

## **CANADIAN RELOCATION SYSTEMS, "MOVING TIMES" MARCH 2005**

### **RELOCATING WITH PRE-SCHOOL AND NURSERY AGED CHILDREN**

Relocation between provinces within Canada can be an exciting opportunity for a young family, but it can also present unexpected surprises or challenges for both the family as well as the employer. Relocation specialists often assume that pre-school and nursery aged children are more portable and therefore adjust more readily to a family move. However, there are regional differences in Canada which can potentially be quite disruptive as illustrated in the following example.

The Johnson's (not their real name) were really looking forward to their relocation to Nova Scotia, Canada. They had holidayed in the Maritimes the year previously and images of picture postcard fishing villages, and lobster dinners danced in their heads. What a terrific place to bring up children, they thought. Their son, Peter, aged four, had just finished his first year of Junior Kindergarten in Ontario, and Marie, their three year old daughter, who was bright as a brand new penny, was ready and eager to start Junior Kindergarten this coming year. What a great move for the whole family! Or so they thought.

The Johnson's enthusiasm for the move diminished abruptly when they discovered neither of their children would be eligible to attend school during the family's first year in Nova Scotia. Marie wouldn't be able to enter Junior Kindergarten because it is not offered in Nova Scotia. Peter couldn't enter Senior Kindergarten until the following year since the cut-off enrolment birth date is October 1st and his birth date is November 1st. If the Johnson's decided to stay in Ontario, their daughter would be eligible to enroll in Junior Kindergarten and their son would proceed directly into Senior Kindergarten since Ontario's cut off enrolment birth date is December 31st. The Johnson's were now forced to reflect upon the impact that this move would have on their family's life style (i.e., Mrs. Johnson had intended to return to school) and their children's educational experience.

As illustrated by this family's experience, Kindergarten programs vary across Canada. Although the actual curriculum in most provinces is generally the same, there are two key differences: the length of the program and the birth date required for enrolment. It is therefore important that you contact the local School Board or the Provincial Ministry of Education before your relocation to find out more about the various rules. We have links to both on our city category " Schools and Education". For more Daycare information:

<http://relocatecanada.com/daycare.html>

## TRUCK RENTAL CHECKLIST

If you're thinking of saving some money by moving yourself, here's a list of questions to consider before you rent a truck. We have more information for "Do it

Your Self Movers" here:

<http://relocatecanada.com/move/doitmove.html>

### Reserving a Rental

- How early do I need to book?
- What's the cancellation policy?
- What types of moving supplies are offered?
- Will I receive a confirmation?

### Truck Basics

- What size trucks do they have?
- How do I know which size is right for me?
- How new are the trucks?
- What's the gas mileage?

### Dealer Locations

- Where do I pick up the truck?
- Where can I drop it off?
- Are there certain time restrictions?
- Additional charges for different pick-up and drop-off locations?

### Drivers

- Are there age restrictions?
- Will I be able to drive the distance alone?
- Are there additional charges if more than one person drives?
- How is my driving record if the company checks?

### Money Considerations

- Any deals available?
- Is a deposit required?
- Will I need to refuel?
- When do I pay?

### Insurance

- Will I be covered on my auto or credit card insurance?
- What are my options?
- What will happen if I am not insured?