

FACT SHEET 2 applies in the following situations:

- The *Hague Convention* is *not* in force in the child's country of origin.
- The child is either related or non-related to the prospective adoptive parents.
- The adoption order is to be granted in the child's country of origin.
- In addition to a homestudy, the child's country of origin requires a British Columbia licensed adoption agency to provide a statement of support or approval, be involved in the preparation of the document package for the country of origin, and screen the proposed child's information

Note: Some jurisdictions require the child to reside with the adoptive family before an adoption order is granted. There must be a provision in the legislation of the child's country of origin to complete the adoption in the country of origin, after the child is already in British Columbia. Additionally, there must be a plan developed with the country of origin in case the placement disrupts before the adoption is finalized.

Steps:

1. Prospective adoptive parent(s) must apply to Citizenship and Immigration Canada to sponsor the child. If Citizenship and Immigration Canada approves the sponsorship application, they will request a Letter of No Objection from the office of the Provincial Director of Adoption.
2. To obtain a homestudy required by Citizenship and Immigration Canada, or the child's country of origin, prospective adoptive parent(s) must apply to a BC licensed adoption agency.
3. When the child to be adopted has been born, proposed and accepted by the prospective adoptive parent(s), the BC licensed adoption agency sends a letter to the office of the Provincial Director of Adoption confirming that the following requirements for a Letter of No Objection have been met:
 - a. The child's information has been received by the BC licensed adoption agency directly from the appropriate adoption authorities in the country of origin.
 - b. The prospective adoptive parent(s) have a valid homestudy that approves them for intercountry adoption and for a child whose description is consistent with the child proposed for adoption.
 - c. All practically available medical information, family background and cultural background information of the child and the child's family have been received.
 - d. The BC licensed adoption agency has discussed the proposed child's information with the prospective adoptive parent(s) and approved the match, after the prospective adoptive parents have discussed the medical information with their physician.
 - e. The appropriate authorities in the country of origin have confirmed that:
 - i. the child is legally available for adoption;
 - ii. the intention is to complete the adoption under the laws of the child's country of origin;
 - iii. Ministry records were checked within 90 days of travel to ensure that there are no previous contacts with the Ministry that would present concerns about the prospective adoptive parent(s)' ability to parent.
 - f. If there are no concerns, the office of the Provincial Director of Adoption issues a Letter of No Objection to Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

Please Note:

- A Letter of No Objection cannot be issued if the child to be sponsored is currently unborn and unnamed.
- A Letter of No Objection will not be issued if a prospective adoptive parent has a child welfare and/or a criminal record in the following areas: child physical or sexual abuse, or child exploitation.
- A Letter of No Objection will not be issued after the child has entered Canada.
- The final decision regarding whether the child will be allowed to enter Canada rests with Citizenship and Immigration Canada.