

These categories allowed the Coordinator, under the Ministry of Intergovernmental Relations, and the Ministry of International Trade, Science and Investment which handled the Category 4 Official Visitors, to provide the resources requisite to ensure that appropriate hospitality and services were extended not only to the Official Visitors invited by the Province but to guests of the Government of Canada and the Participants in EXPO 86.

Visits Officers arranged itineraries for each Official Visitor, which included: transportation, accommodation, visits to EXPO 86, meetings with government, business, professional and academic leaders, and general hospitality. Most of these itineraries covered activities beyond the EXPO 86 site and frequently outside Vancouver, eg. trips to the provincial capital, Victoria.

The Official Visits program was most successful. During the course of EXPO 86 in excess of 10,000 Official Visitors were processed. Over 8,000 of these fell within Category 4 -- Representatives of Business, Trade, Finance and Industry -- and approximately 2,000 within the other Categories which included many Heads of Government and other leading representatives of governments from around the world.