deceased before this date. The provision does not expressly reference persons who would become citizens as a result of Bill C-3 had their Canadian parent or grandparent who is deceased become a citizen under previous legislative changes in 2009 or 2015.

Guidance on applying subsection 3(1.5)

the Act should be interpreted so that all descendants of Lost Canadians subjected to the first-generation limit become citizens. Decision-makers should assess whether the applicant's parent, grandparent, or ancestor **would have become a Canadian citizen under the 2009, 2015 or 2025 amendments to the Act, were it not for their death**. Where the evidence supports that the deceased ancestor would have been a citizen as a result of these amendments, this should be taken into consideration for the purpose of determining the applicant's claim to citizenship by descent.

This guidance is intended to ensure that applicants are not refused a citizenship certificate solely on the basis that their parent or other ancestor through whom they derive citizenship died prior to being able to benefit from legislative amendments that would have defined them as a Canadian citizen.

.....

Recognition of a person as a Canadian citizen under paragraph 3(1)(q) where their Canadian parent is also a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(q) (Internal only)

This section provides guidance with respect to who is described as a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(q) of the *Citizenship Act*.

Paragraph 3(1)(q) describes a person as a citizen if they are:

- Born outside Canada before January 1, 1947; and
- Their parent became a citizen on January 1, 1947 “under the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, S.C. 1946, c. 15”

On this page

[Background](#)

[Guidance on applying subsection 3\(1\)\(q\)](#)

Background

More specifically, the *Citizenship Act* clarifies in subsection 3(1.3) that a person may still be defined as a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(q) where their parent was deceased prior to January 1, 1947. Subsection 3(1.3), added to the Act in 2015, states that a person who would not become a citizen under paragraph 3(1)(q) for the sole reason that their parent died before January 1, 1947, and did not become a citizen on that day under the *Canadian Citizenship Act*, S.C. 1946, c. 15, is nonetheless a citizen under 3(1)(q) if their parent meets certain prescribed conditions.

Guidance on applying subsection 3(1)(q)

Paragraph 3(1)(q) captures persons whose parents would have been recognized as citizens as a result of amendments to the *Citizenship Act* under Bill C-24 and who were deemed to be citizens as of January 1, 1947, under subsection 3(7) of the Act. As such, these persons should be considered a parent who would have become a citizen on January 1, 1947 “under the *Canadian Citizenship Act*,

S.C. 1946, c. 15” for the purposes of recognizing their child as a Canadian citizen under paragraph 3(1)(q).

Instructor/Producer Guide - Bill C-3 Info-session for Officers

Bill C-3 An Act to Amend the Citizenship Act (2025) - Part 1 Legislative Changes

Duration approx. 30 minutes

Visual Aids

Visual Aid 1 – *Bill C-3* An Act to Amend the Citizenship Act

Visual Aid 2 - Overview

Visual Aid 3 – Key Objectives of *Bill C-3*

Visual Aid 4 – How the Legislation Now Works: Born Pre-CIF- Automatic Citizenship By Descent For Persons Born Abroad to a Canadian Citizen Parent

Visual Aid 5– How the Legislation Now Works: Born Pre-CIF- Automatic Citizenship By Descent For Descendants of “Lost Canadians”

Visual Aid 6 – Subparagraph 3(1)(f)(iii)

Visual Aid 7 – Requirement to demonstrate the *parent's' physical presence* – 3(3)(a)(ii)

Visual Aid 8 - Requirement to demonstrate the *parent's' physical presence* – 3(3)(b)(ii)

Visual Aid 9 - How the Legislation Now Works: Born On or After CIF - Automatic Citizenship By Descent For Persons Born Abroad to a Canadian Citizen Parent

Visual Aid 10 - Amendments to 5.1(4) – Adoption ‘FGL’

Visual Aid 11 – How the Legislation Now Works: - Persons Adopted Abroad By A Canadian Citizen Parent Pre-CIF

Visual Aid 12 – How the Legislation Now Works: Persons Adopted Abroad By A Canadian Citizen Parent On or After CIF

Visual Aid 13 – First cohort excluded

Visual Aid 14 – Second cohort excluded

Introduction (1 minute)

Producer:

- Display Visual Aid 1 – Bill C-3 - An Act to Amend the Citizenship Act
- When instructed, initiate recording.
- Attach the PowerPoint file in the chat.

