

Open for signature

June 16, 2016, at 10:40 a.m. (EDT)

Closed for signature

October 14, 2016, at 10:40 a.m. (EDT)

Presented to the House of Commons

[Alice Wong \(Richmond Centre\)](#)

October 19, 2016 (Petition No. 421-00775)

Government response tabled

December 2, 2016

Petition to the Government of Canada

Whereas:

- The Jus soli, or birthright citizenship, law of Canada enables an abusive and exploitative practice often called 'Birth Tourism', which permits expectant mothers who are foreign nationals, with no status in Canada, to gain automatic citizenship for their children born within Canada;
- All but one other developed country in the world has eliminated provision for birthright citizenship because of the widespread abuse it is open to; and
- The practice of 'Birth Tourism' can be very costly to taxpayers since it is used to ensure that after the child reaches 18 years of age Canada's education system can be used at a publicly subsidised cost, and he/she can sponsor his/her parents and many other family members, thus taking advantage of Canada's public health system and social security programmes such as OAS and the GIS.

We, the undersigned, **Citizens of Canada**, call upon the **Government of Canada** to:

1. Enact legislation which will fully eliminate birthright citizenship in Canada unless one of the parents of the child born in Canada is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada;
2. Ensure the new legislation is thorough and complete, and does not allow any 'loopholes' which permit birthright citizenship;
3. Consult with the Supreme Court before enacting the legislation in order to best ensure that the new legislation will not be challenged in court; and
4. Immediately invoke the Notwithstanding Clause in support of the legislation, if it is overturned in the Supreme Court, and that it immediately re-write the law in a form which will better withstand future court challenges.

Open for signature

March 19, 2018, at 1:52 p.m. (EDT)

Closed for signature

July 17, 2018, at 1:52 p.m. (EDT)

Presented to the House of Commons

Joe Peschisolido (Steveston—Richmond East)

October 5, 2018 (Petition No. 421-02721)

Government response tabled

November 19, 2018

Petition to the House of Commons in Parliament assembled

Whereas:

- An abusive and exploitative practice known as 'Birth Tourism' now exists in Canada, whereby expectant mothers who are foreign nationals, with no status in Canada, gain automatic citizenship for their children born in Canada;
- The practice of 'Birth Tourism' is fundamentally debasing the value of Canadian citizenship;
- The practice of 'Birth Tourism' can be very costly to taxpayers, since it can be used to gain access to Canada's publicly subsidized post-secondary education system and to take advantage of Canada's public healthcare system and generous social security programs, all without having to contribute much to the funding of these systems and programs';
- Canadian citizens and permanent residents have been displaced by foreign nationals at local hospitals, thereby requiring Canadian citizens and permanent residents to seek medical attention at other facilities;
- Underground and unregulated 'for profit' businesses have developed both in Canada and 'countries of origin' to facilitate the practice of 'Birth Tourism'; and
- The instances of 'Birth Tourism' are increasing in multiple cities across Canada.

We, the undersigned, **citizens and permanent residents of Canada**, call upon the **House of Commons in Parliament assembled** to:

1. Publicly state that the government does not support 'Birth Tourism' due to the inherent unfairness of this practice and the negative consequences associated with it;
2. Commit public resources to determine the full extent of this practice across Canada; and
3. Expeditiously implement concrete measures to reduce and eliminate this practice.

Dr. Kathleen Ross, President of "Doctors of BC"

We're at a crisis, a tipping point, so it's really important that some higher authority takes this on."

The Province newspaper

Richmond is home to a shadowy network of several dozen businesses that help women give birth in Canada for fees in the tens of thousands of dollars

information about a serious West End assault that has left a man in hospital for nearly two months.

The assault happened on Nov. 30, 2023, just before 1 a.m. on Thurlow north of Davie streets. The man was left with extensive injuries.

Investigators believe the victim was involved in an argument with a group and then assaulted. The attacker is believed to have fled along with two other individuals.

When VPD made their initial plea for tips on Dec. 6, 2023, investigators said they hadn't been able to interview the victim due to his injuries.

On Monday, Vancouver police retained surveillance footage of three individuals who may know what happened in the November attack.

VANCOUVER

Bike Doctor set to open again

Bike Doctor is returning to Vancouver.

The popular commuter bike store at 137 West Broadway closed in 2022 but will reopen in the same location on Thursday, March 5.

Erich Jurgens, a former employee, is the new owner. He said the store will be getting a facelift, but plans to offer the same kind of service.

—Protonmedia Wire Services

Ads on health.com target women hoping to give birth in Canada, promising top notch education and citizenship for their babies. — RBC

U.S. birth tourism crackdown may mean waves of 'passport babies' in Canada

RANDY SHORE

Canada could see an uptick in birth tourism after the Trump administration granted its customs officers more powers to prevent pregnant women from entering the United States.

