

Registry of Vessels

If you own a non-pleasure vessel powered by an engine of 10hp (7.5kw) or more, or commercial river rafts in Canada, you must register them with Transport Canada's Canadian Register of Vessels or the Small Vessel Register (Commercial).

Vessels that are not used solely for pleasure that are less than or equal to 15 tons gross tonnage are classified as "small commercial vessels" under the [Canada Shipping Act, 2001](#), and must be registered either in the **Canadian Register of Vessels** or the **Small Vessel Register**

The Small Vessel Register does not permit registration of mortgages, liens or vessel names. In that cases, you must register your vessel in the Canadian Register of Vessels if you require.

For help or information about vessel registration, contact the Vessel Registration Office

Mailing Address:

Transport Canada
Marine Safety (AMSED)
Tower C, Place de Ville
330 Sparks Street, 3rd Floor
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0N5

Email: VR-IB@tc.gc.ca

North American toll-free number: 1-877-242-8770

Local number (a long distance charge will apply): 613-991-2188

Teletypewriter / TDD: 1-888-675-6863

Facsimile: 613-998-0637

Acceptance of forms and documents

The Vessel Registration Office has undertaken a pilot project in which we will accept copies, PDFs and faxes of all vessel registration forms and all supporting documents. Electronic submission of duly completed forms and documents can be sent to VR-IB@tc.gc.ca.

Canadian Register of Vessels

Here are some of the most common procedures regarding registration in the Canadian Register of Vessels.

First Time Registration

The fee for first registration and re-registration in the Large Vessel Register is \$250.00. *If you are paying by credit card, please use the [Large Vessel Registration Payment Form](#). If paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to the "Receiver General for Canada".*

To register a vessel you must provide:

- A completed [Application for Registry](#) - You have to provide us with **three choices of vessel name** on this form and choose a [Port of Registry](#).
- A [Statement of Qualification](#) to prove that you are eligible to be a registered owner. If there are multiple owners, each owner must complete a separate Statement of Qualification form.
- An [Appointment of Authorized Representative](#) - This must be signed by all the owners. **This is required only if there is more than one owner or if a foreign corporation owns the vessel.**
- For a vessel built in Canada, provide:
 1. Builder's Certificate
 - If the vessel was built for you (the applicant), you must provide the [Builder's Certificate](#).
 - If you purchased the vessel, you must provide the builder's certificate and any intervening Bill(s) of Sale demonstrating complete sequence of title.
- For a foreign-built vessel, provide:
 1. Either the notarized Bill of Sale from the last foreign owner to you; or if you are not the first Canadian owner, all Bills of Sale showing the sequence of title up to you; and
 2. Proof of closing the vessel's foreign registry, free and clear of all encumbrances, with a "Deletion Certificate".
- Have the vessel measured for tonnage under Canadian rules by one of the following methods:
 - Non-Calculated Tonnage (Assigned Formal Tonnage)
 - Less than 8.5 m = gross tonnage of 4.99
 - 8.5m or more but less than 10 m = gross tonnage of 9.99
 - 10 m or more but less than 12m = gross tonnage of 14.99
 - Calculated Tonnage Measurement
 - For the simplified method complete one of the following forms:
 1. [Simplified Method of Tonnage Measurement](#) for monohull vessels of not more than 15 metres in length, having not more than a single tier of deckhouses and/or superstructures whose total combined length does not exceed 70% of the length;
 2. [Tonnage Measurement of a Simple Multihull Vessel](#) for simple multihull vessels of not more than 15 metres in length, consisting of a flat platform installed on two or more pontoon hulls and having no other spaces that could contribute to the volume of the vessel except the pontoons.
 - Have the vessel measured for tonnage by a duly appointed Tonnage Measurer.
 1. See this page for a list of duly appointed [Tonnage measurers](#)

Send completed documents to the [Vessel Registration Office](#).

Change of Address

There is no fee for a change of address.

To report a change of address, send a message via [e-mail](#), mail or facsimile to the [Vessel Registration Office](#). It should include:

- Name of Vessel
- Official Number
- Port of Registry
- Owner's Name
- New address

NEW: If you do not contact us about a change of address, and your certificate of registry is returned by the postal authorities, we may suspend or cancel your registration.

Transfer of Ownership

The fee for transfer of ownership is \$150.00. *If you are paying by credit card, please use the [Large Vessel Registration Payment Form](#). If paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to the "Receiver General for Canada".*

To change ownership of your vessel, you must provide:

- Marine [Bill of Sale](#) - to be executed by the present registered owner(s);
- A [Statement of Qualification](#) to be completed by the new owner. Please note that if there is more than one owner, each owner must complete a separate Statement of Qualification;
- An [Appointment of Authorized Representative](#) - This must be signed by all the owners. **This is required only if there is more than one owner or if a foreign corporation owns the vessel;**

If you cannot produce a Marine [Bill of Sale](#) from the registered owner, you must complete a statutory declaration and explain the reason why you cannot produce the Marine Bill of Sale. You must make the declaration before a Justice of the Peace, Commissioner for Oaths, or any other person authorized by law to administer oaths in the province or territory in which you make the declaration.

Send completed documents to the [Vessel Registration Office](#).