Instructor:

[Advise participants the session will be recorded and about the pop-ups.]

“We will be recording this session. Once we start the recording you will get a pop-up window which you can close by clicking on the X top right of pop-up window. If you get a second pop-up asking you to accept. You will need to accept to continue.”

[Ask Producer to start the recording.]

“Blaine please start the recording.”

[Wait several seconds and then welcome everyone to the information session.]

“Welcome to today’s information session on Bill C-3. The bill is expected to come into force on December 15th. I am Cristina Bastien, for those of you who do not know me I am a Learning Advisor with the Learning Academy.

I work on the team responsible for the Citizenship curriculum including Proofs.

Blaine Aitkens, who I believe you all know, is an Officer from Sydney who is currently on assignment with us and has helped put this presentation together. Blaine will be the Producer for this session.

I will kick off this information session by presenting the legislative changes as a result of Bill C-3. We have attached the PowerPoint file for this part of the information session in the chat.

Once I have covered the legislative changes, the Proofs+ Team (formerly known as PALS) will give you some details on changes to simplified renunciations as there are some changes to that line of business as a result of Bill C-3.

Then, there will be a discussion on documentation led by DIOD followed by an opportunity to ask questions.”

Overview (2 minutes)

Producer:

- Display Visual Aid 2 – Overview

Instructor:

[Provide context.]

“So to start let’s go over what led to Bill C-3. As you already likely know, on December 19, 2023, the Ontario Superior Court of Justice declared that key provisions of the first-generation limit are unconstitutional. This is known as the *Bjorkquist et al.* decision. The Government of Canada did not appeal the ruling.

The Ontario Superior Court of Justice has granted a series of extensions of the suspension of the declaration of invalidity; the most recent to January 20, 2026.

The government decided that legislation was needed to protect the value of Canadian citizenship. As the court’s decision would have struck down the first-generation limit for many, new legislation would establish a revised framework for citizenship by descent. In other words, a revised first generation limit.

In the absence of a revised first generation limit, Canadian citizenship for many would be passed in perpetuity to future generations born outside of Canada, regardless of their connection to Canada. Most like-minded countries have some limits to citizenship by descent, so it is not passed on in perpetuity.

Additionally, the Court declaration as a result of the *Bjorkquist et al.* decision did not apply equally to all.

It did not:

- Include direct grant adoptions under 5.1
- Restore citizenship to Section 8 “Lost Canadians”; and,
- Provide citizenship to a subset of individuals born abroad before April 1, 1949, who remain subject to the first-generation limit.

Bill C-3 is the latest Bill that was drafted to revise the first generation limit and grant or restore citizenship to those citizens who would have been left out, if the first generation became invalid as a result of the *Bjorkquist et al.* decision.

In the meantime, while the Bill was going through the parliamentary process Interim Measures were put in place in May 2024 offering Proof applicants who would normally be refused due to the first generation limit an opportunity to be considered for a grant of citizenship under subsection 5(4).

Key Objectives of Bill C-3 (1 minute)

Producer:

- Display Visual Aid 3 – Key Objectives of Bill C-3
- Attach Bill C-3 with comments document

Instructor:

[Review the objectives of the Bill.]

“*Bill C-3* was drafted with 4 key objectives. [Read slide aloud.]

In the chat we have attached a copy of the Bill where we have added comments. You can download this for future reference.

Let's start our review at the Summary section of the Bill on page 2. This summarizes the amendments.

Summary paragraph (a) (2 minutes)

Producer:

- Display **Bill C- 3 with comments** and navigate to Page ii paragraph (a)

Instructor:

[Elaborate on paragraph (a) of the Summary]

“Let’s take a look at paragraph (a) This enactment amends the *Citizenship Act* to, among other things, (a) ensure that citizenship by descent is conferred on all persons who were born outside Canada before the coming into force of this enactment to a parent who was a citizen;

The replacement of the entire text of subsection 3(3) was done with the intention of conferring citizenship by descent on all persons born outside Canada to a citizen parent before CIF of *Bill C-3*. The old text that limited citizenship by descent to persons born in the first generation has been eliminated and replaced. The new subsection 3(3) only applies to people born on or after coming into force of *Bill C-3*. In other words those born on or after December 15, 2025.

