

# CUMIS Travel Insurance Program



## Folklore, Fables and Urban Legends: Three Strange Travel Insurance Myths

When it comes to travel insurance, myths and misinformation abound. In this article we'll debunk three "stranger than fiction" myths that are perpetuated, and offer some practical tips to help clients make a smart, informed choice.

### **MYTH: Travel Insurance can be booked anytime prior to the trip**

**BUSTED:** Not necessarily so. It really depends on the coverage or benefit that you require. For example, Emergency Health and Medical coverage as well as trip interruption, baggage loss etc. would certainly be available for purchase up to and including the day of departure from their home province, providing coverage for sudden and unforeseen incidents for the duration of their trip. However, trip cancellation is best purchased sooner rather than later. The cost of trip cancellation is the same whether it's purchased 3 months before the trip or 1 month prior.

An individual who chose not to purchase travel insurance within 48 hours of booking their trip six weeks before the departure date, and who unexpectedly falls ill and is hospitalized a few days prior to their trip. The trip would certainly need to be cancelled and the client would be on the hook for the pre-paid flight, accommodations and cancellation costs. Indeed, most people aren't entirely aware of what they are giving up and how a potential loss might impact them financially.

### **MYTH: Travel insurance doesn't pay out**

**BUSTED:** Insurance companies exist in order to help mitigate unforeseen and sudden events, with a view to making an insured financially "whole" again. Any insurance company's reputation rests on its ability to make good on its promise to honour the premiums it receives. Clients are always encouraged to carefully read their travel insurance policy to understand the benefits, exclusions and limitations.

### **MYTH: Credit cards provide sufficient travel insurance coverage**

**BUSTED:** Many credit cards do not cover everything a client requires, such as coverage for specific types of emergencies or Trip Cancellation and Interruption. Also, credit cards and travel insurance purchased from a bank may provide limited coverage, carry stricter exclusions or higher deductibles. Depending on the type of card you have the benefits may vary.

## Got travel plans?

**Get TRAVELin** with travel insurance!

Talk to your Credit Union Representative,  
or call **1-877-885-2847** and ask for your member rate today.