



February 25, 2021

Re: Reminder to Air Operators respecting Canadian Border Entry Restrictions

As discussed on our COVID-19 update call last week, I wanted to provide additional information regarding foreign nationals who have been offered Canadian permanent residency and who may be seeking to travel to Canada.

Currently, only individuals whose application for permanent residence in Canada was approved, and who have received written notice of that approval **before March 18, 2020**, (but have not yet become a Permanent Resident) are **allowed to enter Canada** under section 58 of the *Quarantine Act*.

If the individual received written notice of approval **after March 18, 2020**, they are **not yet permitted to enter Canada** under section 58 of the *Quarantine Act*. Their notice of approval will explicitly state that, due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, they should **not** travel to Canada at this time to become a Permanent Resident.

This means that, unless the traveller meets a different exemption for foreign nationals (e.g., family reunification to permanently settle and join immediate family members who are Canadian citizens or residents of Canada), they should be denied boarding.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to sections 5 and 6 of Transport Canada's *Interim Order Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation due to COVID-19*, which state that air operators must only board passengers who are permitted to enter Canada under an order made pursuant to section 58 of the *Quarantine Act*.

Private operators or air carriers that board a foreign national who is not permitted to enter Canada may also be subject to penalties, as outlined in Schedule 2 of the *Interim Order*. I would ask for your cooperation in ensuring that only those individuals authorized to enter Canada are allowed to board.

Thank you.

Wendy Nixon
Director General, Aviation Security
Transport Canada