

TRAVEL POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

This Travel Policy states the goals, principles, and procedures used by the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation (the “Foundation”) to govern the travel on Foundation business undertaken by scholars, mentors, fellows, members, directors, staff, and other travellers (the “traveller”). This policy may be updated from time to time as required.

2. GOALS AND PRINCIPLES

The Foundation’s Travel Policy has the following goals:

- To ensure the exemplary management of the Foundation’s resources, drawing on standards in effect in similar organizations;
- To optimize the use of resources allotted for travel;
- To offer travel conditions that meet travellers’ legitimate needs and expectations;
- To simplify program administration by clarifying travel rules and reducing the number of requests for authorization addressed to Foundation personnel; and
- To realize savings on travel and accommodations costs and reinvest these savings in causes related to the Foundation’s mandate.

The following principles govern the policy:

- Travellers should make a fair, transparent, prudent and responsible use of the Foundation’s resources;
- Travellers should take the environmental and social impacts of their travel options into account; and
- Among other considerations, travellers should consider how their travel option could affect the Foundation’s image and reputation.

3. PROCEDURES

3.1 Research, travel and networking allowance

The travel expenses of the Foundation’s scholars and mentors from all cohorts will be deducted from those individuals’ research, travel and networking allowance in compliance with the financing agreements currently in effect. Similarly, the travel expenses of the Foundation’s fellows from the 2014 cohort onward will be deducted from those individuals’ research, travel and networking allowance on account at the Foundation, when such travel is incurred to take part in events organized by the Foundation. The costs of fellows’ research-related travel (travel incurred not to attend Foundation events, but to conduct research and networking) may be

charged to fellows' fellowship funds on account at their university, as per the funding guidelines circulated to Trudeau fellows upon their appointment.

Based on the application of this policy, Foundation Management may, at any time, refuse to cover an expense considered unjustified or unreasonable. A program beneficiary's refusal to comply with this policy or his or her provision of a false statement could provide cause for termination of the scholarship, mentorship or fellowship funding agreement between the program beneficiary and the Foundation.

3.2 Air travel

- 3.2.1 Travellers must travel in economy class, making their reservations in advance and adapting their schedules to take advantage of reduced fares rather than paying the full cost of economy class.
- 3.2.2 If a traveller adjusts his or her travel schedule in order to reduce the total travel cost (for example, by staying at the destination over a Saturday night), a claim for accommodation and incidental expenses will be accepted, as these additional expenses were incurred to save money on an economy-class ticket. Air travel at full economy cost must be authorized in advance by the Foundation.
- 3.2.3 The Foundation may authorize business-class travel for trips over nine hours long. The traveller must request authorization prior to purchasing his or her ticket and must justify the reasons for his or her request. The duration of the trip is calculated based on flight departure and arrival time.
- 3.2.4 The purchase of a business-class night flight will be permitted if this purchase reduces the total cost of the trip to an amount less than the trip would have cost had the traveller stayed overnight.
- 3.2.5 If no other alternative exists, the Foundation can authorize business-class travel in exceptional circumstances, if, for example, a traveller has to return home sooner than expected because of illness, accident, or emergency.
- 3.2.6 Reservation changes must be minimized to avoid change fees. If a traveller considers a change fee justified, for example in the case of illness or *force majeure*, the traveller may submit the grounds for that justification when he or she requests reimbursement of the fee from the Foundation. If the Foundation does not consider the change justified, the change fee will remain for the traveller's personal account.
- 3.2.7 Boarding passes must be kept and submitted with the expense claim, along with airplane tickets, for verification purposes. Electronic boarding passes are accepted.

3.3 Train travel

- 3.3.1 Travellers must travel in economy class, making their reservations in advance and adapting their schedules to take advantage of reduced fares rather than paying the full cost of economy class.