We will discuss the new text of subsection 3(3) when we look at how people born on or after CIF are impacted. For now we are discussing people born before December 15, 2025.

Although the intent is to confer citizenship by descent on all persons born outside Canada to a citizen parent before CIF of *Bill C-3*,

We will provide details on this a little later in the presentation. For now, let’s discuss how *Bill C-3* will help the majority of people born before CIF that were previously limited by the FGL.”

How the Legislation Now Works: Those Born Before Coming Into Force (4 minutes)

Producer:

- When instructed, display Visual Aid 4 – How the Legislation Now Works: Born Pre-CIF- Automatic Citizenship By Descent For Persons Born Abroad to a Canadian Citizen Parent
- Display **Bill C- 3 with comments** and navigate to Page 7 of 18 paragraph 14
- When instructed, display Visual Aid 5 – How the Legislation Now Works: Born Pre-CIF - Automatic Citizenship By Descent For Descendants of “Lost Canadians”

Instructor:

[Explain there are 2 groups of people that benefit from replacement of the entire text of subsection 3(3).]

“There are 2 groups of people that will benefit from the replacement of the entire text of subsection 3(3). We are going to look at each of these groups a little closer.”

[Discuss the first group that benefits.]

“The first group are those born since 2009 who were those impacted by the first-generation limit. Let’s look at an example of how *Bill C-3* helps this group. Blaine please show slide.

[Read slide aloud.] John is a 3(1)(b).

[Remind them of retroactivity provisions.]

“Let’s navigate to paragraph 14) of the Bill on Page 7 of 18. This is where we find the amended retroactivity provision for 3(1)(b). [Give them a moment to read it.] I will give you a moment to read that. [After a 30 seconds continue] Paragraphs 3(7)(h) and (i) of the Act have been replaced with a new paragraph (h). The amendment removes the specific references to 3(1)(f), 3(1)(i), 3(1)(k) and 3(1)(m) parents which were previously in (h) and (i). The new version of paragraph (h) deems anyone who was described at 3(1)(b) before the CIF of C-3 to be a Canadian Citizen from their date of birth. Just as with John in our example.”

[Discuss second group that benefits.]

“Let’s look at the second group that benefits from the replacement of subsection 3(3). Namely, the descendants of Lost Canadians. As you know most “Lost Canadians” were remedied in 2009 and 2015 through *Bill C-37* and *Bill C-24*. Their descendants born abroad in the second or subsequent generations were excluded from citizenship by descent because of the first-generation limit that was first introduced in 2009 with *Bill C-37*. The replacement of the entire text of subsection 3(3) accomplishes the goal of conferring citizenship by descent on most persons born outside Canada to a citizen parent before CIF of *Bill C-3* including descendants of “Lost Canadians”.

Let’s look at an example of how *Bill C-3* helps this group. Blaine please display the slide. [Read slide aloud]

Clifford is described under 3(1)(b). Clifford’s citizenship is retroactive to his date of birth as per the new 3(7)(h) retroactivity provision.”

Summary paragraph (e) (2 minutes)

Producer:

- Display **Bill C- 3 with comments** and navigate to Page 2 of 18 paragraph (e)

Instructor:

“[Elaborate on paragraph e) of the Summary]

“Let’s go back to the Summary section of the Bill and jump ahead to look at paragraph e), we will review the other paragraphs later. This enactment amends the *Citizenship Act* to, among other things, (e) restore citizenship to persons who lost their citizenship because they did not make an application to retain it under the former section 8 of that Act or because they made an application under that section that was not approved.

As you all know, under the former section 8 persons born abroad to a Canadian parent in the second or subsequent generation who acquired citizenship at birth but did not apply to retain their citizenship or applied but were not successful ceased on their 28th birthday. Section 8 was repealed on April 17, 2009, and replaced with the first-generation limit. But those born between February 15, 1977, and April 16, 1981, who had already turned 28 years old by 2009 and had lost their citizenship, were not restored.

Section 8 Loss and Restoration (3 minutes)

Producer:

- When instructed display Visual Aid 6 – Subparagraph 3(1)(f)(iii)
- Display **Bill C- 3 with comments** and navigate to Page 7 of 18 paragraph 12

Instructor:

[Explain that those who lost under section 8 are restored under 3(1)(f).]

