

**Been There, Done That:**

**Relocating with Ease**



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## About the Authors

Jun and Lil are immigrants who have decided to share their immigration experience so that others benefit from what they have learned from their challenges and triumphs in moving to a country they are proud to call *home*.

Their eBook series on coming to Canada include:

- *Been There, Done That ... Applying for an Immigrant Visa to Canada: 6 Steps in a Nutshell*

ISBN 0-9730498-3-9

- *Been There, Done That: Preparing for Employment in Canada: 6 Steps in a Nutshell*

ISBN 0-9730498-5-5

- *Been There, Done That: Relocating with Ease*

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- *Been There, Done That: Canada Newcomer Basics*

ISBN 0-9730498-6-3

## VIV Consulting Services

**VISA APPLICATION SUPPORT:** We will help you in all aspects of visa application preparation from eligibility assessment to submission of the application package.

**PRE-EMPLOYMENT PREPARATION SUPPORT:** Finding employment in Canada is vital and crucial. It is an essential part of the overall immigration process. Our Pre-Employment Preparation Support can be carried out while your application is in process. We will put together a well-researched pre-employment preparation strategy: 1) match client's occupation and experience with the NOC and existing requirements of employers, 2) provide complete contact information of employers, 3) provide wide exposure to the Canadian labor market before you arrive in Canada as a Landed Immigrant, 4) forward to you written responses from employers and employment agencies and 5) e-mail a report of our pre-employment support activities on your behalf. This information can then be presented to the Visa Officer at the interview stage, which should result in an increase of points in your favor.

**ARRIVAL LOGISTICS SUPPORT:** Every immigrant's fear: "I have no place to live for a month." You could find yourself in limbo without pre-arranged transportation and temporary accommodation while you decide where to settle in your new city. We will find you a suitable temporary accommodation within your budget and arrange transportation from the airport to your temporary accommodation.

## Chapter 1: Organizing

*Funny how we always plan to be organized and end up being disorganized because we didn't take time to write down our plan.*

If possible, allow up to 8 weeks to organize your move. Start planning early, and you'll be surprised how smoothly things can go.

### **K**nowing What You Can Bring

As a first-time landed immigrant you can bring tax-free personal and household effects ....

## Chapter 2: Prioritizing

*Do first things first.*

*Oh, my gosh, there's so much I have to do in so little time! HELP!* Ours was a big cry for **HELP!** because we kept putting off for tomorrow what could have been done on a day until time ran out on us. We were still packing an hour before we were to leave for the airport. We paid a hefty price for procrastination - a

whopping US\$500 for excess baggage!!! That's not all; the books (which were the heaviest in our baggage) were available in Canada for half the cover price of the newer editions. And we left our house in a terrible mess.

So looking back, we could have done better by scheduling our tasks in order of priority. If we were to do things all over again this is how we would do it: .....

## Chapter 3: Mobilizing

*Can you imagine what I would do if I could do all I can.*

-Prince

### **P**acking Step-by-Step

It may be tempting to toss everything into one huge box to reduce the number of boxes.

Rule of thumb:

1. The heavier the item, the smaller the box it should occupy.
2. If you can't lift the box easily, it's too heavy!

Obtain the proper boxes for your items matching sizes and strengths with contents. ....

## Chapter 4: Cleared for Landing

*A cause a day keeps reality away.*

-Jim Fraser

### **P**reparing Your Landing Documents

Make sure you have all the necessary documents that will allow you to immigrate:

- Canadian immigrant visa for each family member
- Valid passport
- Two copies of a detailed list of all personal or household items brought with you and a list of items to follow later. Provide the total value of the goods. When you arrive in Canada, give the list to officials of either Customs or Immigration.

### **S**etting Realistic Expectations

Build realistic expectations about Canada and be prepared for realities like ...

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