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[What happens to my US securities when I become a Canadian](#)

 by [sunny8107](#) » 05Mar2009 22:35

Hi All,

I am currently working in the US on a work visa (H1B) and planning to marry my fiance (she is a Canadian citizen). We are planning to settle down in Canada. I am a Indian citizen.

Here is my question: I have invested in US Stocks/Index Funds (at Vanguard), IRA's (at Vanguard) and 401K at my employer over the years while I was working in US. If I leave US for good and become a Canadian citizen, do I have to sell my US Stocks/Mutual Funds before I become a Canadian citizen? Or I have the flexibilty to hold my stocks at the brokerage firm and Index funds at Vanguard? If so, how do I pay the taxes on any capital gains?

I know that I can't touch my 401K/IRA till I am 59 1/2 yrs old, but can I withdraw from my retirement accounts after I reach that age? Thanks in advance for any feedback/help.

[sunny8107](#)

Newbie



Posts: 1

Joined: 05Mar2009 22:25

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 by [Norbert Schlenker](#) » 06Mar2009 00:44

[http://www.finiki.org/index.php?title=C ... ted_States](http://www.finiki.org/index.php?title=C...ted_States)

Nothing can protect people who *want* to buy the Brooklyn Bridge.



[Norbert Schlenker](#)

Gold Ring



Posts: 5562

Joined: 16Feb2005 10:56

Location: An Argument Surrounded By Water

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[Re: What happens to my US securities when I become a Canada](#)

 by [queerasmoi](#) » 06Mar2009 01:52

Just a thought about your Vanguard index funds: If Vanguard does not want to let you hold the funds anymore once you settle here, you might want to look into converting those index funds into the appropriate ETFs.

[queerasmoi](#)

Gold Ring




Posts: 1615

Joined: 27May2008 16:25

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[Re: What happens to my US securities when I become a Canada](#)

 by [Bylo Selhi](#) » 06Mar2009 10:22

queerasmoi wrote: Just a thought about your Vanguard index funds: If Vanguard does not want to let you hold the funds anymore once you settle here, you might want to look into converting those index funds into the appropriate ETFs.

In order to do that you need to have a brokerage account in the US. Vanguard won't let you open a VBS account once you're resident in Canada, even if only to effect the open-end to ETF switch. No other US brokers will either due to Canadian securities regulations.

Your best bet would be to switch while still resident in the US. There are no income tax implications but there will be a \$50 (IIRC) per fund fee to switch.

Edit: typo

Last edited by [Bylo Selhi](#) on 06Mar2009 14:00, edited 1 time in total.

Sedulously eschew obfuscatory hyperverbosity and prolixity.



[Bylo Selhi](#)

Diamond Ring



Posts: 15497

Joined: 16Feb2005 11:36

Location: Waterloo, ON

- [Website](#)

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 by [queerasmoi](#) » 06Mar2009 11:50

Right, that's what I meant... switch them to ETFs while you can do it, and then those ETFs will be portable 😊

[queerasmoi](#)

Gold Ring



Posts: 1615

Joined: 27May2008 16:25

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