



RECENT CHANGES CURRENTLY IN EFFECT:

1. We are no longer accepting notarized copies of BC Vital Statistics document (Birth Certificate, Death Certificate, etc.) for authentication – we will authenticate originals only that fall within the requirements outlined on our website.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/government-id/guide-to-the-authentication-of-documents/process/vital-stats-docs>

This mirrors Global Affairs Canada's policy.

The exceptions to this policy:

- If a copy of the BC Vital Statistics document is part of a notarized translation document
 - If a copy of the BC Vital Statistics document is a supporting document within a notarized document (like Power of Attorney, Statutory Declaration, Affidavit, etc.)
2. We are no longer accepting handwritten waybills for return of documents. We accept electronic prepaid waybills only for FedEx, Purolator, and UPS. We will return documents via regular mail if we receive handwritten waybills with documents.

NOTE: Both items above are on the website (which has been updated as of 2022-04-04). We encourage the public to review the website as the update includes other information and FAQ and is laid out in a manner that we hope makes the process clearer.

CHANGES IN EFFECT AS OF JULY 1, 2022:

1. Online application and payment via Pay BC are coming soon. As of July 1, 2022, we will no longer accept cash payment for authentications. The online system will have to be used for all submissions. It will be the only way to complete the form that will be required to accompany all submitted documents for authentication. The online form is required even if a cheque or money order is used for payment. Check the website for this update. <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/authentication>
2. All translations as of July 1, 2022, will have to be done by a certified translator who is a certified member of one of these societies:
 - i. <https://stibc.org/>
 - ii. <https://www.cttic.org/member-societies/>

This means translations cannot be done by a client, lawyer, notary, or consultant unless the client, lawyer, notary, or consultant is a certified translator and a member of one of the mentioned societies above.

3. BC lawyers and BC notaries public who notarize documents meant for authentication and use outside of Canada must do so in their capacity as a Notary Public, not in their capacity as a Commissioner for Taking Affidavits. Documents signed by a Commissioner for Taking Affidavits will not be processed.