

# Foreign Entrepreneur Setup Checklist

Ten checks before you incorporate in Canada

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Work through these ten before you incorporate, or before your next filing.  
Four early decisions matter more than anything claimed on the return.

- ☐ **1 Jurisdiction chosen**  
Federal or provincial, matched to your footprint.
- ☐ **2 Board settled**  
Resident directors, or a federal waiver arranged.
- ☐ **3 Entity type decided**  
Branch or subsidiary, compared on total cost.
- ☐ **4 CCPC status accepted**  
Budget on the general rate, not the small business rate.
- ☐ **5 Name cleared**  
NUANS search completed before filing.
- ☐ **6 Registrations opened**  
GST/HST and payroll before the thresholds hit.
- ☐ **7 Share classes set**  
Voting and dividend rights agreed in advance.
- ☐ **8 Parent loans documented**  
Inside 1.5 to 1, with written terms.
- ☐ **9 NR301 filed**  
Before the first dividend leaves Canada.
- ☐ **10 T2 diarised**  
Six months after year-end, with Schedules 91 and 97.

#### PRO TIP

Foreign control removes CCPC status. The small business deduction was never available, so please build your projections on the general corporate rate.

#### What happens next

- 1 Structure reviewed
- 2 Fixed fee quoted
- 3 Company set up

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