Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Archived: June 2, 2025 2:53:01 PM
From: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Sent: Thu, 27 Mar 2025 13:26:23
To:
Cc: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC)
Subject: FW: Operation Bulletin 686 - REP-B-2025-0118 - Due 22-Apr-25
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Good day,
[redacted] **Immigration Representatives Mailbox.**
Please note that this mailbox is intended for general guidance and does not provide responses to case-specific inquiries but have provided the following information as guidance. If you have case specific questions about a file, you are encouraged to submit the IRCC Web form.
Please see our response to your question.
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When foreign nationals, who hold temporary resident status in Canada, leave Canada and after a visit to the United States or St. Pierre and Miquelon, re-enter for the purpose of obtaining immigration services at a port of entry including work and study permits they are considered to be flagpoling.

In the example provided, the applicant is visiting the U.S for work, but also intends to get a work permit at a port of entry. Applying for a work permit is considered to be obtaining immigration services, and this applicant will meet the definition of a flagpoler unless they meet one of the exemptions. The applicant will not be able to obtain a work permit at the port of entry no matter what reason they had for going to the U.S in the first place. In the event that CBSA is satisfied that the client in question is not ineligible to enter Canada as a visitor they could be issued a vistor record, resulting in the client losing their authorization to work in Canada **until such time as their original application for work permit extension is approved**. Visitors are not eligible to apply for a work permit from inside Canada.

Clients returning to Canada from a country other than the United States, or St. Pierre and Miquelon would not be defined as flagpolers.

In exceptional circumstances, you can send an urgent work permit application if you are a:

- * **Doctor involved in the treatment of patients** who is changing employers, moving to another province, or renewing their medical license,
  or
- * **Worker who is travelling urgently** due to business travel, or death or serious illness in the family.

If you meet the criteria for urgent processing:

- * You can send the application for a work permit by mail and please follow these instructions:
  - * include an explanation letter,
  - * include a proof of the emergency (e.g., death certificate, doctor's note, letter from the employer, etc.),
  - * mail the application to the following address:

Case Processing Centre - Edmonton

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

c/o TL/OSS (clearly marked in red pen)

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55 - 9700 Jasper Avenue NW

Edmonton, AB

[redacted]

- * We recommend reading the instruction guide first, it will assist you to fill out the form.

What's next?

- * It is at the discretion of the office to process the application urgently.
- * The necessary efforts will be made to issue your permit as soon as possible.

***

[redacted]

The Immigration Representatives Mailbox

From:
Sent: [redacted] 19, 2025 6:33 PM
To: Immigration Representatives / Représentants immigration (IRCC) <IRCC.ImmigrationRepresentatives-Representantsimmigration.IRCC[redacted]
Subject: Operation Bulletin 686

> **CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the Government of Canada. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.
> **ATTENTION:** Ce courriel provient de l'extérieur du gouvernement du Canada. Ne cliquez pas sur les liens et n'ouvrez pas les pièces jointes sauf si vous reconnaissez l'expéditeur et sachez que le contenu est sûr.

[redacted]

I am seeking clarification on Operational Bulletin 686 – Modified February 14, 2025.
I have client who is a citizen who has applied for an extension of his work permit that was based on a C10 exemption. He has maintained status. As a senior executive he needs to attend for work at court case in the US. for three days.
The Bulletin defines flagpoling as when a foreign national "re-enter for the purpose of obtaining legal services". He will have left Canada for work and is returning for work. He is NOT re-entering for the purposes of obtain legal services, but will apply for a new work permit at the POE.

As he is leaving Canada to attend to a prior work obligation (court case) in the US, on his return can he apply for a new C10 at the airport?

Yours truly,

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19(1)

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