American consular officials are being urged to refuse entry to women believed to be entering the U.S. in order to gain citizenship for their child by giving birth there.

"The United States has made a very good attempt at finding an administrative solution to a growing problem without having to change their constitution," said Richard Quaresimoborough MLA in a job.

Australia, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, France, Germany and South Africa have all altered their citizenship laws to discourage birth tourism.

"Canada is one of a few countries that grants citizenship automatically to anyone

born in this country," said Jobal. "Where are people going to go if they can't go to the United States? The number-one place is Canada."

Estimates of the number of babies born to birth tourists in the U.S. each year range from 10,000 by the Centers for Disease Control to 40,000 by the Center for Immigration Studies.

In Canada, the number of births to non-residents has more than doubled since 2012, to just over 4,000 a year. Non-residents account for two per cent of all births in Canada.

Doctors have warned that the number of foreign nationals giving birth in Canada is giving a strain on health care delivery and have urged the federal government to take steps to curb the practice.

"We're at a crisis, a tipping point, so it's really important that some higher authority takes this on," said Dr. Kathleen Ross, president of Doctors of B.C. "Hospitals and

doctors have no option but to provide service. We can't turn people away if they are sick, injured or in labour."

More than half of all babies born to non-residents in B.C. — around 700 a year — are delivered at Richmond Hospital.

In the past two years, 932 babies were born to foreign nationals there, about 22.6 per cent of all births, according to Vancouver Coastal Health. That's up from 15 per cent in 2011.

Foreign nationals give birth to about 10 per cent of babies born at St. Paul's Hospital and Mount St. Joseph, according to the Canadian Institute for Health Information.

More than 92 per cent of medical fees are eventually recovered, according to Vancouver Coastal Health.

Richmond is home to a shadowy network of several dozen businesses that help women give birth in Canada for fees in the tens of thousands of dollars.

"Why is it that 100,000 buys you a Canadian passport?" Jobal asked. "Nearly one in four children born at some hospitals in Richmond are passport babies, so, it's not a hospital anymore, it's a passport mill."

Ads aimed at women in China who want to give birth in Canada offer luxurious accommodations, a guarantee to get through customs, and birthright citizenship for the child in the "world's most livable country."

Among the other benefits entailed by birth tourism business: 12 years of free public education, university fees just 10 per cent of those paid by international students, world-class medical facilities and free health care, and routine immigration for the parents of child citizens once they turn 18.

Services typically include accommodations near the hospital, meals, transportation to and from the hospital, assistance with travel docu-

ments and birth certificate applications, and obstetric care.

"If it was a trickle, I wouldn't worry about it, but this has been growing year after year and it's become a significant business," said Jobal.

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada says birth tourism is not widespread, but the department is taking steps to better understand the practice.

Nonetheless, the federal government last year funneled \$5.9 million to protect Canadians, and those seeking to start a new life in Canada — from unscrupulous immigration consultants.

"This investment will increase investigations and enforcement, expand public awareness and strengthen the oversight of consultants," the department said in a statement.

— With file from Pamela Ferguson

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B.C. BRIEFS

VICTORIA

Wolf safely captured

VICTORIA — A wolf spotted roaming a busy Victoria neighbourhood not far from the B.C. legislature has been safely captured.

The wolf was first spotted Saturday in the James Bay area but police and animal control officers were unable to track it down.

Officers and an emergency response team found the wolf Sunday and trailed it to an area where it curled up and appeared to fall asleep.

The adult male wolf was tranquilized and safely removed from the area.

VANCOUVER

Police release video of assault

Vancouver police are releasing video footage of three individuals who may have information about a

ROGERS 11:45 PM 92%

領鑰海外孕产

1. 社会治安很好, 其一线城市和首都城市相当于美国一个月的工资。

2. 加拿大一人一票选举直接任命的国家, 人均国民收入和综合生活质量高, 方便移民作为世界前列, 而且加拿大有丰富的自然资源, 能源优质, 环保标准高, 综合实力和影响力为世界最发达人类居住的最佳地区。

房间展示

独栋别墅·酒店公寓

在线咨询

ROGERS 11:45 PM 92%

領鑰海外孕产

加拿大生孩子 落地国籍享福利

加拿大生孩子好处

1. 加拿大生孩子可以让孩子获得加拿大公民身份和福利

在线咨询

Birth Tourism Benefits:

Free 12 years of Public education, University fees just 10 % of those paid by international students, World Class Medical, reunification immigration for parents of child citizens once they turn 18.