- 3.3.2 Reservation changes must be minimized to avoid change fees. If a traveller considers a change fee justified, for example in the case of illness or *force majeure*, the traveller may submit the grounds for that justification when he or she requests reimbursement of the fee from the Foundation. If the Foundation does not consider the change justified, the change fee will be for the traveller's personal account.
- 3.3.3 Boarding passes must be kept and submitted with the expense claim, along with the train itinerary and receipt, for verification purposes. Electronic boarding passes are accepted.

3.4 Collective transportation modes

- 3.4.1 Travellers are encouraged to use public transit and other shuttles whenever available, for instance in urban setting or for transfers to and from an airport or train station. Collective transportation modes often present a more environmentally, economical, and effective transportation option.
- 3.4.2 Travellers may claim the cost of the tickets purchased.

3.5 Vehicles

- 3.5.1 Vehicle transportation costs will be reimbursed when travelling by vehicle is the most practical and economical method of travel.
- 3.5.2 The choice between renting a vehicle and using the traveller's own vehicle must be based on cost.
- 3.5.3 Vehicle rental
 - 3.5.3.1 Vehicle rentals are limited to seven days per trip, unless prior authorization is obtained from the Foundation.
 - 3.5.3.2 Travellers must rent compact vehicles.
 - 3.5.3.3 In addition to the cost of renting a vehicle, travellers may claim fuel costs and insurance as required.
- 3.5.4 Personal vehicle
 - 3.5.4.1 Reimbursement is based on a certain rate per kilometre. To determine the per-kilometre rate that applies to the province or territory where the vehicle is registered, please consult Appendix A. These rates will be adjusted from time to time as necessary.
 - 3.5.4.2 Fuel costs cannot be claimed, as they are included in the per-kilometre rate.
 - 3.5.4.3 An itinerary justifying kilometres travelled (a departure-to-destination itinerary from Google Maps, for example) must be submitted with the claim.

3.5.5 Parking and taxis

3.5.5.1 Travellers may claim reasonable parking expenses incurred for activities related to the Foundation's goals.

3.5.5.2 Travellers may claim reasonable taxi costs incurred for activities related to the Foundation's goals.

3.5.5.3 Original receipts must be submitted with the claim.

3.6 Other methods of transportation

3.6.1 Travellers must travel in economy class and look for the lowest available price for their travel. The original receipts, itinerary and ticket stubs must be submitted with the claim.

3.7 Accommodations

3.7.1 Reasonable accommodation expenses (commercial accommodations or board in a boarding facility) will be covered. Before booking their accommodation, travellers should consider factors such as distance from the place of business, access to public transit, Internet access, and breakfast costs, which may impact the cost of the overall trip.

3.7.2 Travellers may stay in a standard hotel room for a maximum of seven days, unless they have authorization to stay for a longer period.

3.7.3 Travellers may stay in private non-commercial accommodation: a private dwelling or non-commercial facilities where the traveller does not normally reside. Non-commercial accommodations costs will be reimbursed as per the daily allowance set out in Appendix B. The allowance is intended to cover expenses such as the cost of groceries or a gift to the hosts. This allowance will be adjusted from time to time as necessary.

3.7.4 The cost of non-commercial accommodations (for example, a boarding house or apartment rental) for a period longer than seven days will be reimbursed if prior authorization is obtained from the Foundation. Original receipts must be submitted with the claim.

3.8 Meals

3.8.1 Travellers' meal expenses will be reimbursed as per the allowance set out in Appendix B. The allowance will be adjusted from time to time as necessary. Receipts are not required to claim per diems.

3.8.2 Alternatively, if travellers' expenses are less than the allowance set out in Appendix B, travellers may choose to submit original receipts for meals. Detailed original receipts must be submitted with the claim. A credit card receipt alone is not sufficient.

3.8.3 A meal allowance shall not be claimed if a meal was provided by the carrier or at a meeting the traveller attended.

- 3.8.4 Meal claims may include alcohol, on the understanding that the Foundation only reimburses the reasonable consumption of alcohol when taken with a meal.
- 3.8.5 Foundation community members other than staff may not incur hospitality expenses on the Foundation's behalf.
- 3.8.6 When meals are taken with other Foundation travellers, each traveller is responsible for claiming his/her own meal up to the limit set out in Appendix B.

