Important information for all international border officials

Signature policy for Canadian travel documents (including passports) issued to children less than 16 years of age.

We have learned that international border officials have occasionally required that a child’s Canadian travel document be signed by either the child or their parent.

Children under 16 years of age do not need to sign the travel document. The signature line on page 3 should be blank if the child does not sign it. However, it is still valid if the child signs it.

Parents or legal guardians must never sign their child’s travel document. Their signature makes the document invalid and it will have to be replaced.

Only adult Canadian travel documents must be signed.

Canada’s Passport Program’s signature policy aligns with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) requirements. Visit our website to review Canada’s requirements about children’s signatures on travel documents and to find a copy of this letter.

Yours sincerely,

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