

Welcome to Canada

\$ MONEY AND FINANCES IN CANADA



You may have many new expenses as you settle in Canada and plan for the future. It is important to understand how you can manage your everyday and unexpected expenses, meet your goals, and protect your money.

Settlement service providers can help you. These organizations offer many programs and services to help newcomers after arrival in Canada. To find the organization in your community, consult: [Find free newcomer services near you](#) (web page is available in English and French).

CURRENCY USED IN CANADA

In Canada, there is paper money and coins. The most common money is the nickel (5 cents), dime (10 cents), quarter (25 cents), loonie (1 dollar), and toonie (2 dollars).

These terms may be used when speaking to people and making purchases.

BANKING

Open a bank account as soon as possible. Banks offer specific services for newcomers.

There are 2 main types of bank accounts you can use: savings and chequing. The bank will give you a debit card to access your account at the bank, at an "automated teller machine" (ATM) or to make purchases at a store or online.

Canada has many different types of banks. Visit or search online to explore different banks and learn more about the services each can offer you.

CREDIT CARD

A "credit card" lets you borrow money up to a limit. This must be repaid later.

When you use a credit card, you will be charged interest. The interest rate is a percentage of the total amount borrowed. The longer it takes to pay back a debt, the more interest you will pay.

Using a credit card helps to build a positive credit history, as long as you pay back the required amount by the specified deadline. A positive credit history is valuable because institutions like banks will feel more comfortable giving you loans and with lower interest rates. You need to be careful when making purchases using a credit card so you do not go over what you can afford to repay.

Contact your bank for more information.



