

REMINDER NOTICE

TO PEOPLE FROM HAITI AND ZIMBABWE

The six-month window for some people from Haiti or Zimbabwe to apply for permanent residence on humanitarian and compassionate grounds will close on June 1, 2015. If you apply after this date you risk being removed while your application is being processed.

On December 1, 2014, the temporary suspension of removals (TSR) to Haiti and Zimbabwe was lifted.

Recognizing that some people affected by this measure have been in Canada for a significant period of time and may have developed ties to this country, the Government of Canada implemented a temporary public policy to facilitate a pathway to permanent residence.

Following the TSR lifting, individuals who apply for permanent residence on humanitarian and compassionate (H&C) grounds are allowed to stay in Canada while their application is reviewed. To be eligible for this temporary public policy, applicants must:

- be a national of Haiti or Zimbabwe;
- have been residing in Canada on the day of the TSR lifting (December 1, 2014);
- be the subject of a removal order (including conditional removal orders) or have benefitted from the Haiti Special Measures (HSM) at the time of the lifting of the TSR;
- never have been found to be ineligible to have a refugee claim referred to the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB);
- not be inadmissible on grounds of security, human or international rights violations, criminality, serious criminality or organized criminality;
- not have been excluded by the IRB from refugee protection under the United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees;
- not have had criminal charges dropped by the Crown to effect a removal order;
- not have an outstanding criminal warrant.

H&C applications must be received **on or before June 1, 2015** or for those who applied for refugee protection on or before December 1, 2014, no later than six months from a negative decision by the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB). In this context, "negative decision" refers to the IRB's first negative decision and does not include any avenues of recourse, including judicial review before the Federal Court.

To find out if you are eligible for these measures and to learn more about the deadlines for submitting your application, visit the CIC website at:

www.cic.gc.ca

Or contact the Call Centre at 1-888-242-2100

Application forms for permanent residence on H&C grounds can be found on the CIC website. The envelope should be clearly labelled with the words "Haiti – TSR" or "Zimbabwe – TSR" when you mail your application.

http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/handc.asp

There is an additional form to be completed by **residents of Quebec:** <u>http://www.immigration-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/publications/fr/dcs/A-0523-IF-dyn.pdf</u>

Please Note:

If you have already submitted a permanent resident application under H&C grounds and the decision is pending, please disregard this notice. If you have already submitted a permanent resident application in Canada under another category and the decision is pending, that application will continue to be processed but you will not benefit from a stay of removal under this public policy. If you meet the eligibility criteria, you may qualify for a deferral of removal if you submit an H&C application for permanent residence on/before June 1, 2015.