



Visitor Visa (TRV) — Refusal Review Checklist

For applicants whose visitor visa (TRV) was refused and who want to reapply with a stronger file. Start by understanding exactly why you were refused, then rebuild the weak areas.

Reapplying without fixing the refusal reasons usually leads to another refusal. If you are considering judicial review, strict Federal Court deadlines apply (generally 15 days for a decision made in Canada and 60 days for one made outside Canada). Get advice quickly.

How to use this: Tick each box as you gather the document. Bring the completed file to your CHK consultation so we can review it before you submit.

First: get the refusal on paper

- The full refusal letter, including every reason the officer checked
- GCMS / ATIP notes — the officer's detailed reasons (request and read them before reapplying)
- A complete copy of everything you submitted the first time

Identify the exact refusal grounds (tick what applies)

- Purpose of visit not established / not considered a genuine visitor
- Ties to home country not strong enough (family, employment, assets)
- Personal assets and financial status insufficient
- Limited or adverse travel history
- Immigration status in your country of residence
- Family ties in Canada compared with home country (dual intent)

Strengthen ties to your home country

- Employment letter stating position, salary, approved leave, and return date
- Business ownership or registration documents (if self-employed)
- Property, lease, or asset ownership documents
- Family responsibilities that require your return (dependants, marriage, care duties)
- Enrolment or studies you will return to

Strengthen purpose & travel plan

- Updated, specific invitation letter from your host in Canada
- Detailed itinerary with return travel plans and accommodation
- Proof of the event or reason for travel (wedding, graduation, conference registration)

Strengthen finances

- 4–6 months of bank statements — consistent, with large deposits explained
- Income tax records / Notice of Assessment
- Sponsor's funds, relationship proof, and their financial documents (if sponsored)



Rebuild the submission

- A focused explanation letter that answers each refusal reason directly
- Updated forms (IMM 5257) and current, consistent information
- Any new positive facts that have arisen since the refusal