“*Bill C-3* amends the Citizenship Act to restore citizenship to persons who lost their under the former section 8. This is accomplished with the amendments to 3(1)(f).”

Blaine please show the next slide. Prior to Bill C-3 coming into force, subparagraph 3(1)(f)(iii) prevented people who had lost under section 8 from being restored at 3(1)(f).

Well Bill C-3 has removed subparagraph 3(1)(f)(iii) so now the only people not restored under paragraph 3(1)(f) are those who renounced and those who had their citizenship revoked.

Up until now, 3(1)(f) only restored citizenship to individuals who lost under the CCA. Now it also applies to those who lost under section 8 of the CA.

Let's navigate to paragraph 12) of the Bill on Page 7 of 18 where we will find Subsection 3(6.4) [Give them a moment to read it.] Subsection 3(6.4) was added with Bill C-3 to ensure that if an individual is described both under 3(1)(b) and 3(1)(f) they are a citizen under 3(1)(f) only.

Summary paragraph (b) (2 minutes)

Producer:

- Display **Bill C- 3 with comments** and navigate to Page 2 of 18 paragraph (b)

Instructor:

[Elaborate on paragraph (b) of the Summary]

“Let’s go back to the Summary section of the Bill and take a look at paragraph (b) This enactment amends the *Citizenship Act* to, among other things, (b) confer citizenship by descent on persons born outside Canada after the first generation, on or after the coming into force of this enactment, to a parent who is a citizen and who had a substantial connection to Canada before the person’s birth;

As mentioned earlier, one of the amendments brought in by *Bill C-3* is the revision of the entire text of subsection 3(3). This revised provision prevents children, born outside of Canada after the CIF of *Bill C-3* to 1st generation or subsequent generation Canadian parents from deriving citizenship unless they can demonstrate the *parent’s physical presence* in Canada for at least 1,095 days before the person’s birth.”

A revised framework governing citizenship by descent. (3 minutes)

Producer:

-When instructed Display Visual Aid 7 -
Requirement to demonstrate the *parent's physical presence* – 3(3)(a)(ii)

When instructed, display Visual Aid 8 -
Requirement to demonstrate the *parent's physical presence* – 3(3)(b)(ii)

Instructor:

[Explain the 2 new subparagraphs]

“For children of parent’s who were only ever citizens under the CA the requirement to demonstrate the *parent’s physical presence* provision is found in subparagraph 3(3)(a)(ii).”
[Review slide]. Note that it does not say that these days are consecutive so therefore the requirement is for 1,095 days of cumulative physical presence over their lifetime before the child’s date of birth. Blaine please show the next slide

“For children of parent’s who were citizens under the CCA the requirement to demonstrate the *parent’s physical presence* provision is found in subparagraph 3(3)(b)(ii).

Again we are referring to 1,095 days of cumulative physical presence before the child’s date of birth. Blaine please show the example on the next slide.”

How the Legislation Now Works: Those Born On or After Coming into Force (2 minutes)

Producer:

- Display Visual Aid 9 – How the Legislation Now Works: Born On or After CIF - Automatic Citizenship By Descent For Persons Born Abroad To A Canadian Citizen Parent

Instructor:

[Review example.]

“Let’s look at an example of the revised first generation limit for those born on or after December 15, 2025.”[Read slide aloud]

Physical Presence Requirement (2 minutes)

Producer:

When instructed, attach **Revised first generation limit to citizenship by descent document** in chat

Instructor:

[Elaborate on the Physical presence Requirement.]

“The Proof application form has been updated to ask questions to identify applicants who may be subject to the new FGL. These applicants will also need to complete the new Physical Presence form declaring their derivative parent’s physical presence.

A day of physical presence in Canada is defined as any calendar day spent physically present in Canada regardless the length of time they were present for the day or reasons for the stay.

Time spent serving a sentence in Canada does not count towards Physical Presence, this is consistent with the rules for Grant applicants.

be counted as physical presence in Canada.

