



Leader Relocations

Worldwide Movers & Relocation Service

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Settling in Canada

Is this guide for you?

This guide will be helpful if you are:

- Entering Canada with the intention of establishing, for the first time, a residence for a period of not less than 12 months; or
- Coming to Canada for temporary employment for a period of more than 36 months.

In either case, you can import your personal and household effects free of duty and taxes if you owned, possessed and used them before you arrived in Canada. However, if you have lived in Canada before, the conditions under which you can import your personal and household effects may be those that apply to a returning or former Canadian resident. For more information consult the publication called *Immigrating or Returning to Live in Canada* on the CBSA Web site.

Preparing to enter Canada

Before arriving in Canada, you should prepare two copies of a list (preferably typewritten) of all the goods you intend to bring into Canada as part of your personal effects. Include the value, make, model, and serial number (when applicable). Divide the list into two sections. In the first, list the goods you are bringing with you; in the second, list the goods to follow. Goods that arrive later will only qualify for duty- and tax-free importation under your entitlement as a settler, if they are on your original list.

Ownership, possession and use requirements

To qualify for duty- and tax-free importation you must have owned, possessed, and used the goods before your arrival in Canada. For further information, consult the publication called *Immigrating or Returning to Live in Canada* on the CBSA Web site.

Declaring your goods

When you arrive in Canada (through the Airport or USA/ Canada Border), even if you have no goods with you at the time of entry, you must give your list of goods to follow to the border services officer at the first point of arrival in Canada. Based on the list of goods you submit, the officer will complete a Form B4, *Personal Effects Accounting Document*, for you, assign a file number to it and give you a copy of the completed form as a receipt. *If Canada Customs is not preparing the B4 for you, then make sure they*



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stamp your Inventory or the self made moving lists. You will need to present your copy of the form to claim free importation of your unaccompanied goods when they arrive.

You can make the process easier by filling out Form B4 as completely as possible in advance. *Without the customs stamped B4/ inventory list we cannot clear customs on your behalf and you will have to go to the Customs office to clear customs.* Form B4 is available by selecting "Publications and forms" on the CBSA Web site or by calling the Border Information Service at one of the telephone numbers listed in the section called "Additional information."

Form B4: www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/publications/forms-formulaires/b4-eng.pdf

Extension Form B4A: www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/publications/forms-formulaires/b4a.pdf

Documents also require other than the B4 for customs clearances are:

Landed immigrant:

1. Passport Copy
2. Immigration visa with entry stamp copy
3. Landing paper from Canada immigration officer when you landed into Canada

Work visa:

1. Passport Copy
2. Work visa copy
3. Entry stamp copy
4. Copy of employment letter from employer in Canada to state that shipper is being employed by their company

Returning residence:

1. Passport Copy, Copy of documents as proof of your stay outside Canada for a minimum of one year. These documents can be work visa from country where they worked, employment letter from employer, rental contract or utilities bills for non-working Canadian National.

Note: *The information provided was accurate when it was published; however, legislative provisions and requirements can change at any time. Please visit www.cbsa.gc.ca for most current information.*

Important: *This information is intended for general guidance only and Leader Relocations LLC does not accept responsibility for any errors, omissions or changes in law. It is advisable to contact Customs and Excise for current information.*



PERSONAL EFFECTS ACCOUNTING DOCUMENT (Settler, Former Resident, Seasonal Resident, or Beneficiary)

Accounting document number

Shaded areas for CBSA use only

Importer's name

Cargo control number

CBSA stamp

Importer's address

Country of origin / Country of export

Landed immigrant / Permanent resident

Port of entry / Date of landing

IMM 5292 No.

Table with 3 columns: Item, Description of goods, Value (CDN Dollars)

All conveyances MUST be eligible for importation in accordance with Transport Canada requirements. Vehicle import registration fees may also apply.

Table with 3 columns: Conveyances, Value (CDN Dollars), K22 / Vehicle import form number

Additional list of goods, Form B4A, Mover's inventory, Other, Goods to follow, Yes/No, Form B15 number

CLASSIFICATION TYPE - See information on reverse

FORMER RESIDENT (tariff item No. 9805.00.00)

I hereby declare that I have read and qualify for the provisions of tariff item No. 9805.00.00 and that:

- 1. I have been a resident of another country for at least one year; or
2. I have been continuously absent from Canada for at least one year; and
3. I left Canada on ...; and
4. I returned to Canada to resume residence on ...
5. With the exception of wedding gifts, bride's trousseau, alcoholic beverages and tobacco products...
6. All goods imported are my personal or household effects...
7. If any item is sold or otherwise disposed of in Canada within 12 months...

BENEFICIARY (tariff item No. 9806.00.00)

I hereby declare that I have read and qualify for the provisions of tariff item No. 9806.00.00 and that I am a beneficiary of personal and household effects which were bequeathed to me without remuneration as:

- 1. The result of the death of ... a resident of ... who died on ... I have attached: A certified true copy of the death certificate; or A copy of the donor's will, showing that I am a beneficiary of the estate; or If there is no will, a document issued by the probate court; or A statement from the executor of the estate or other legal representative.
or
2. A "Gift in anticipation of the death" of ... who resides in ... I have attached: A copy of the donor's will; or If there is no will, a signed/dated statement from the donor (or individual with power of attorney) transferring ownership of the goods and witnessed by someone other than the recipient of the goods imminent; and A written testimony from the donor's physician that the donor's death is imminent.