3.9 Incidental expenses

- 3.9.1 Incidental expenses are incurred as a result of having to travel. They include but are not limited to such items as gratuities, laundry, dry cleaning, personal health or hygiene products, phone calls home, pet care, telecommunications hook-ups and service, and the shipping of some personal effects.
- 3.9.2 Travellers may claim the incidental expense allowance when their travel includes a night away. The Foundation applies the rates set out in Appendix B. These rates will be adjusted from time to time as necessary. Receipts are not required to claim the incidental expense allowance.

3.10 Other expenses

- 3.10.1 The Foundation will not pay for flight upgrades or flight segments on travel undertaken for purposes unrelated to the Foundation's affairs.
- 3.10.2 Upon presentation of detailed original receipts, telephone calls or internet connections for work purposes will be reimbursed to the traveller.
- 3.10.3 It is the traveller's responsibility to purchase health insurance, including repatriation insurance, any time such insurance is required for travel undertaken for purposes related to the Foundation's affairs. If these are necessary and not covered otherwise for the traveller, the travel-insurance costs, as well as the costs of required inoculations and visas, will be reimbursed.
- 3.10.4 If a scholar on leave must travel with a child under the age of two and must be accompanied by a third person who will see to the child's needs during the scholar's participation in a Public Interaction Program activity, the scholar may use his or her travel and networking allowance to cover the reasonable travel expenses of this child and the third party.
- 3.10.5 For scholars, the Foundation will reimburse pre-authorized reasonable dependent care expenses that are incurred as a result of a research trip or travel to a PIP event. The scholar may claim up to \$35 per day per household with a signed declaration, to a daily maximum of \$75 per household with a receipt. Original receipts must be submitted.

3.11 Non-admissible expenses

- 3.11.1 Non-admissible expenses include but are not limited to passport issuance fees, international driving license costs, traffic or parking tickets, fines, fees, interest charges, carbon offset fees, change fees, late fees.
- 3.11.2 Goods and services of a personal nature such as personal hygiene products, beauty products, clothing, or pharmaceutical products cannot be claimed as they are already covered by the incidental expense allowance (see section 3.9).
- 3.11.3 Spouses' or dependents' travel, lodging, or other types of expenses will not be reimbursed by the Foundation, unless the traveller is on approved leave and such expenses have been pre-approved by the Foundation.
- 3.11.4 Any expense deemed inappropriate or excessive will be declined by the Foundation.

3.12 Claims for reimbursement

- 3.12.1 Expense claims should be submitted promptly to the Foundation for reimbursement using the Foundation's expense claim form. Exceptional circumstances aside, the Foundation will decline claims including expenses incurred more than two (2) months prior to the date of submission.
- 3.12.2 Given that the Foundation's fiscal year end is August 31, expenses incurred between July 31 and August 31 must arrive at the Foundation no later than September 15 to facilitate the annual audit process. Expenses not claimed by that date may be deemed ineligible for reimbursement by the Foundation.
- 3.12.3 The traveller must append all original receipts, invoices, and other supporting documents (for example: boarding passes, Google Maps printouts, Bank of Canada currency exchange rate calculations, credit card or bank statements) to the duly completed reimbursement form.
- 3.12.4 If the receipts, invoices, and other supporting documents do not provide sufficient information about a particular expense, the traveller must also provide a signed note describing the expense.
- 3.12.5 The traveller must be prepared to produce the necessary supporting documents demonstrating that the travel option chosen was the least expensive appropriate option for the trip. The Foundation reserves the right to decline a request for a full reimbursement if the charges incurred prove to be higher than what could have been obtained through the Foundation's travel agency and/or negotiated rates. In those situations, the Foundation will reimburse the traveller for reasonable costs based on receipts and on information obtained from the Foundation's travel agency.
- 3.12.6 The Foundation may ask travellers to present other documents or provide other information to support their claim.

