



Bringing Loved Ones Home

A Guide to Family Sponsorship in Canada:
2026 Pathways, Processes, and Pitfalls.

PREPARED BY DARA IMMIGRATION SERVICES (DIS)
www.Daraimmigration.com

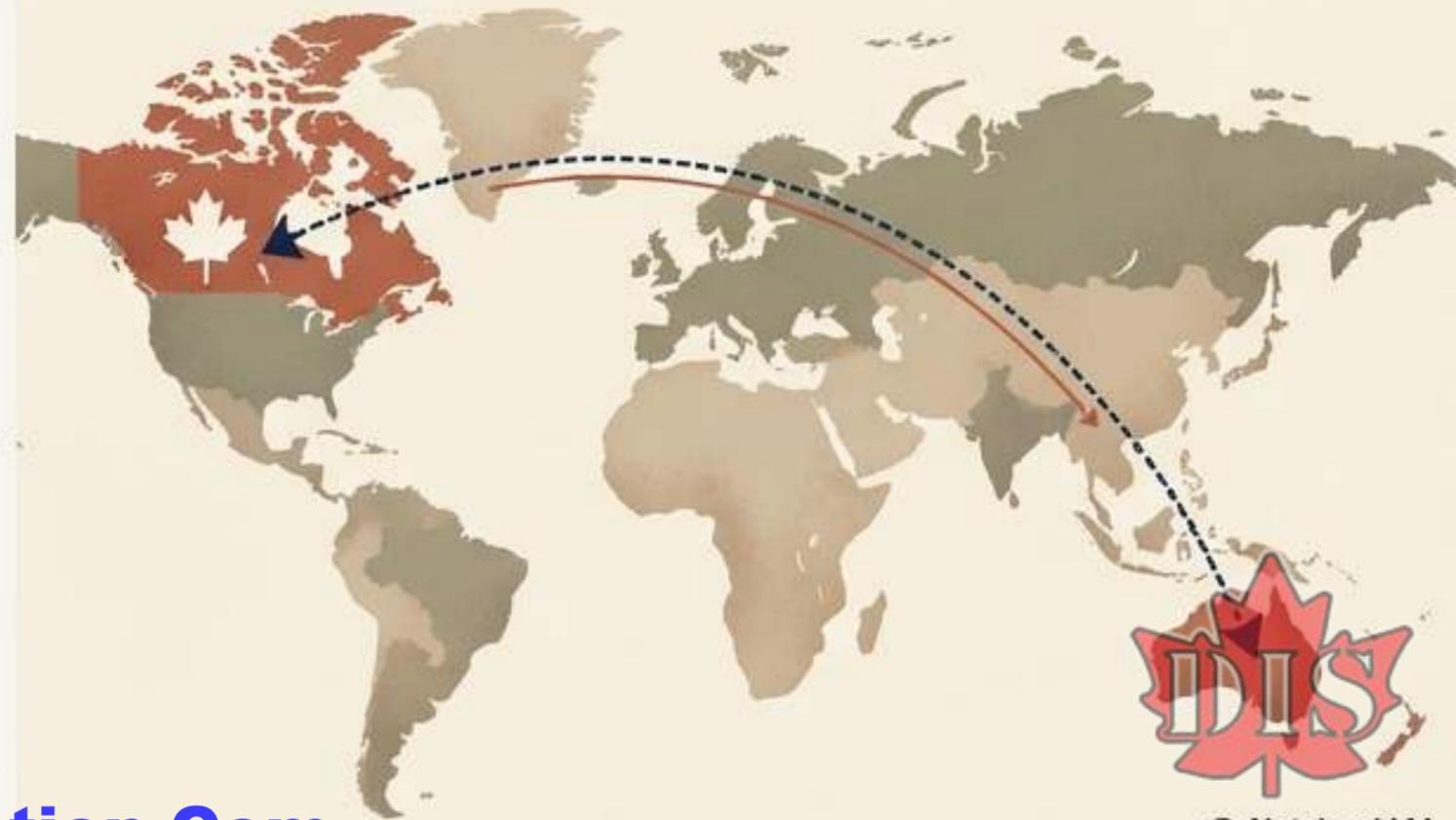


The Canadian Dream is incomplete without the people you love.

For Permanent Residents and Citizens, the ultimate goal isn't just a better job or a safe home—it is reunification. Family Sponsorship is the federal pathway to make this happen.

The Reality Check

The stakes are incredibly high. A refused application isn't just a paperwork error; it can mean years of separation or a ban for "Marriage Fraud." Navigating the correct stream is critical to ensure your family lands in Canada for good.



Canada's family class is divided into three distinct categories.

Spousal & Common-Law



Who: Legally married spouse, common-law partner (12 months cohabitation), or conjugal partner.