Time residing outside Canada and employed as a Crown servant cannot

However, the Crown Servant exceptions to the FGL still exist and were not modified by Bill C-3. Blaine will attach a document in the chat that summarizes the new FGL rules. You can keep this for future reference. “

Summary paragraphs (c) and (d) (3 minutes)

Producer:

- Display **Bill C- 3 with comments** and navigate to Page ii of 18 paragraph (c) and (d)

Instructor:

[Elaborate on paragraph (c) and (d) of the Summary]

"Let's go back to the Summary section of the Bill and take a look at paragraphs (c) and (d). This enactment amends the *Citizenship Act* to, among other things, (c) allow citizenship to be granted under section 5.1 of that Act to all persons born outside Canada who were adopted before the coming into force of this enactment by a parent who was a citizen;

This enactment amends the *Citizenship Act* to, among other things, (d) allow citizenship to be granted under section 5.1 of that Act to persons born outside Canada who are adopted on or after the coming into force of this enactment by a parent who is a citizen and who had a substantial connection to Canada before the person's adoption;

5.1 Adoptions (2 minutes)

Producer:

- When instructed, display Visual Aid 10 -
Amendments to 5.1(4) – Adoption 'FGL'

Instructor:

"As you know, the intent of the legislation under Bill C-14 in 2007 was to minimize the difference between children adopted abroad to a Canadian parent and children born abroad to a Canadian parent.

With the amendments made to the FGL as a result of Bill C-3 there was a desire to apply the same framework to adopted children.

So, subsection 5.1(4) had to be amended. Blaine please show the next slide." [Read slide]

5.1 Adoptions (1 minute)

Producer:

- Display Visual Aid 11 - How the Legislation Now Works

Instructor:

[Review example.]

"Let's look at an example of someone adopted Pre-CIF."

[Read slide]

5.1 Adoptions (1 minute)

Producer:

- Display Visual Aid 12 - How the Legislation Now Works: Persons Adopted Abroad By A Canadian Citizen Parent On or After CIF

Instructor:

[Review example.]

"Now, let's look at an example of someone adopted on or after coming into force of Bill C-3." [Read slide]

Summary paragraph (f) (1 minute)

Producer:

- Display **Bill C- 3 with comments** and navigate to Page 2 of 18 paragraph (f)

Instructor:

[Elaborate on paragraph (f) of the Summary]

"Let's take a closer look at paragraph (f) This enactment amends the *Citizenship Act* to, (f) allow certain persons who become citizens as a result of the coming into force of this enactment to access a simplified process to renounce their citizenship.

You will recall that when Bill C-37 and later Bill C-24 came into force there was a simplified renunciation process available to those who became citizens automatically with the coming into force of those bills but who wanted to renounce. A similar process is being made available to those who will become citizens automatically as a result of Bill C-3. This process is also available to minors for the first time with specific requirements that will be covered in the next section of this information session. The expansion of the simplified renunciation is accomplished through the amendment to 27(1)(j.1) of the Act. The simplified renunciation provision can be found in section 7.1 of the Regulations.

More details on the simplified renunciation provision under Bill C-3 will be presented shortly. First, let's discuss the 2 cohorts of people who may have been unintentionally excluded from Bill C-3.

Cohorts born before CIF of Bill C-3 excluded (5 minute)

Producer:

- Display Visual Aid 13 – First cohort excluded
- When instructed, display Visual Aid 14 – Second cohort excluded

Instructor:

[Elaborate on cohorts that are not automatically remedied]

“As mentioned earlier, although one of the intents of Bill C-3 amendments is to confer citizenship by descent on all persons born outside Canada to a citizen parent before CIF of Bill C-3, we have recently discovered that there are some cohorts that may not automatically become citizens by operation of law due to the way some of the provisions in the Act as well as Bill C-3 are written.

The first cohort that may be excluded are people born before January 1, 1947 whose parent is a q) and those born before April 1, 1949 whose parent is an r).

When paragraphs 3(1)(q) and (r) were written you could only be a (q) or an (r) if you were born in the first generation outside of Canada. Although Bill C-3 eliminates the FGL, in order for a person to be described at 3(1)(q), their derivative parent had to have become a citizen on January 1, 1947

when the CCA came into force (or on April 1, 1949 in the case of an (r)).

Until further operational instructions are given, these cases are to be set aside. Work is underway to determine how identification of these cases and further handling will be operationalised.

