The Canadian Office of the American Federation of Musicians has been designated as the sponsoring organization for a cultural exchange program, whereby members of the A.F. of M. will not require department of employment validation (EMP-2151) prior to entering Canada for commercial engagements.

The following documentation is required in order to obtain a work permit to enter Canada as a performing musician under this program (maximum length of permit 3 months).

1. Each musician and member of the technical staff (if any), must complete an application form CE-AFM-1, seven (7) days in advance of the performance date. The form letter enclosed herein can be reproduced as needed, but must be signed by the AFM Local official verifying membership status of performing musicians, which must be current for the duration of stay being requested.

2. A copy of a duly executed AFM contract covering the engagement(s) to be performed in Canada is required.

3. Each person must carry proof citizenship, i.e. birth certificate, passport, or citizenship papers. PLEASE NOTE: As of January 23, 2007, U.S. Citizens will require passports (as mandatory by US DHS) when traveling by air between US and Canada.

4. An administrative fee of $20.00USD for each ‘Cultural Exchange’ authorization is required musicians crossing the border at the same time need only submit one fee of $20.00, but musicians crossing separate from the group will be charged an additional $20.00USD per authorization form prepared. This fee is payable to AFM Canada in USD (or $25.00 CDN) by cheque, money order. or cash.

NOTE: As January 1, 2007 administrative fees will increase to $25.00USD or $30.00 CDN.

Please forward copies of completed applications, engagement contracts and fee to:

AFM Canada
Attention: Lidia McGeown
lmcgeown@afm.org
75 The Donway West, Suite 1010
Don Mills, Ontario, Canada M3C 2E9
Phone # (416) 391-5161
Fax # (416) 391-5165
The Canadian Office will return to the musician/leader a completed CE-AFM-2 letter of support, which must be presented to the Canadian Immigration Inspector at the port of entry used to enter into Canada, along with a copy of your recent contract(s). At that time a form IMM-1102 Work Permit will be issued, and an administration fee of $150.00 single musician and for groups of three through fourteen musicians travelling as one unit a $450.00 fee will be charged by the border. Note: These amounts payable in Canadian funds.

A permit valid for (3) months can be obtained provided the entertainment unit has (3) months of confirmed engagements. If/when working for a (6) month period for only (1) engager, the boarder may issue a permit valid for (6) months.

In some instances ‘performing artists’ may not have to pay the fee or require authorization to work. Please contact Liana White (lwhite@afm.org) for additional information.

REVISED 01/15/07