Benefit: High priority processing (target of 12 months).

Dependent Child



Who: Biological or adopted children under age 22 who are not married.

Benefit: Bypasses many financial hurdles; priority processing.

Parents & Grandparents

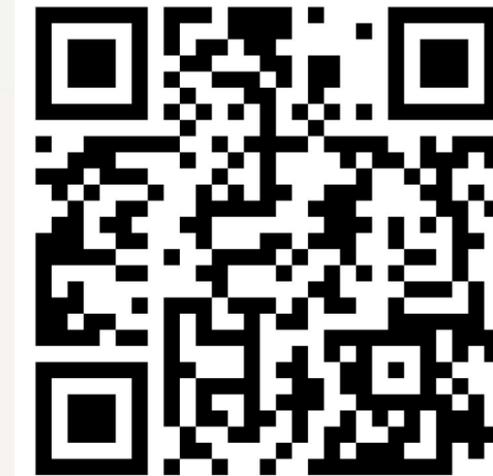


Who: Parents or grandparents by blood or adoption.

Status: Operates on a competitive Lottery System.

New intakes are rare; most families must use the Super Visa.

Spousal and Common-Law Sponsorship prioritizes partners.



Defining the Relationship

- **Married:** Legally valid marriage.
- **Common-Law:** You must have lived together continuously for 12 months. (Dating does not count).
- **Conjugal:** For partners who could not marry or live together due to legal/immigration barriers.



Key Insight

Generally, there is no minimum income requirement to sponsor a spouse or child (unless the applicant has their own dependent children).

Pro-Tip

If applying from inside Canada (Inland), the spouse can usually get an Open Work Permit while waiting for the decision.



The Parents and Grandparents Program (PGP) is effectively closed to new applicants.



The Lottery System

Currently, IRCC is only processing the the backlog from the 2020 pool. New interest forms have not been accepted recently.

The Alternative: Super Visa

This is the primary option for 2026. Allows parents/grandparents to visit Canada for extended periods without requiring Permanent Residence status immediately.

To become a sponsor, you must meet strict federal criteria.

The Must-Haves

- ✓ **Age:** At least 18 years old.
- ✓ **Status:** Canadian Citizen or Permanent Resident living in Canada.

**Crucial Detail: PRs must reside in Canada to sponsor. Citizens can apply from abroad if they prove they will return to Canada once the PR is approved.*

The Deal-Breakers

- ✗ **Financial:** You cannot be on social assistance (welfare) for any reason other than a disability.
- ✗ **Financial:** You cannot be in undischarged bankruptcy.
- ✗ **Criminal Record:** You cannot have been convicted of a violent crime or sexual offense against a relative.

The "Undertaking" is a binding legal contract, not a formality.

You are signing an agreement to repay the government if your sponsored relative claims social assistance.

