

## CANADIAN RELOCATION SYSTEMS, "MOVING TIMES" JULY 2005

### PACKRATOSIS

"To Move it, or Not to Move it" that is the question (loosely quoted from Shakespeare)

Do you really want to move all those 2x4's that you bought for your new fence but never got time enough to build?

Do you really want to move all the mouldy boxes in the basement that have sat unopened since your last move?

Do you really want to move the kid's rusty bicycles which have been abandoned in favour of skateboards?

Lots of people suffer from "Packratosis", and moving is an emotional roller coaster for those attracted to their "stuff."

The prescription for "Packratosis" is to throw out or sell all the stuff you have accumulated to accumulate dust.

If you are not in a rush "Relocation/Moving Mode" (as most are not!), take time to plan what to get rid of either at the local dumpster, as a gift to somebody you like/hate or at your pre-move Garage Sale.

Be firm! Do not succumb to "Packratosis". Make sure your best friend/enemy is there when you start sorting. Sometimes you need that extra nudge to get rid of your saddle which has not seen a horse for 15 years!

If it is broken ask yourself "can I fix it?"

Did you use it more than once?

Do you have a dozen gadgets?

Do you need a dozen gadgets?

Will it be useful to somebody else?

If you haven't worn it due to fashion or body changes get rid of it!

Do not take your polar jacket when you are moving to Victoria BC

Reality check:

The weights in your exercise room weigh 60 kg's. The cost of moving is \$ 4.00/kg. The cost of moving the weights would be \$ 240.00.

How big is your new house? If you are moving from 2000 sq.ft to 1500 sq.ft you have less room, so plan accordingly. Make plans (if possible) of your new house and start looking at where the grand piano is going.

Your "stuff" accumulated over time and you should sort through it in stages. If you try to do it all at once, your emotions might get the better of you, and when you are weak, "packratosis" is very strong.

Start in the attic or basement and get to the mouldy boxes. Go through every closet, drawer and box in every room of the house.

If you suffer from "Grand Packratosis" rent a dumpster. Are you having any more kids? If not, what about the stroller, the crib and the high chair?

If you are empty-nesting, give the kids a call and tell them to salvage all their "stuff" before a given deadline or else... you will dispose of it as you see fit.

With regard to family heirlooms (the less attractive ones) ask the kids, family or friends if they would like them, or just give them.

Have a pre-move Garage Sale, but do not sell the garage! Then donate the "leftovers" to charity.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CAUGHT BETWEEN TWO WORLDS!**

It is hard for new Canadians to come to this country and fit in. But it is also very hard for people who were born in Canada to deal with their parents who were born in other countries.

What jobs to get, what to study at school, when to start dating, who to be friends with, who to marry are all issues that come up between parents and children. But this problem can be bigger for people who have parents who grew up in a different country and culture.

Western culture gives young people more freedom than many other cultures in the world. This can make Canadian children fight back against their parents who want to have more control.

The number of people facing this problem grows every year. In 2004, there were 5.9 million immigrants in Canada and that number has been going up. In a study by Statistics Canada, they found 71 per cent of new immigrants who arrived between 1991 and 2004 said their home culture was important but just 57 per cent of their children (who were born in Canada) said it was important.

That study also found six per cent of immigrants were involved in ethnic associations but just one per cent of their children were.

This problem of being caught between two worlds has even been seen in the movies. The film, My Big Fat Greek Wedding, is one that shows how a daughter has trouble dealing with the decisions she is making in the new world.'

**Copyright 2005, Canadian Relocation Systems, <http://relocatecanada.com>**