



Industry  
Canada

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Canada



## Are you thinking of incorporating?

*Reasons why  
you should  
consider federal  
incorporation*

Canada

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 1.0

### **You can file documents and pay fees on-line**

Filing articles of incorporation under the CBCA has never been more convenient. Simply go to the Corporations Directorate's Web site (<http://strategis.gc.ca/corporations>). Then click on "Corporations Directorate Electronic Filing Centre" 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.

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

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

## 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.

### Reason 2.0

#### Loads of helpful information

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

Get our free *Small Business Guide to Federal Incorporation* from the Corporations Directorate headquarters or one of our regional offices (see the list at the end), or from your nearest Canada Business

Service Centre (visit <http://www.cbsc.org> for a list of addresses). You can also access it on-line (<http://strategis.gc.ca/corporations>).

Among many other things, this guide provides information on:

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

The Corporations Directorate 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://strategis.gc.ca/corporations>

### Reason 3.0

#### High-quality service

The Corporations Directorate 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 4.0

#### 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.

- The Corporations Directorate 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.
- 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.

## For further information

Visit our Web site at: <http://strategis.gc.ca/corporations>

Or contact the Corporations Directorate headquarters  
or one of our regional offices:

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