

# 6 QUESTIONS TO ASK A JEWELRY APPRAISER

## 1. What gemological training have you attained?



There are a number of Gemologist designations, so find out which ones the appraiser has attained. The three most prestigious are;

- **Graduate Gemologist G.G. from GIA** – The Gemological Institute of America, the world renowned gemologist certification.
- **FGA., The Gemmological Association of Great Britain.**
- **FCGmA, The Canadian Gemological Association.**

## 2. What professional Appraiser designations have you attained?



The following professional designations require extensive study of appraisal science, theory and proven practice.

- 1. Master Gemologist Appraiser, MGA, the American Society of Appraisers.**
- 2. Registered Master Valuer, RMV - the Canadian Gemmological Association.**
- 3. Certified Appraisal Professional, CAP – Accredited Appraiser Program, Canadian Jewellery Association**
- 4. Certified Gemologist Appraiser, American Gem Society**

Imperial Gem Lab's Harold Lindsay is a G.I.A. Graduate Gemologist and has attained the gold standard of appraiser designations, the Master Gemologist Appraiser of the ASA in addition to the RMV and CAP designations.

## 3. Do you buy or sell jewelry?



The answer you're looking for is 'No'.

By not buying or selling, you receive a totally unbiased opinion of value. If you request selling information at the time of the appraisal, the appraiser will assist you and refer you to a potential buyer or other avenues for liquidation of your jewelry

**IMPERIAL GEM LAB, VANCOUVER'S LEADING JEWELLERY APPRAISAL SERVICE.**

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## 4. What professional Gemology and Appraisal associations are you a member of?

There are a number of highly regarded national and international associations. Membership in one or more of the following association is key to keeping up to date with current developments in the jewelry field.

1. Canadian Jewellery Association
2. Canadian Gemological Association
3. Accredited Gemologist Association, USA
4. G.I.A. Alumni Association, USA
5. American Society of Appraisers, USA
6. National Association of Jewelry Appraisers, USA
7. Association of Independent Jewellery Valuers (Britain)



Imperial Gem Lab, Harold Lindsay is a member of all the above associations.

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## 5. Is your gem laboratory certified by any associations?

Properly identifying and quality grading gemstones and diamonds requires a substantial investment in gemological equipment. Without these instruments misidentifications are possible, leading to improper value conclusions. Make sure that your appraiser has a minimum standard of gem grading equipment.



The Accredited Gemologist Association certifies member gem labs that have successfully satisfied their equipment standards and requirements for a professional lab service. Imperial Gem Lab is one of only two AGA Certified Labs in Canada.

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## 6. Is my jewelry appraisal while I wait or do I have to leave the items?

Many appraisal services require you to leave your items. This may be because the job has to be farmed out to an offsite appraiser, using delivery methods such as the post or courier. Or maybe your work order isn't seen to for several days, perhaps weeks, depending on the priority at the time.

Seeking out a gemologist appraiser who can deliver an appraisal for you while you wait, preferably with your items in plain sight, is your most convenient and safest option.

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