

THE ULTIMATE BRITISH COLUMBIA MOVING CHECKLIST:



HERCULES HELPERS SERVICES
| Metro Vancouver's Moving And Removal Experts |

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www.HerculesHelpers.ca



Your Heroic Guide to a Seamless Relocation

Moving in Metro Vancouver or across British Columbia demands meticulous planning and unwavering strength. At Hercules Helpers, we provide the expert guidance and heroic service to navigate every nuance of a BC relocation. This checklist is your roadmap to a stress-free move. When Strength Meets Service, your move is truly seamless.



8 Weeks Out:
Laying the
Foundation for a
Seamless Move

- ☐ **Notify Parties & Book Elevator Times:** Inform your landlord, building management, schools, and other relevant institutions of your upcoming move. Immediately reserve elevator access for moving day.
- ☐ **Research and Book Your Movers:** Secure your preferred moving date with a trusted team. For reliable assistance, consider contacting **Hercules Helpers**.
- ☐ **Create a Detailed Moving Budget:** Account for all potential costs.
- ☐ **Declutter and Downsize:** This is the ideal time to shed unwanted items and reduce moving costs. Hercules Helpers offers efficient junk removal solutions and “no junk fees” for good items.
- ☐ **Start a Moving Folder:** Keep all important documents (physical and digital) in one accessible place for easy reference.

6 Weeks Out: Preparing for the Transition

- ☐ **Start Gathering Packing Supplies:** Begin collecting sturdy boxes, packing tape, bubble wrap, and markers. Decide whether you will pack yourself or utilize professional packing services.
- ☐ **Inventory Valuables:** Create a detailed list or take photos of high-value items for insurance purposes. Review your current insurance policy and consider specialized moving insurance if necessary. Small valuables like cash and jewelry should be transported personally.
- ☐ **Plan to Secure Municipal Parking Permits (CRITICAL for Metro Vancouver):** Many Metro Vancouver municipalities require permits for moving trucks to park legally on residential streets. Be mindful of this for both your loading and unloading locations. A moving truck typically requires approximately 25–30 feet of clear space.

4 Weeks Out: Navigating BC- Specific Logistics

- ☐ **Confirm Moving Date with Your Movers:** Re-confirm all details with your chosen moving company to ensure a smooth operation. Discuss any specialized items or access requirements.
- ☐ **Update ICBC and BC Services Card:** Plan to update your driver's license and BC Services Card with your new address. [3]. You must change the address on your driver's license or BCID with ICBC within 10 days of moving [4]. These updates can often be started online.
- ☐ **Change Your Mailing Address and Set Up Mail Forwarding:** Update your address with Canada Post and other important contacts. While changing your address is free, Canada Post's

2 Weeks Out: Final Preparations

Mail Forwarding service is paid, starting around \$61.50 for three months within the province [5].

- ☐ **Notify Canada Revenue Agency (CRA):** Update your address with the CRA via your My Account or by phone to ensure you receive important tax documents and benefits without interruption.

- ☐ **Pack Non-Essential Items:** Continue packing items you won't need until after the move, such as books, seasonal clothing, and decorative items. Label boxes clearly with their contents and destination room to simplify unpacking.
- ☐ **Arrange for Childcare/Pet Care:** Finalize arrangements for children and pets on moving day to ensure their safety and allow you to focus on the move. For pets, consider clearing one room and keeping them safely in there with food and water.
- ☐ **Transfer Prescriptions:** Ensure all necessary prescriptions are transferred to a new pharmacy in your new neighborhood to avoid any interruption in your healthcare.
- ☐ **Update Financial Institutions:** Notify your banks, credit unions, and other financial institutions of your new address for all accounts and credit cards [6].
- ☐ **Update Insurance Policies:** Contact your home, tenant, and vehicle insurance providers (e.g., ICBC Autoplan, BCAA) to update your address. This is crucial to ensure continuous coverage and may affect your premiums [7].

1 Week Out: The Home Stretch

- ☐ **Confirm Final Details with Your Movers:** Reconfirm arrival times, access details, and any special instructions with your moving company. Ensuring all parties are aligned will help prevent delays on the big day.
- ☐ **Pack an Essentials Box:** Prepare a clearly labeled box with items you'll need immediately upon arrival at your new home. This should include toiletries, medications, important documents, chargers, a change of clothes, snacks, and pet supplies.
- ☐ **Defrost and Clean Refrigerator/Freezer:** Empty, defrost, and thoroughly clean your refrigerator and freezer. Ensure they are completely dry to prevent mold and odors during transit.
- ☐ **Clean Current Residence:** Perform a thorough cleaning of your current residence. Consider professional cleaning services if required by your lease agreement or for a smoother handover.
- ☐ **Gather Important Documents:** Collect passports, birth certificates, financial records, and other vital papers in a secure, easily accessible bag that you will transport personally.

Moving Day: The Final Push

- ☐ **Be Present for Your Moving Team:** Be available to your movers for a quick walkthrough (or pictures) to discuss priorities and any last-minute instructions. This ensures efficient loading and proper handling of your belongings.
- ☐ **Final Walkthrough of Old Residence:** Before leaving, conduct a thorough final check of every room, closet, and cabinet to ensure nothing is left behind.
- ☐ **Ensure Utilities are Off/On:** Double-check that utilities are properly disconnected at your old home and connected at your

Post-Move: Settling In

new one as per your scheduled arrangements.

- ☐ **Strategic Unload:** Envision the layout of your new home so your moving team can put the large items in the final place to make getting settled easier and more efficient.
- ☐ **Settle with Movers, Final Paperwork, and Reviews:** Complete the final paperwork with your moving crew, settle any outstanding balances, and consider leaving a review of your experience.

- ☐ **Unpack Essentials Box:** Start by unpacking your essentials box to make your first night and subsequent days in your new home comfortable and functional.
- ☐ **Update Address on All Documents:** Don't forget to update your address on your driver's license, health card, CRA, and bank accounts. While some of these may have been initiated earlier, ensure all are fully updated.
- ☐ **Explore Your New Neighbourhood:** Take some time to discover local amenities, services, and community resources to help you settle into your new environment.
- ☐ **Celebrate Your Move:** Moving is a major accomplishment! Take a moment to relax and breathe; go for a walk, and enjoy your favourite form of movement. Enjoy your new space! The hard part is done! We here at Hercules Helpers hope this experience was as smooth as possible and stress-free for you!

References

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