

Other international interests of the provinces include promotion of trade, investment, industrial development, immigration, tourism, cultural exchanges, environmental questions, science and technology, bilateral and multilateral agreements, and assistance to developing countries. In matters of aid, the federal government encourages a detailed federal-provincial consultation to ensure that specific projects are co-ordinated. Promotional activities of the provinces and their interests in international activities have led to an increased number of provincial visits abroad. The federal government assists provincial officials by making arrangements for their visits abroad and co-ordinating visits of foreign personalities to provincial capitals.

Treaty-making powers. The federal government has exclusive responsibility for external affairs. It promotes the interest of the entire country within the overall framework of a national policy.

It is the policy of the Canadian government to assist the provinces in achieving their particular aspirations and goals. This is reflected in the frequent consultations between federal and provincial governments regarding treaties of provincial interest and responsibility. A variety of methods have been developed which can allow for full expression of provincial interests in treaty-making.

Once it has been determined that what a province seeks through agreements, in fields of provincial jurisdiction, falls within the framework of Canadian foreign policy, provision is made for direct provincial participation in negotiating with the authorities of the foreign country. When these arrangements are to be incorporated in an international agreement having legal effect, however, this can be achieved only through the federal power to conclude treaties.

20.1.2 Diplomatic and/or consular representation

The addresses of Canadian representatives abroad and representatives of other countries in Canada may be found in Appendix 5.

Bureau of consular services. The bureau co-ordinates consular activities through 115 diplomatic posts abroad to assist Canadians living or travelling outside of Canada.

The consular operations division is concerned with day-to-day consular cases abroad, contingency planning, applications for diplomatic and official visas, as well as for visitor's visas from certain countries, registration of Canadians abroad and responses to enquiries from the public about travel abroad. A member of this division acts as the representative for the department on the refugee status advisory committee.

The consular policy division receives and analyzes consular reports and statistics, negotiates consular conventions and multilateral and bilateral agreements, monitors legislative developments which affect the status of Canadian citizens abroad, provides a link with other government services such as immigration and citizenship, trains consular personnel, provides instructions to posts abroad, recommends appointments of honorary consuls, evaluates services provided, maintains liaison with the travel industry in Canada and provides advice on questions about consular activities. The division annually publishes an information booklet for Canadian travellers, *Bon voyage, but . . .*

Passport services. The passport office issues passports to Canadian citizens through the main passport office at Ottawa and through regional offices at St. John's, Halifax, Montreal, Quebec City, Toronto, Hamilton, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. Abroad, the service is provided through Canadian diplomatic missions and consular and trade offices. Certificates of identity are issued in Canada to eligible legally landed non-Canadians. United Nations refugee travel documents are issued in Canada to persons eligible under the UN refugee convention.

20.2 Multilateral activities

20.2.1 Canada and the Commonwealth

The Commonwealth has evolved into an international association of 42 sovereign states embracing approximately one-quarter of the earth's surface and one billion of its people,