



# GUIDE TO OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS (OGD'S) IN CANADA

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## OGD's in Canada include:

- Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)
- Transport Canada
- Health Canada
- Natural Resources Canada (NARCAN)
- **Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)**
- Environment Canada
- Fisheries and Ocean Canada
- Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

## Why are OGD's Important, what is their role?

OGD's are important, as each OGD has a role to play in keeping Canadians, and our resources safe and protected from harmful things. OGD's control the way things are made, monitor our foods, ensure transportation safety, and so much more.

Each OGD has regulations and requirements for goods that will be used in Canada. The CBSA enforces these regulations on imported commodities. When we import goods, there are a variety of requirements that must be met. These can include something as simple as providing details on the goods, to requiring import permits, and commodity quota's.

## As an importer what should I be aware of?

As the importer it is important to understand your commodities, and any special requirements for the importation of these commodities. You can find this out by contacting your broker prior to importing your goods, to review the tariff classification and any OGD requirements that need to be met. This will ensure your goods have a smooth crossing into Canada, and are not held up for missing OGD paperwork etc.

## Where do I find out what is required for my imports?

Each OGD is slightly different; however all of them have informative websites. The most common OGD when importing into Canada is CFIA. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency. They cover far more than just food. Anything that will be consumed, used in manufacture of food (human or animal), goes into the ground, or comes from the earth will have additional information required. By looking on the CFIA website it will tell you what information is required.



### **What does my broker need to know? How do they know what to transmit to customs?**

When your broker is processing your import paperwork for CBSA, our systems require additional information on goods affected by OGD regulations. Since we are working in a system that is directly connected with customs, the import entry will not be accepted until all requirements have been satisfied. Our systems alert us when the HS classification could need additional information. From here we input that information alerting customs to any import permit numbers, Phytosanitary Certificates, ect. Your broker will need to know details on the products that are affected by ODG's. If the information is not provided on the ,hat we will contact you.

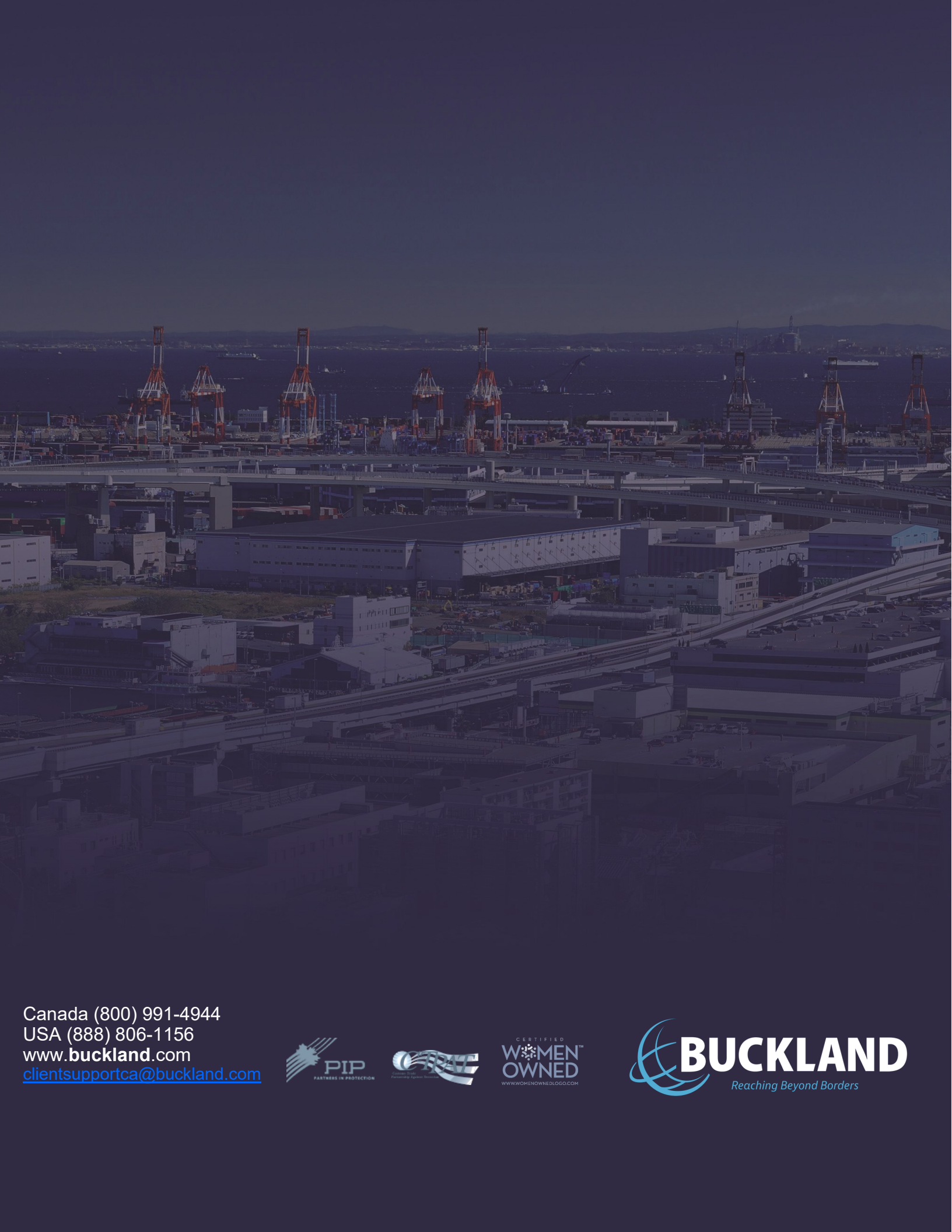
For example, if you are importing food products some of the things that will be required are what is the food product, what will it be used for, how is it packaged, an ingredient list, where the product is coming from, and more.

Another example of a common commodity and its requirements is vehicles. Any vehicle imported into Canada must meet Transport Canada's regulations. This is monitored through the RIV program. The RIV program requires an original title for the vehicle, as well as a Form one to be completed prior to importation. This form needs to be submitted to customs before the goods arrive at the border, by your customs broker. The form one, will provide the details on the vehicle including where it was made, when, by whom and what type of vehicle. The details provided will ensure that it meets Transport Canada's requirements, or alerts for inspection of the vehicle at the port of entry into Canada . Inspections on the vehicles will make sure the vehicle is safe to be on the road within our country.

NARCAN is another very common OGD. NARCAN is Natural Resources Canada. You know the sticker you see on your appliances when you purchase them? The ones that tell you how much energy they use? This is a NARCAN regulation. When goods are being imported we transmit details on this to customs. For example what the goods are, where they were made, by whom, their energy output and more. Usually these details are provided on the commercial invoice. In the event your broker can't obtain the details from the paperwork provided they will reach out for additional information.

**The long and Short of it:** To try and make it simple, if a commodity is for human or animal use ( either ingested or applied to the body), electronic, motorized or firearms it will more than likely have an OGD regulation that needs to be met. In these cases make sure you speak to your broker in advance to determine any special paperwork that may be required, and provide as many details as possible on the Canada Customs Invoice. By being proactive and knowing the goods you are importing it will help create a smooth import, preventing delays.

**Have questions?** Shoot us an email at [clientsupportca@buckland.com](mailto:clientsupportca@buckland.com). We can help review your unique situation and make sure you know the requirements and what's needed.



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