

BORDER SECURITY

GUARDIANS OF THE GATEWAY – SAFEGUARDING THE CANADA-U.S. BORDER

Canada and the U.S. work hand-in-hand to ensure that our shared border – the longest in the world – is safe and protected 24/7, 365 days a year. Each day, around **400,000 people** and **\$2.6 billion USD worth of goods and services** cross our border.

Irregular routes between our two countries present very real dangers. Canadian and U.S. law enforcement agencies use the most advanced technology and have enacted stringent policies to prevent illegal migration to keep our border secure. Together, we are strengthening the integrity of our refugee systems, safeguarding our shared border and upholding sovereignty.

A SECURE U.S. BORDER IS A SECURE CANADIAN BORDER

ASYLUM SEEKERS WHO FIRST ARRIVE IN CANADA CANNOT TRAVEL THROUGH CANADA TO SEEK ASYLUM IN THE U.S.

The Canada-United States *Safe Third Country Agreement* (STCA) is a long-standing bilateral agreement that requires asylum seekers to request protection in the first safe country they enter, unless they qualify for the few exceptions to the Agreement. **Meaning, asylum seekers who first arrive in Canada must request asylum in Canada. They cannot travel through Canada to seek asylum in the U.S.** This powerful migration management tool allows the U.S. to return claimants to Canada who attempt to cross the Canada-U.S. border. In 2023, this Agreement was improved to include the entire land border and internal waterways.

BORDER SECURITY BEFORE REACHING THE BORDER

Canada maintains a *Secure Air Travel Act* list of individuals who may be a threat to aviation and/or national security. This “No Fly List” allows authorities to implement additional security screening or prevent the boarding of suspected individuals.

Canada is committed to working with the U.S. to curb illegal migration before individuals reach the border. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police are using all available measures to combat illegal migration into the United States and Canada. This includes existing legislation (e.g. Criminal Code conspiracy charges to commit Smuggling under Immigration and Refugee Protection Act and U.S. Acts), proactive measures such as coordinated aerial surveillance by both Canadian and U.S. partners, and technology at the border.

A UNITED FRONTIER

The Canada-U.S. border is 5,525 miles long, running through grasslands, tundra, mountains and the Great Lakes. Canadian authorities meet regularly with their American counterparts, including U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Border Patrol, to share information on irregular movement of people and migrants, gathered through strategically placed technology and alternating regional flight patrols. This information allows both countries to deploy resources where they are needed most and bolster surveillance in hot spots.



OF ALL IRREGULAR CROSSINGS REPORTED BY U.S. CBP IN 2023, LESS THAN 0.3% WERE AT THE NORTHERN BORDER.

CANADA AND THE U.S. ARE DEEPLY INVESTED IN EACH OTHER'S NATIONAL SECURITY. NATIONAL SECURITY STARTS AT THE BORDER.