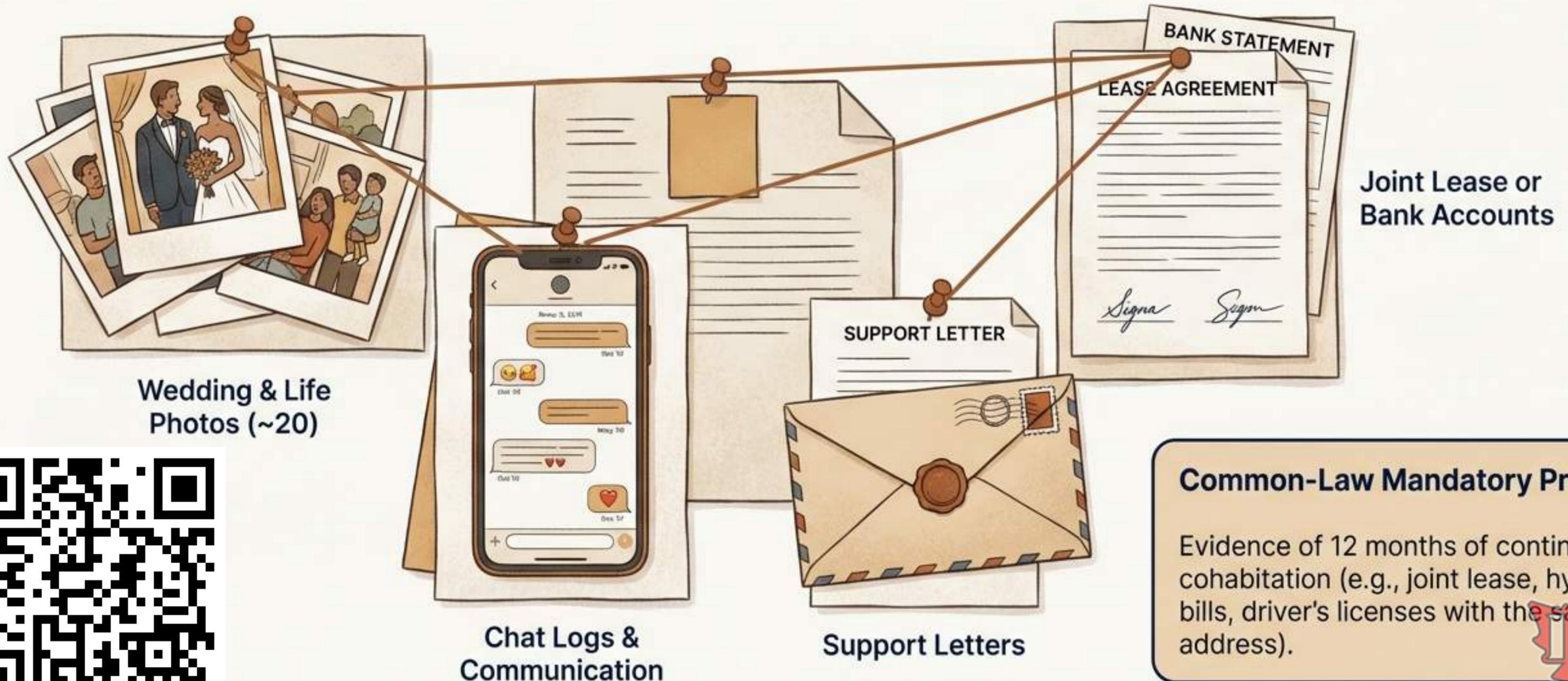


WARNING:

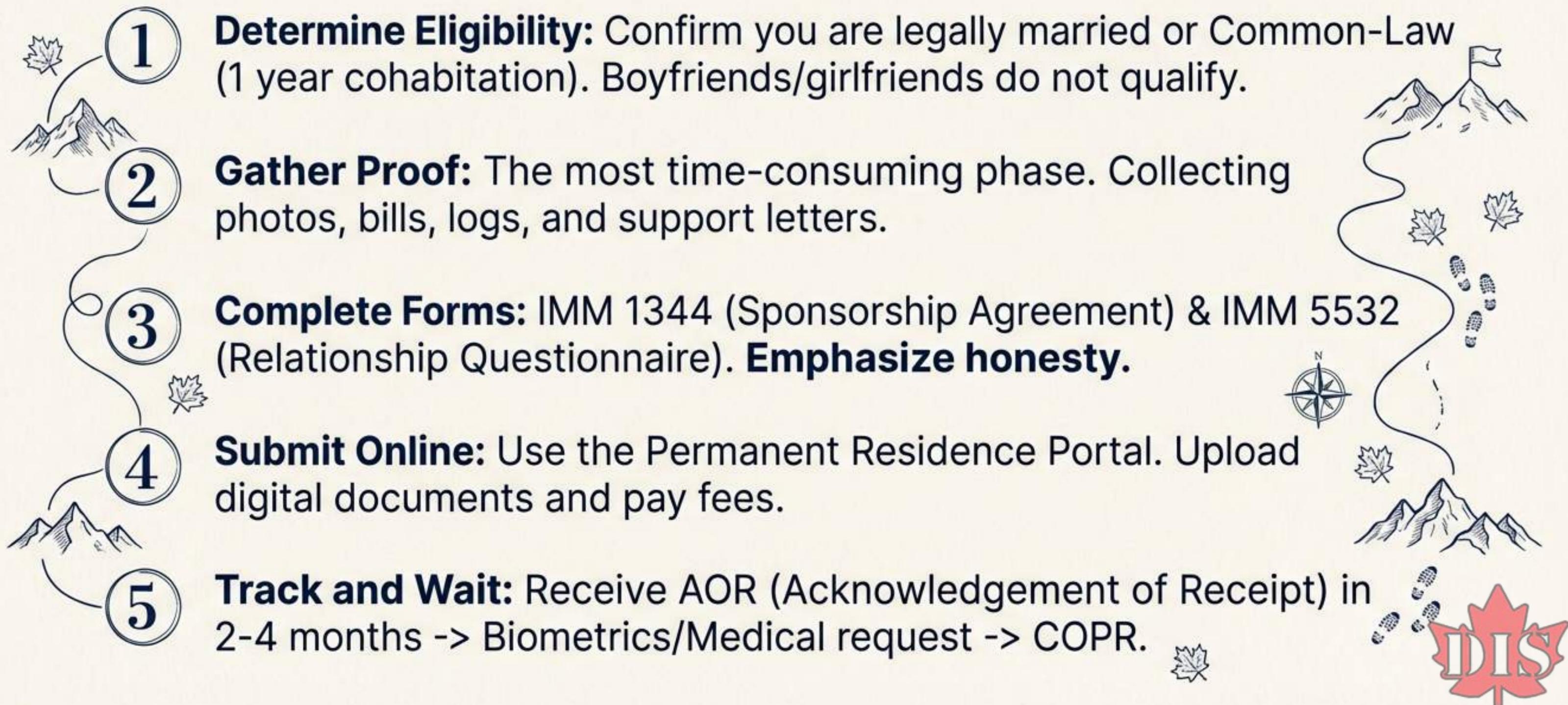
This contract remains active even if you divorce, separate, or have a falling out. If they go on welfare during this period, the government will demand repayment from you.