Change of name or port of registry:

FORM 13 - APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF VESSEL AND/OR TRANSFER OF PORT OF REGISTRY must be completed by the registered owner (s): <http://wwwapps.tc.gc.ca/Corp-Serv-Gen/5/Forms-Formulaire/searchrs.aspx?formnumber=84-0042>

\$ 250.00 fee applies for change of name of vessel and \$ 150.00 fee applies for transfer of port of registry. If you are paying by credit card, please use the [Large Vessel Registration Payment Form](#). If paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to the "Receiver General for Canada". <http://wwwapps.tc.gc.ca/Corp-Serv-Gen/5/Forms-Formulaire/searchrs.aspx?formnumber=84-0185>

Replacement Certificate

Request a replacement in writing to the [Vessel Registration Office](#). Include the Official Number, Vessel Name and Port of Registry along with payment of \$50.00.

If you are paying by credit card, please use the [Large Vessel Registration Payment Form](#). If paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to the "Receiver General for Canada".

Small Vessel Register (Commercial)

Here are some of the most common procedures regarding registration in the Small Vessel Register.

Renewal of Registration

The fee for renewal in the Small Commercial Vessel Register is \$50.00.

If you are paying by credit card, please use the [Small Vessel Registration Payment Form](#). If paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to the "Receiver General for Canada".

To renew your vessel registration you must provide:

- A completed [Application form](#).

Send completed documents to the [Vessel Registration Office](#).

Change of Address

There is no fee for a change of address.

To report a change of address, send a message via [e-mail](#), mail or facsimile to the [Vessel Registration Office](#). It should include:

- Official number as shown on your Certificate of Registry.
- Owner's name
- New address

Change of Ownership

The fee for a change of ownership in the Small Commercial Vessel Register is \$50.00. *If you are paying by credit card, please use the [Small Vessel Registration Payment Form](#). If paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to the "Receiver General for Canada".*

To change ownership of your vessel you must provide:

- A completed [Application form](#).
- A [Statement of Qualification](#) to prove that you are eligible to be registered as an owner. If there are multiple owners, each owner must complete a separate Statement of Qualification form.
- Proof of ownership of the vessel. **One** of the following documents must be provided. If you cannot produce any of the documents below showing that you own the vessel, please complete this [Declaration form](#).
 1. Bill of Sale. It must show:
 - date of transaction,
 - names of the seller(s) and buyer(s),
 - signature(s) of the seller(s),
 - description of the vessel.
 2. Another document of title (i.e. receipt). It must show:
 - date of transaction,
 - names of the seller(s) and buyer(s),
 - signature(s) of the seller(s),
 - description of the vessel and
 - \$0.00 balance or "Paid in Full" noted on the document
 3. Invoice along with a [Declaration Form](#)
- An [Appointment of Authorized Representative](#) - This must be signed by all the owners. **This is required only if there is more than one owner or if a foreign corporation owns the vessel.**

Send completed documents to the [Vessel Registration Office](#).

First Time Registration

The fee for first registration in the Small Commercial Vessel Register is \$50.00. *If you are paying by credit card, please use the [Small Vessel Registration Payment Form](#). If paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to the "Receiver General for Canada".*

To register a vessel you must provide:

- A completed [Application form](#)
- A [Statement of Qualification](#) to prove that you are eligible to be registered as an owner. If there are multiple owners, each owner must complete a separate Statement of Qualification form.
- An [Appointment of Authorized Representative](#) - This must be signed by all the owners. **This is required only if there is more than one owner or if a foreign corporation owns the vessel.**
- Proof of ownership of the vessel. **One** of the following documents must be provided. If you cannot produce any of the documents below showing that you own the vessel, please complete this [Declaration form](#).
 1. Bill of Sale. It must show:
 - date of transaction,
 - names of the seller(s) and buyer(s),
 - signature(s) of the seller(s),
 - description of the vessel
 - If the vessel was owned by a foreigner, the notarized bill of sale transferring ownership from the last foreign owner to you is required.
 2. Another document of title (i.e. receipt). It must show:
 - date of transaction,
 - names of the seller(s) and buyer(s),
 - signature(s) of the seller(s),
 - description of the vessel and
 - \$0.00 balance or "Paid in Full" noted on the document
 3. Invoice along with a [Declaration Form](#)
 4. Builder's Certificate
 - If the vessel was built for you (the applicant), you must provide the [Builder's Certificate](#).
- For a foreign-built vessel, provide:
 1. Either the **notarized** Bill of Sale from the last foreign owner to you; and
 2. Proof of closing the vessel's foreign registry, free and clear of all encumbrances, with a "Deletion Certificate" if applicable.
- Have the vessel measured for tonnage under Canadian rules by one of the following methods:
 1. Non-Calculated Tonnage (Assigned Formal Tonnage)
 - Less than 8.5 m = gross tonnage of 4.99
 - 8.5m or more but less than 10 m = gross tonnage of 9.99
 - 10 m or more but less than 12m = gross tonnage of 14.99
 2. Calculated Tonnage Measurement
 - For the simplified method complete one of the following forms:
 - [Simplified Method of Tonnage Measurement](#) for monohull vessels of not more than 15 metres in length, having not more than a single tier of deckhouses and/or superstructures whose total combined length does not exceed 70% of the length;
 - [Tonnage Measurement of a Simple Multihull Vessel](#) simple multihull vessels of not more than 15 metres in length, consisting of a flat platform installed on two or more pontoon

hulls and having no other spaces that could contribute to the volume of the vessel except the pontoons.

- Have the vessel measured for tonnage by a duly appointed Tonnage Measurer.
 - See this page for a list of duly appointed [Tonnage measurers](#)

Note: If you are registering a group of two (2) or more vessels each with a length of 8.5metres or less, and each less than (five) 5 gross tonnage; and they are owned by the same person, your vessels qualify for a “group discount” and for a \$50.00 flat fee. The same applies for Air Cushion Vehicles (ACVs) of 1500 kg or less.

Send completed documents to the [Vessel Registration Office](#).