

News Release

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PASSPORT APPLICATIONS TO BE DISTRIBUTED THROUGH TRAVEL AGENTS

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced that the Passport Office has awarded the contract for the distribution of passport applications to Alltour Marketing and its travel industry partner the Alliance of Canadian Travel Associations.

"Passport applications will be available through travel outlets in all communities across the country," said Mr. Ouellet. "Alltour Marketing, as an established distribution company that services the travel industry, submitted the most competitive bid in terms of cost, efficiency and innovation that will benefit the Canadian traveller."

Starting November 1, Canadians requiring a passport application will be encouraged to visit their nearest travel agency, or in northern communities, the nearest Northern store. In those regions where neither a travel agent nor a Northern store is located, individuals will be sent an application form by mail if they call Alltour's 1-800 number. This number will be made public through a postal household drop in those areas in October.

"The travel agent is usually the first point of contact when people are planning their trips," said Bob MacPhee, Chief Executive Officer of the Passport Office. "It makes sense that passport applications should be distributed through travel agencies. It's one-stop shopping for the client."

Passport applications are currently distributed through postal outlets across the country. Canada Post will no longer be carrying passport application forms after October 31, 1995. Application forms will continue to be distributed directly through Passport Offices across the country.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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