- 3.12.7 Hotel and flight reservation confirmations are not considered to provide proof of payment. Other documents must be submitted (for example, a hotel account statement, a credit card receipt or a credit card statement).
- 3.12.8 Although the Foundation does not require receipts for per-diem expenses incurred during travel outside of Canada and the United States, we recommend that travellers keep their original receipts in the event that they are audited by the Canada Revenue Agency.
- 3.12.9 We strongly recommend that travellers keep photocopies of all original documents they submit with their claims.
- 3.12.10 Except during peak periods such as the financial year-end and the calendar year-end, when processing times could be longer, the Foundation undertakes to process claims for reimbursement within four (4) weeks of receiving a complete claim.

3.13 Exchange rate

- 3.13.1 The exchange rate used to convert foreign currency for business expenses incurred by the travellers should correspond with one of the following rates:
- (a) the conversion rate indicated on the monthly credit card account statement or on the statement obtained from the exchange bureau; or, if not available,
 - (b) the conversion rate established by the Bank of Canada for the period in which the expense was incurred.

3.14 Format of claim and supporting documents

- 3.14.1 Whenever original receipts are required herein, it is understood that the claims and original documents may be submitted to the Foundation either in print or in electronic format (PDF files sent by email to Accounts Payable). In some instances, providing the information to the Foundation electronically may speed up the reimbursement process.
- 3.14.2 Submitting an electronic claim does not relieve the traveller from the obligation of providing original receipts to the Foundation or to a revenue agency.

3.15 Audits by the Foundation

- 3.15.1 The Foundation has committed to undertaking systematic audits of a sample or the entirety of the travel claims of its travellers. Travellers should be prepared to provide original receipts and complete information to the Foundation at all time, including in instances where daily allowances were claimed.
- 3.15.2 When audited, the travellers are expected to fully cooperate with the Foundation to provide the information requested in a timely fashion.

4. DISTRIBUTION OF THIS POLICY

This policy applies to business travel undertaken with Foundation authorization: for activities related to a scholarship, mentorship, or fellowship awarded by the Foundation, such as learning, research and research dissemination activities or participation in events organized for or by the Foundation; and for social and professional activities undertaken for the Foundation, including representation and outreach activities.

Each new Foundation community member will receive a copy of this directive. A copy will also be distributed to each member when the policy is updated from time to time. An up-to-date version of this document is available on the Foundation's website at www.trudeaufoundation.ca.

E. APPLICATION

Foundation management, drawing on standards in effect in similar organizations, develops and updates the travel procedures, which are subject to change from time to time. Foundation personnel are responsible for enforcing the application of the Travel Policy.

Last updated: 16-06-2015

**APPENDIX A
PER-KILOMETRE RATE**

Effective 1 May 2015

The rates payable in cents per kilometre for the authorized use of a personal vehicle for travel authorized by the Foundation are as follows:

	Cents/km (taxes included)
Alberta	42.5
British Columbia	46.5
Manitoba	45.0
New Brunswick	47.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	50.0
North West Territories	59.5
Nova Scotia	48.0
Nunavut	61.0
Ontario	53.5
Prince Edward Island	47.0
Quebec	49.0
Saskatchewan	44.5
Yukon.....	60.0

The rate payable is the rate that applies in the province or territory where the vehicle is registered.

These rates are subject to change from time to time.

**APPENDIX B
PER DIEM ALLOWANCES ***

Effective 1 May 2015

In Canadian dollars (taxes included)

Allowance for individual non-commercial accommodations	\$50.00
Breakfast	\$16.00
Lunch	\$16.60
Dinner	\$42.80
Total meal allowance	\$75.40
Incidental expenses	\$17.30
Total per diem allowance (meals and incidentals)	\$92.70

These rates are subject to change from time to time.

* For travel in Canada and the US.
For per diem allowances for other countries, the Foundation generally applies the Government of Canada's National Joint Council guidelines. Contact Foundation staff for more information.