

## ATTENTION:

- Deportation is a serious consequence of failing to comply with immigration laws.
- For those who do not have permanent residency or a valid visa, legalization is crucial in order to avoid deportation.
- The status of Permanent Resident does not exempt you from deportation.
- Once deported you may never return to Canada, unless you receive a written permission from the Canada Border System Agency.
- Deportation may have a serious and everlasting negative impact in your life and family.
- Acquiring the Canadian Citizenship grants you the full scope of rights and duties of every Canadian national. It is highly recommended that you and your family make the necessary arrangements to welcome the benefits of a full integration in Canadian society.
- **Be aware!** Counsel or advice about one's immigration status should come from a reputable immigration lawyer. Consult one of the partner organizations listed in this brochure.

## For information, contact:

**Portugal Embassy**, Ottawa (613)7292922

### General Consulates of Portugal:

**Toronto** (416)2170966; **Montreal** (514)4990359; **Vancouver** (604)6886514  
**Consular Section in Ottawa** (613)97292270

**Casa dos Açores de Toronto** (416)6032900

**Casa dos Açores de Quebec** (514)3882813

**Casa dos Açores de Winnipeg** (204)9470049

### Volunteer to save many from Deportation:

For more information about volunteer opportunities with the LEGAL Project contact: **Direcção Regional das Comunidades**  
(351)296 204 700 legalprogram@azores.gov.pt

The LEGAL Project is promoted by the  
Government of the Azores in partnership with the International  
Network of Social Services Organization



**Governo dos Açores**  
DIRECÇÃO REGIONAL DAS COMUNIDADES



**LEGAL** is a project promoted by the Government of the Azores which aims to raise awareness and educate immigrant communities residing in Canada about the importance of becoming citizens.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT  
CANADIAN IMMIGRATION LAW AND DEPORTATION

[www.azores.gov.pt](http://www.azores.gov.pt)

## DEPORTATION

### Who Can Be Deported?

- Foreign nationals who have infringed federal law (immigration law or/ and penal law).
- Foreign nationals who remained in the country beyond the length of time permitted on a visa.
- Foreign nationals who are under departure order may be deported if they do not leave Canada as required or if they exit the country without confirming his or her departure with the CBSA.
- Underage foreign nationals may also be deported for the above stated reasons, even if, meanwhile, the respective parents have become Canadian citizens.
- Persons who entered the country unlawfully at Ports of Entry.
- Legal Permanent Residents who have been convicted of certain serious or minor crimes, even if the crime occurred many years ago and even if the person did not receive a prison sentence.

## WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF DEPORTATION?

- As soon as you realize or are made aware that a deportation/removal order is being processed, **it is critical to seek legal counsel and follow all the available stages of appeal**, which include among different resources: allowing a pre-removal risk assessment, present your case before the Immigration Appeal Division and as a final step resort to the Federal Court.
- Different reasons may support a valid request of reassessment, such as a pending application for a permanent residency, medical, educational or humanitarian grounds.
- Even if your appeal is accepted, while due process takes its course you may still be deported. If ruled in your favor, you will be notified that you may return to Canada.

For more information about volunteer opportunities with the LEGAL Project contact:

Direcção Regional das Comunidades

Telefone: (351) 296 204 700

[legalprogram@azores.gov.pt](mailto:legalprogram@azores.gov.pt)



## CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP

### What is Citizenship by naturalization?

It is the process by which a foreign national acquires Canadian nationality and citizenship.

### Do I have to renounce my Portuguese Citizenship?

**NO**, you can have dual citizenship.

### Who Can Become a Citizen of Canada?

- Adults 18 years of age or over.
- Children under 18 years old. The person applying must be the child's parent, adoptive parent or legal guardian; one parent must be already a Canadian citizen or is applying to become a citizen at the same time.
- Lawful Permanent residents.
- Persons who have effectively lived in Canada for at least three years out of last four. Children under the age of 18 do not need to meet this requirement.
- Persons with adequate knowledge of Canada and of the responsibilities and privileges of Canadian citizenship, as well as the English and French languages. Individuals between 18-54 years of age have to take a test. Individuals under 18 and over 54 years old do not need to attend the test.
- The applicant cannot be under a deportation order (or) the subject of a declaration by the Canadian government to the effect that there are reasonable grounds to believe that granting citizenship to the person would be prejudicial to the security of Canada or that the person would engage in the organized crime.

**If you have been convicted of a crime, it is crucial to speak with an authorized immigration expert before applying for citizenship!**