The second cohort that may be excluded from Bill C-3 are when there are multi-generational claims [Review slide]. Although Bill C-3 added a citizenship despite the death of parent provision, the way it is written may only apply when the deceased parent would have become a citizen specifically as a result of the coming into force of Bill C-3. Therefore, if the death occurred before April 17, 2009 or June 11, 2015 respectively the descendant may not have a claim by descent.

Until further notice, these cases are to be set aside until further operational instructions are given. Work is underway to determine how identification of these cases and further handling will be operationalised. Instructions will be provided in the near future.

There will be time for questions at the end of today's session. We will be happy to answer questions at that time. We will now invite the Proofs+ team to give more details on the simplified renunciation.

From: CIT Operations / Opérations CIT (IRCC)
To: IRCC F CIT List / Liste CIT F IRCC; Hoang, Uyen (IRCC/IRCC); Marchand, Gregory-Adam
Cc: CIT Operations / Opérations CIT (IRCC); CIT DGO / BDG CIT (IRCC); HRM ECLA SOLUTIONS / SOLUTIONS ECAA GRH (IRCC); Begin, Nicolas (IRCC/IRCC); HIOB DGO / BDG DGOHI (IRCC); HIOB Client Service / DGOHI Service Clientele (IRCC); HIOB C&P SDO / BDP C&P DGOHI (IRCC); CIT Operations / Opérations CIT (IRCC)
Subject: Processing Pause on Certain Proof Applications | Pause de traitement sur certaines demandes de preuve
Date: December 11, 2025 2:19:06 PM
Attachments: Image001.png
Importance: High



Citizenship Program Bulletin

Bulletin du programme de la citoyenneté

Contact / Contactez Cit Operations / Opérations Cit

Processing Pause on Certain Proof Applications

Until further notice, certain multi-generational claims to citizenship cannot be finalized.

Do not finalize proof of citizenship applications, nor 5(4) discretionary grants being considered under the interim measure, if all of the following applies:

- The applicant is claiming citizenship by descent
- The applicant is born abroad beyond the first generation
- The 2009 first-generation limit affects/affected the applicant
- The applicant's claim to citizenship is predicated on a family member who was or would have been remedied through C-24 or C-37 legislation
- There is no record that the family member who was remedied under C-24 or C-37 was issued a citizenship certificate since being remedied

Instead, follow these steps:

- Add this case note:

"Application on hold as per instructions from Program Guidance"

Pause de traitement sur certaines demandes de preuve

Jusqu'à nouvel ordre, certaines demandes multigénérationnelles ne peuvent pas être finalisées.

Ne finalisez ni les demandes de certificat de citoyenneté, ni les demandes d'attribution discrétionnaire vers la mesure provisoire, si toutes les conditions suivantes s'appliquent :

- Le demandeur indique le droit à la citoyenneté par filiation
- Le demandeur est né à l'étranger au-delà de la première génération
- La limite à la première génération de 2009 affecte / a affecté le demandeur
- La demande de citoyenneté du demandeur repose sur un membre de sa famille qui a bénéficié, ou aurait bénéficié, d'une mesure corrective en vertu de la loi C-24 ou C-37
- Il n'y a aucun dossier indiquant qu'un certificat a été délivré au membre de sa famille qui a eu son statut corrigé en vertu de la loi C-24 ou C-37 depuis la correction

À la place, suivez ces étapes :

- Add ORG ID O182884345242
- Ensure that the Notice of Delay letter is sent to the client.

Updated instructions will be provided as soon as possible.

Please contact [CIT Operations / Opérations CIT \(IRCC\)](#) for all your functional guidance questions.

Reminder that a repository of all program bulletins can be found [here](#).

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

- Ajoutez cette note de cas : « demande en attente selon les instructions d’Orientation du Programme »
- Ajoutez ID ORG O182884345242
- Assurez-vous que la lettre d’avis de retard est envoyée au demandeur.

Des instructions mises à jour seront fournies dès que possible.

Veuillez contacter [CIT Operations / Opérations CIT \(IRCC\)](#) pour vos questions fonctionnelles.

Nous tenons à vous rappeler que tous les bulletins du programme se retrouvent sous ce [répertoire](#).

Merci de votre collaboration soutenue.

*Orientation du programme, Direction Générale de la citoyenneté
Program Guidance, Citizenship Branch*