SEASONAL RESIDENT (tariff item No. 9829.00.00)

I hereby declare that I have read and qualify for the provisions of tariff item No. 9829.00.00 and that:

- 1. I arrived in Canada to occupy my seasonal residence for the first time on ...
2. All goods imported or to be imported by me under this tariff item have been in my ownership, possession, and use prior to my first arrival in Canada to occupy my seasonal residence.
3. All goods imported are my personal or household property and they will not be used in Canada for any commercial purpose.
4. If any item is sold or otherwise disposed of in Canada within 12 months of the date of its importation, I will notify a CBSA Office of such fact and pay all duties owing at the time.
5. I have not previously claimed the benefits of tariff item No. 9829.00.00.

SETTLER (tariff item No. 9807.00.00)

I hereby declare that I have read and qualify for the provisions of tariff item No. 9807.00.00 and that:

- 1. I am entering Canada with the intention of establishing, for the first time, a permanent residence for a period in excess of 12 months and I arrived in Canada on ...
2. With the exception of wedding gifts, bride's trousseau, alcoholic beverages and tobacco products described in the Tariff Item No. 9807.00.00 Exemption Order, all household and personal effects imported or to be imported by me under this tariff item have actually been owned, possessed, and used abroad by me prior to the date of my arrival in Canada.
3. All goods imported are my personal or household property and they will not be used in Canada for any commercial purpose.
4. If any item is sold or otherwise disposed of in Canada within 12 months of the date of its importation, I will notify a CBSA Office of such fact and pay all duties owing at the time.

Signed at _____ on _____ Signature of Importer

Tariff Item No. 9805.00.00 (Former Resident)

Goods imported by a member of the Canadian Forces, by an employee of the Canadian government, or by a former resident of Canada returning to Canada to resume residence in Canada after having been a resident of another country for a period of not less than one year, or by a resident returning after an absence from Canada of not less than one year, and acquired by that person for personal or household use and actually owned, possessed and used abroad by that person for at least six months prior to that person's return to Canada and accompanying that person at the time of their return to Canada.

"Goods" does not include goods that are sold or otherwise disposed of within twelve months after importation.

For the purpose of this tariff item:

- (a) the provisions shall apply to either wine not exceeding 1.5 litres or any alcoholic beverages not exceeding 1.14 litres and tobacco not exceeding fifty cigars, two hundred cigarettes, two hundred tobacco sticks and two hundred grams of manufactured tobacco if they are included in the baggage accompanying the importer, and no relief from payment of duties is being claimed in respect of alcoholic beverages or tobacco under another item in this Chapter at the time of importation;
- (b) If goods (other than alcoholic beverages, cigars, cigarettes, tobacco sticks and manufactured tobacco) are not accompanying the person returning from abroad, they may be classified under this item when imported at a later time if they are reported by the person at the time of return to Canada; and
- (c) any article which was acquired after March 31, 1977 by a class of persons named in this tariff item and which has a value for duty as determined under the *Customs Act* of more than \$10,000 shall not be classified under this tariff item.

Section 84 of the *Customs Tariff* reads:

84. Goods that, but for the fact that their value for duty as determined under section 46 of the *Customs Act* exceeds the value specified under tariff item No. 9805.00.00, would be classified under that tariff item, shall be classified under Chapters 1 to 97 and their value for duty reduced by that specified value.

Short Title

1. This Order may be cited as the *Tariff Item No. 9805.00.00 Exemption Order*.

Interpretation

2. In this Order,

"bride's trousseau" means goods acquired for use in the household of a newly married couple, but does not include vehicles, vessels or aircraft;

"wedding presents" means goods of a non-commercial nature received by a person as personal gifts in consideration of that person's recent marriage or the anticipated marriage of that person within three months of the person's return to Canada.

Exemption

3. The following goods are exempt from the six-month ownership, possession or use requirements set out in tariff item No. 9805.00.00 of the *Customs Tariff*:
- (a) alcoholic beverages owned by, in the possession of and imported by a person who has attained the minimum age at which a person may lawfully purchase alcoholic beverages in the province in which the CBSA Office where the alcoholic beverages are imported is situated;
 - (b) tobacco products owned by and in the possession of the importer;
 - (c) a bride's trousseau owned by, in the possession of and imported by a recently married person or a bride-to-be whose anticipated marriage is to take place within three months of the date of her return to Canada;
 - (d) wedding presents owned by, in the possession of, and imported by the recipient thereof;
 - (e) any goods imported by a person who has resided abroad for at least five years immediately prior to returning to Canada and who, prior to the date of return, owned, was in possession of and used the goods; and
 - (f) goods acquired as replacements for goods that, but for their loss or destruction as the result of fire, theft, accident or other unforeseen contingency, would have been classified under tariff item No. 9805.00.00 of the *Customs Tariff*, on condition that
 - (i) the goods acquired as replacements are of a similar class and approximately of the same value as the goods they replaced,
 - (ii) the goods acquired as replacements were owned by, in the possession of, and used by a person prior to the person's return to Canada, and
 - (iii) evidence is produced at the time the goods are accounted for under section 32 of the *Customs Act* that the goods they replaced were lost or destroyed as the result of fire, theft, accident or other unforeseen contingency.

