

Bringing Your Parents to Canada: *Update on Parental Sponsorships/Supervisas*

**Ottawa Immigration Law Conference
17 April 2015**

Jacqueline J. Bonisteel, M.A., J.D.
Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Lawyer
Perley-Robertson, Hill & McDougall LLP

www.perlaw.ca



PERLEY-ROBERTSON,
HILL & MCDUGALL LLP/s.r.l.

Scenario:

On Monday, two siblings named Amira and Sam will be coming in to instruct you to prepare an application to sponsor their mother for permanent residence. They want your help in getting the application processed as soon as possible because their mother is elderly and frail. She wishes to spend her final years with her grandchildren in Canada (Amira and her husband have three young children).

What do you tell them?



PERLEY-ROBERTSON,
HILL & MCDUGALL LLP/s.r.l.

Parental Sponsorships: Reality Check

- **5000 applications per year**
 - Program closed for 2015, will re-open January 2016
- **Current processing time: 67 to 125 months**
 - Applications submitted in April 2011 now reaching first-stage approval



PERLEY-ROBERTSON,
HILL & MCDUGALL LLP/s.r.l.

Parental Sponsorships: Reality Check

- **20-year undertaking**
- **Onerous financial eligibility criteria for sponsors**
 - Minimum necessary income for previous three years, based on CRA Notices of Assessment
 - Must continue to meet MNI until permanent residence finalized
 - Co-sponsor can only be a spouse



PERLEY-ROBERTSON,
HILL & McDOUGALL LLP/s.r.l.

Financial Eligibility to Sponsor = LICO + 30%



PERLEY-ROBERTSON,
HILL & MCDUGALL LLP/s.r.l.

Federal Income Table for Parents and Grandparents Sponsorship

Size of Family Unit	Minimum Income 2013	Minimum Income 2012	Minimum Income 2011
2 persons	\$37,708	\$36,637	\$35,976
3 persons	\$46,354	\$45,040	\$44,229
4 persons	\$56,280	\$54,685	\$53,699
5 persons	\$63,833	\$62,023	\$60,905
6 persons	\$71,991	\$69,950	\$68,689
7 persons	\$80,153	\$77,879	\$76,475
If more than 7 persons, for each additional person, add	\$8,148	\$7,929	\$ 7,786

What about the Supervisa?

- Fast processing time
- Multiple entry
- Granted for up to 10 years
- Stay of up to two years per entry



PERLEY-ROBERTSON,
HILL & MCDUGALL LLP/s.r.l.

Supervisa Challenges

- Expensive
 - \$100K+ in private medical insurance coverage
- Medical examination and biometrics
- Proving temporary intent



PERLEY-ROBERTSON,
HILL & McDOUGALL LLP/s.r.l.

Advising Clients

- Short-term and long-term solutions
- Ensure understanding of financial requirements, costs and responsibilities involved
- Are there alternatives?
 - H&C



PERLEY-ROBERTSON,
HILL & McDOUGALL LLP/s.r.l.

Thank You!

Jacqueline J. Bonisteel, M.A., J.D.
Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Lawyer
Perley-Robertson, Hill & McDougall LLP
340 Albert Street, Suite 1400
Ottawa, ON K1R 0A5
jbbonisteel@perlaw.ca
www.perlaw.ca
©2015



PERLEY-ROBERTSON,
HILL & MCDUGALL LLP/s.r.l.