



Are you thinking of incorporating?

Reasons why you should consider federal incorporation



Corporations Canada
<http://corporationscanada.ic.gc.ca>



By incorporating, you:

- may limit your personal liability;
- pay lower taxes;
- improve your access to capital;
- protect your corporate identity; and
- establish a separate legal entity.

You can incorporate federally or in any one of Canada's 13 provincial and territorial jurisdictions

BUT

there are at *least* four reasons to consider launching your company federally under the *Canada Business Corporations Act* (CBCA).

Reason 1

You can file documents and pay fees on-line

Filing articles of incorporation under the CBCA has never been more convenient. Simply go to Corporations Canada's Web site (<http://corporationscanada.ic.gc.ca>). Then click on "On-line Filing" and follow the instructions to:

- access and file incorporation forms on-line from anywhere (office or home) at any time (24 hours a day, seven days a week);
- pay incorporation fees with your Visa® or MasterCard® through the *Strategis* Secure On-Line Electronic Commerce System; and
- get immediate acknowledgment of your filing — no more worrying about whether your documents got to the right office.

Usually, we'll process your on-line documents and send back your certificate of incorporation the same day, or the next day.

You can also use the Corporations Canada On-line Filing Centre to file annual returns, notices of directors, changes in your mailing address, and many other documents.

Reason 2

Loads of helpful information

Corporations Canada has developed step-by-step information to help you incorporate your company federally.

Corporations Canada also provides kits, samples, notes, frequently asked questions and easy-to-follow forms to take you through all the steps of incorporation. For further information, go to: <http://corporationscanada.ic.gc.ca>

Access our *Guide to Federal Incorporation* on-line at <http://corporationscanada.ic.gc.ca>

Among other things, this guide provides information on:

- incorporating;
- organizing your corporation; and
- complying with the CBCA.

Reason 3

High-quality service

Corporations Canada works continuously with small business owners to:

- make its services more accessible and convenient;
- develop better policies, legislation and regulations; and
- design forms and documents that are easy to understand and that help owners comply with the requirements of the CBCA.

Reason 4

Protection, flexibility and recognition

Many small business owners say they incorporated federally because the CBCA gives them unparalleled name protection, flexibility of location and global recognition...

- Corporations Canada applies very tough tests before granting a company the right to use a particular name. When your company's name is approved, it's protected across the country — a status second only to trade-mark protection.
- In order to obtain a corporate name approval, you need to provide a federal name search report. This report may now be ordered from a search house or on-line from the NUANS real time service for \$20 (Visa® or MasterCard®). Both a search house list and the NUANS on-line search service can be accessed from <http://corporationscanada.ic.gc.ca> in the "Choosing a Name" section.
- Federally incorporated companies can carry on business anywhere in Canada.
- By incorporating under the CBCA you can set up your head office, keep your corporate records and hold annual general meetings anywhere in Canada.
- Federal incorporation is often considered a sign of distinction — your company will receive global recognition as a Canadian company.

Keep in mind you will likely be required to register your company in any province or territory where you carry on business (a fee may be required). Registration is different from incorporation. While a company may be incorporated only once, it may be registered in any number of jurisdictions to carry on business.

Reduced fees for on-line filing!

Not only is filing on-line easier and more convenient, it's a lot cheaper. Incorporation and annual return filing fees are lower when paid on-line than when paid through any other means — \$200 vs. \$250 for incorporation and \$20 vs. \$40 for annual returns.

For further information

Visit our Web site at: <http://corporationscanada.ic.gc.ca> or contact Corporations Canada at:

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