



CANADIAN VETERINARY  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE  
DES MÉDECINS VÉTÉRIAIRES

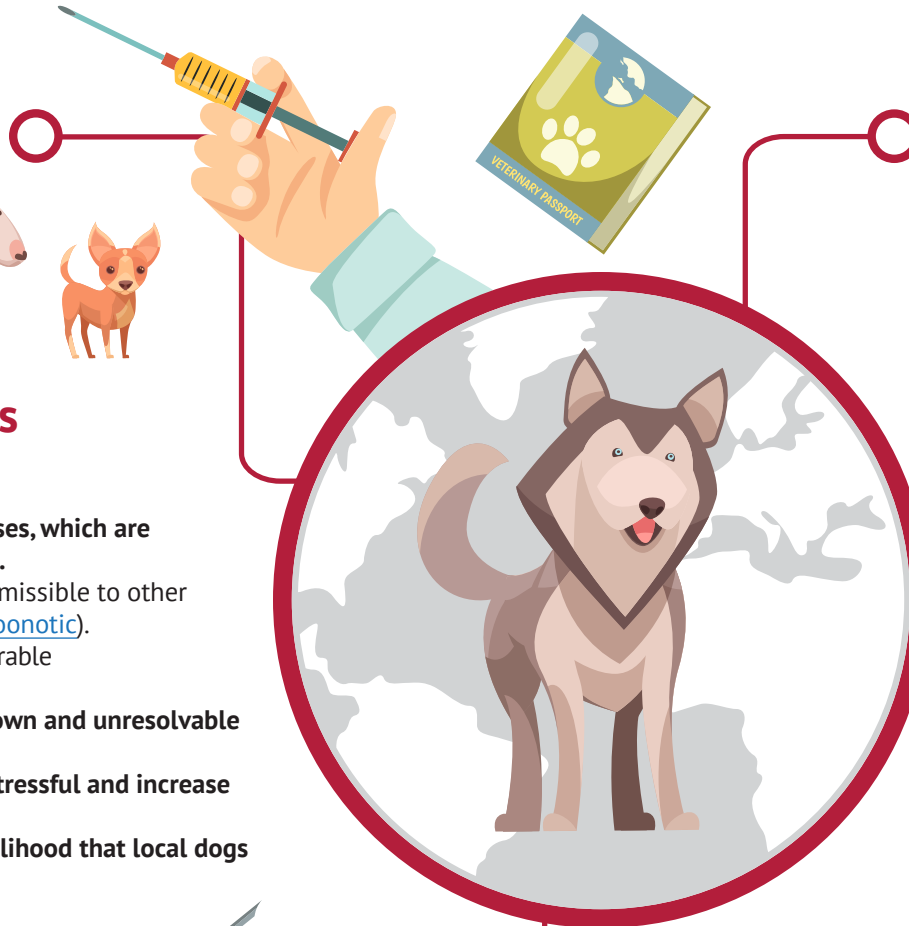
# VETERINARIAN'S DOG IMPORTATION CHECKLIST

Points to discuss before or after a client imports a dog(s) into Canada



## Before a decision is made to import:

- Imported dogs may carry diseases, which are uncommon or exotic to Canada.
  - These diseases may be transmissible to other animals and/or people (i.e. [zoonotic](#)).
  - Some diseases may not be curable (e.g. leishmaniasis).
- Imported dogs may have unknown and unresolvable behavioural issues.
- Transport can be lengthy and stressful and increase disease susceptibility.
- Importing dogs means less likelihood that local dogs will be adopted.



## Before dogs enter Canada:

- Examination by a qualified veterinarian in the country of origin.
- Rabies vaccination (as required by the [Government of Canada](#)).
- Other core [vaccinations](#).
- [Deworming](#), including tapeworm.
- Treatment for external parasites (e.g. [fleas](#) and [ticks](#)).
- [Heartworm](#) testing.
- Tests for diseases that may be present in country of origin, but not present or uncommon in Canada (e.g. Leishmania in the Mediterranean basin and South America, Brucella canis in US midwest).



## After dogs enter Canada:

- Quarantine dogs for 30 days (minimum 14 days) in a house or a facility away from other animals and high-risk people (e.g. young children, elderly, compromised immune systems).
- Monitor closely for signs of any illness and consult a veterinarian as needed.
  - [Rabies](#) risk may persist for up to six months.
  - Culture suspected bacterial infections due to risk of multi-drug resistant organisms.
- Examination by a veterinarian as soon as possible (even before going home).
- Repeat vaccinations or tests as needed.
- Behavioural assessment.
- Repeat heartworm test after six months.
- [Spay](#) or [neuter](#).

