



A Guide to New Brunswick's New Birth Certificate

The Vital Statistics Council for Canada has undertaken an initiative to renew the design and improve the security of the Birth Certificate. The new birth certificate was adopted in New Brunswick on September 16, 2008.

The new certificate is made of high security polymer plastic and is a larger size. It contains more than twenty security features. Some visible features include:

- Two plastic windows – one with a colour-shifting property and one with three floating maple leaves surrounded by a gold outline.
- Two watermark/shadow features: Maple Leaves in the top, Canada Geese in the bottom.
- A thread feature running from top to bottom repeating the word “Canada”.
- See-through feature to the lower right that when held to the light irregular marks on the front and the back of the certificate align to form a maple leaf.
- Raised letter printed Maple Leaves along the right hand edge of the Certificate that have the same feel as printed money.
- A One Dimensional Bar Code (bottom right corner) which contains the number of the Birth Certificate. It is also displayed in a format you can read.
- A Two Dimensional Bar Code (bottom left corner) which contains information about the certificate holder.

Remember...

- *Your Birth Certificate is your identity*
- *Guard against identity theft*
- *Keep your Birth Certificate in a safe place DO NOT carry it on your person*