Inviting Relatives or Friends to Visit Canada

If your family or friends wish to visit you in Canada for your convocation or for a vacation, they will need to apply for a Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) at the Canadian Consulate, Embassy or High Commission responsible for their country of nationality or residence (if they are from a country which requires a TRV to enter Canada). They can find out where to apply at http://www.cic.gc.ca/english-information/offices/apply-where.asp.

Countries whose citizens require a TRV to enter Canada can be found on Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada’s (IRCC) website at http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp.

You may send the following documents to the family/friends you wish to invite; they can use these as supporting documents when applying for a TRV at the Canadian Consulate back home.

1. Photocopy of your passport

2. Documents confirming your status in Canada and at SFU
   a. If you are currently enrolled in school
      Photocopy of your study permit and a current SFU confirmation of enrollment letter. Your study permit should be valid for the duration of the time that your family/friends intend to stay in Canada.
      
      or

   b. If you have completed degree requirements
      Photocopy of your post-graduation work permit and/or study permit as well as an official letter from SFU which confirms the completion of your program requirements. At least one of your immigration documents should be valid for the duration of the time that your family/friends intend to stay in Canada.

3. Letter of invitation written by you
   
   Note: International Services for Students (ISS) does not provide letters of invitation; you must write the letter of invitation yourself. The following are guidelines taken from the IRCC website. For more information, refer to http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/letter.asp.

   Some visa offices may require that your letter be notarized by a Notary Public. Please note that a letter of invitation does not guarantee that a visa will be issued. Visa officers assess the applicant to determine whether they meet the requirements of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.

   See next page for more information about writing an invitation letter

The information in this document has been reviewed and endorsed by a Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant (RCIC) pursuant to section 91 of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act. This is not a legal document and information may change without notice. Always refer to www.cic.gc.ca for the most updated information. This document was last updated on March 21, 2016.
Your letter must include all of the following information:

**About the person being invited:**
- Complete name
- Date of birth
- The person’s address and telephone number
- Your relationship to the person being invited
- The purpose of the trip
- How long the person you are inviting intends to stay in Canada
- Details on accommodation and living expenses
- The date the person you are inviting intends to leave Canada

**About yourself:**
- Complete name
- Date of birth
- Address and telephone number in Canada
- Occupation
- Status in Canada (e.g. student, worker, Canadian citizen, permanent resident)*

*If you are a Canadian citizen or permanent resident* inviting your parents/grandparents to apply for a **Super Visa** of up to 2 years’ duration, you must include additional information in this letter. Please see [http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/letter.asp](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/letter.asp) for full details.

**Sample letter:**

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The Canadian Embassy, Immigration Section
19 Dongzhimenwai Dajie, Chao Yang District
Beijing 1000600, China (PRC)

Dear Visa Officer,

Re: Letter of invitation for my parents [Xiao & Jie Wu]

I am writing this to support the Visitor Visa application of my parents. My father, Xiao Wu, (born Feb 5, 1957) lives at North Road, Laoxin 23rd block, Dunhua City, Jilin Province, China. My mother, Jie Wu, (born October 6, 1960) lives with him. Their home phone number is 342.355.3249.

They would like to visit me in Canada, as they haven’t seen me in 3 years. They intend to stay with me at my home for 2 weeks, from August 8th – 19th, 2013. Housing and food costs during their stay will be covered by me; they will cover all other costs for their trip.

I am currently an international student, studying at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, BC (copy of passport and study permit attached). My date of birth is August 14th, 1992. I live at 348 Frances Cres, Burnaby BC, V8J 2K3. My phone number is 778-732-2384 and my email address is 2342394080394386@gmail.com.

Thank you in advance for consideration of my parents’ application.

Yours truly,
Jialin Wu
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Your parents/friends will have to provide **proof of economic and social ties to their home country** as part of their application. The stronger the ties to their home country, the greater the chance that they could successfully prove to an Immigration Officer that they will return to their home country after visiting Canada.

**Economic ties include:** Bank statements, proof of financial investments, letters of employment, proof of business ownership, proof of property ownership, etc.

**Social ties include:** Evidence that family members back home depend on them for financial/social support and that they must return home after their visit in order to meet these social obligations.

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