

# U.S.-Canada Travel Tips for 2003 Annual Conference

1. ALA recommends that members get passports because it is easier to get back into the United States with a U.S. passport. Applications can be downloaded from the Web site at [travel.state.gov/passport\\_services.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport_services.html).
2. Get computer, cameras, and other equipment registered with Customs before leaving the U.S. When returning, there will be no question as to where your equipment was purchased.
3. All registration fees will be in U.S. dollars, so participants may pay as usual--check, credit card, government purchase order, etc.
4. If paying cash on-site in the ALA registration area, U.S. dollars will be returned as change. If paying with Canadian dollars, Canadian dollars will be returned as change. On-site fees will be in U.S. dollars. If using Canadian dollars, U.S. equivalent fees must be paid.
5. The rates for hotel rooms will be quoted in Canadian dollars. The Tourism Toronto Web site ([www.tourismtoronto.com](http://www.tourismtoronto.com)) has a Currency Calculator that allows conferees to see the price in U.S. dollars. If booking on your own, ALA is not responsible in cases of hotel emergencies. An on-site housing desk will be available as your advocate. The Conference Services desk in the ALA Office will be available for assistance.
6. Conferees can get rebates of goods and services taxes on purchases and hotel room fees. The bill has to be over \$50 and can be processed directly through Canadian Customs. Read the fine print and make sure you get the government forms and not the service-charge-company forms.
7. The conference will feature one Opening General Session, but two separate President's Programs. The governance-type meetings will also be separate.
8. Shuttle service will be offered from conference hotels to the Metro Toronto Convention Center.
9. Annual Conference registration will begin December 1. Hotel registration will open January 2, 2003. There will be an on-site housing desk at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, January 24-29, 2003, in Philadelphia to allow for reservations to be made in person.
10. When Canadian Immigration asks you why you are coming to the country, you should say you are coming to attend the ALA/CLA Annual Conference.
11. Under no circumstances should you tell Immigration you are entering the country to work.

For questions, contact ALA Conference Services at 800-545-2433, ext. 3227 or [confs@ala.org](mailto:confs@ala.org).

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