Tariff Item No. 9806.00.00 (Beneficiary)

Personal and household effects of a resident of Canada who has died, on the condition that such goods were owned, possessed and used abroad by that resident;

Personal and household effects received by a resident of Canada as a result of the death or in anticipation of death of a person who is not a resident of Canada, on condition that such goods were owned, possessed and used abroad by that non-resident;

All the foregoing when bequeathed to a resident of Canada.

Tariff Item No. 9807.00.00 (Settler)

Goods imported by a settler for the settler's household or personal use, if actually owned, possessed and used abroad by the settler prior to the settler's arrival in Canada and accompanying the settler at the time of the settler's arrival in Canada.

For the purpose of this tariff item:

- (a) "goods" may include:
 - (i) either wine not exceeding 1.5 litres or any alcoholic beverages not exceeding 1.14 litres, and
 - (ii) tobacco not exceeding fifty cigars, two hundred cigarettes, two hundred tobacco sticks and two hundred grams of manufactured tobacco;
- (b) "goods" does not include imported goods that are sold or otherwise disposed of within twelve months after importation; and
- (c) if goods (other than alcoholic beverages, cigars, cigarettes, tobacco sticks and manufactured tobacco) are not accompanying the settler at the time of the settler's arrival in Canada, they may be classified under this tariff item when imported at a later time if they are reported by the settler at the time of the settler's arrival in Canada.

Short Title

1. This Order may be cited as the *Tariff Item No. 9807.00.00 Exemption Order*.

Interpretation

2. The following goods are exempt from the use requirements specified in tariff item No. 9807.00.00:

- (a) alcoholic beverages imported by a settler who has attained the minimum age at which a person may lawfully purchase alcoholic beverages in the province in which the customs office where the alcoholic beverages are imported is situated;
- (b) tobacco products;
- (c) household goods acquired by a settler and set aside for use in the household of the settler whose marriage occurred within three months before the settler's arrival in Canada or is to occur within three months after the settler's arrival in Canada; and
- (d) wedding gifts received outside Canada by a settler in consideration of the settler's marriage which occurred within three months before the settler's arrival in Canada or is to occur within three months after the settler's arrival in Canada.

Tariff Item No. 9829.00.00 (Seasonal Resident)

Household furniture and furnishings for a seasonal residence, excluding construction materials, electrical fixtures or other goods permanently attached to or incorporated into a seasonal residence;

Tools and equipment for the maintenance of a seasonal residence;

The foregoing, on condition that:

- (i) the goods are imported by a person who is not a resident of Canada and who owns or leases for not less than three years a residence in Canada for seasonal use, other than a time-sharing residence, trailer or mobile home;
- (ii) the person is entitled to only one importation under this tariff item;
- (iii) the goods are for the personal use of that person or their family and are not for any commercial, industrial or occupational purpose;
- (iv) the goods are owned, possessed and used by that person or their family before their first arrival in Canada to occupy the seasonal residence;
- (v) the goods are not sold or otherwise disposed of in Canada for at least one year after the date of their importation; and
- (vi) the goods accompany the seasonal resident at the time of the seasonal resident's first arrival in Canada to occupy the seasonal residence or, if not imported at the time of first arrival in Canada, are, at that time, described and listed on a customs accounting document as goods to follow.

NOTE FOR FORMER RESIDENTS AND SETTLERS TO CANADA (TARIFF ITEM NO. 9805.00.00 AND 9807.00.00)

A minimum duty applies to cigarettes, tobacco sticks, and manufactured tobacco that you include in your personal exemption entitlement. However, this duty does not apply if the product is marked "Canada Duty Paid".

Please refer to section 21 of the *Customs Tariff* for legislative references.



PERSONAL EFFECTS ACCOUNTING DOCUMENT

DOCUMENT DE DÉCLARATION EN DÉTAIL DES EFFETS PERSONNELS

(list of goods imported)

(liste des marchandises importées)

- Goods imported with you at the time of accounting should be listed separately from goods which are to follow at a later date. Please use a separate list if any goods are to follow.
- Inscrivez uniquement les marchandises importées au moment de la déclaration en détail et utiliser une autre feuille pour dresser la liste des marchandises qui suivront à une date ultérieure.

Name of Importer – Nom de l'importateur	Document no. – N° du document	<input type="checkbox"/> List of goods to follow Liste de marchandises à suivre
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Item Article	Description of goods (include serial numbers, if applicable) Description des marchandises (y compris le numéro de série, s'il y a lieu)	Value for duty (cdn. dollars) Valeur en douane (dollars CAN)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		

_____ Signature of importer / Signature de l'importateur	_____ Date
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CBSA Stamp Timbre de l'ASFC