Proving the relationship is “Genuine” is the biggest hurdle.

IRCC officers are trained to spot “Marriages of Convenience.” You must prove the relationship is real.



The Step-by-Step Ascent to Permanent Residence

- 
- 1 Determine Eligibility:** Confirm you are legally married or Common-Law (1 year cohabitation). Boyfriends/girlfriends do not qualify.
 - 2 Gather Proof:** The most time-consuming phase. Collecting photos, bills, logs, and support letters.
 - 3 Complete Forms:** IMM 1344 (Sponsorship Agreement) & IMM 5532 (Relationship Questionnaire). **Emphasize honesty.**
 - 4 Submit Online:** Use the Permanent Residence Portal. Upload digital documents and pay fees.
 - 5 Track and Wait:** Receive AOR (Acknowledgement of Receipt) in 2-4 months -> Biometrics/Medical request -> COPR.

Estimated Costs and Processing Timelines (2026).

Category	Fee (CAD)	Processing Time	Notes
Spousal Sponsorship	~\$1,205	10–14 Months	Includes Sponsor (\$85), Applicant (\$545), and PR Fee (\$575).
Dependent Child	~\$175	8–12 Months	Per child. No PR fee required.
PGP (Parents)	~\$1,205	20–24 Months	Intake Closed. Processing 2020 pool only.
Biometrics Fee	\$85	N/A	Max \$170 for families applying together.

Minimum Income Requirement is \$0 (Exempt) for Spousal/Child streams.

www.Daraimmigration.Com



Red Flags and the Risk of Refusal.

Common Red Flags

- 1. Large age gaps (e.g., 20+ years).
- 2. Incompatibility (e.g., no common language).
- 3. "Quick" marriages (e.g., married 2 weeks after meeting online).

Fix: Provide extra evidence (extensive chat history, explanation letters).

The "Nuclear" Mistake: Undeclared Family Members

- **Rule:** You must declare ALL children, even if they are not coming to Canada now.
- **Consequence:** Failure to declare a child results in a permanent ban from sponsoring them in the future (Regulation 117(9)(d)).

Financial Inadmissibility:

You will be refused if currently receiving social assistance (welfare). 



Frequently Asked Questions: Eligibility

Can I sponsor my girlfriend or boyfriend?

No. Canada does not have a 'fiancé' visa. You must be legally married or have lived together continuously for 12 months (Common-Law) to qualify.

Is there an income requirement for spousal sponsorship?

Generally, no. You do not need to meet the LICO (Low Income Cut-Off) unless you are sponsoring a spouse who has a dependent child, and that child also has a child.

Frequently Asked Questions: Process & Outcomes

Can my spouse work while waiting?

Yes, IF you apply under the Inland stream and they have valid temporary status. Once you receive the Acknowledgement of Receipt (AOR), they can apply for an Open Work Permit.

What happens if we divorce?

If you divorce after your spouse becomes a PR, they keep their status. However, your 3-year financial undertaking remains active. You are still responsible for repaying any social assistance they claim.

Professional help is the difference between refusal and reunion.



Family Sponsorship is about more than just filling out forms; it is about telling the story of your relationship convincingly. A single missing date or a misunderstood question on the IMM 5532 can lead to refusal.

The DIS Advantage

- We audit your relationship evidence for the 'Genuineness Test.'
- We manage the 'paper-heavy' digital submission.
- We help explain red flags and navigate complex histories.



Don't risk your family's future.

www.Daraimmigration.Com



**Don't risk your family's future.
Let's bring them home.**



DIS
Dara Immigration
Services Inc.



**Add.: 212-515, West Pender St., Vancouver
V6B 6H5, BC, Canada
Cell./WhatsApp: 001-778-2392444
Telegram: @Dara_immigration
Email: Daraimmigration@gmail.com
Website: Www.Daraimmigration.Com**

This presentation provides general information regarding Family Sponsorship in Canada and does not constitute legal advice. Policies change frequently.

Www.Daraimmigration.Com



NotebookLM