

New Secure Certificate of Indian Status Card (SCIS)

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) have been working on a new secure Certificate of Indian Status Card (SCIS) since 1999/2000. The pilot project was conducted with Treaty Seven Nations in Alberta and the card was made available to all First Nations in Canada. The present laminated card lacked security features and there has been a lot of misuse and fraud with the cards.

The new SCIS card comes into effect on April 1, 2009 and INAC will start issuing the card on that day. Priority will be given to Border Bands to obtain the cards; INAC has identified 26 First Nations as Border Bands, Six Nations being one of those.

Acceptable Identification:

Individuals who are over 16 years of age must have the following to obtain the new card:

- Old Status Card (if applicable)
- Original Birth Certificate (either the Statement of Live Birth or Wallet size)

PLUS one of the following:

- Driver's Licence
- Old Age Security Card
- Passport
- Student ID with digitized photo of the cardholder.
- Government-issued employee ID with digitized photograph of the cardholder.

Individuals 15 years and under will need the following:

- Child's original birth certificate (Long form or wallet size)
- Any previous Status Card (if relevant)
- One valid ID of the parent or legal guardian (with documentation of guardianship) making the application on behalf of the child.

Special Consideration:

Special consideration will be given to applicants who are sixty-five (65) years or older whose birth was never registered with the provincial/territorial Vital Statistics authorities:

- Confirmation of non-registration from Vital Statistics, plus
- Original Baptismal/Church certificate OR
- A guarantor confirming that they know the individual for two or more years.

At the discretion of the Regional Manager, applicants undergoing hardships who are without any backup identification may have a guarantor who is able to confirm two (2) or more years of knowledge of the applicant as one (1) of the required pieces of backup ID.

Lost cards:

When an individual loses their card, the following policy will be in effect:

- First lost card, after signing a Statutory Declaration for the lost card, the Indian Registration Administrator (IRA) for the Band can approve issuance of the new card.
- Second lost card, the Regional Manager, Indian and Northern Affairs must approve the issuance.
- Third lost card, the Registrar, Indian Registration, and Headquarters must approve issuance of the card.

Acceptable Identification for lost, stolen and/or damaged cards:

- A statutory declaration.
- Original Birth Certificate

PLUS one of the following:

- Driver's Licence
- Old Age Security Card
- Passport
- Student ID with digitized photo of the cardholder.
- Government-issued employee ID with digitized photograph of the cardholder.

If you are changing your name or personal information on your new SCIS, this must be completed prior to applying for the card.

When applying for your new card, you must choose a four (4) digit Personal Identification Number (PIN), once you receive the new SCIS card, you will be asked to call a 1-800 number to active the card. If you do not active your card within thirty (30) days the card will be cancelled and you will have to re-apply.

There is a **two-week delivery time from the time you apply**. Once you have received your new card, you can destroy the old card.

You have the option of having the card delivered to your home address or to the Six Nations Lands Membership office, or local INAC office.

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada will be on Six Nations processing the new SCIS on the following dates:

March 2 – 14, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Six Nation's Community Hall

You will not receive your new Secure Certificate of Indian Status Card immediately as the cards will not be printed until April 1, 2009.