

wars, insurgencies or sporadic unrest. Find out if your destination is known to be dangerous. Call DFAIT's Consular Affairs Bureau in Ottawa at 1-800-267-6788 (in Canada) or (613) 944-6788 for travel reports. These reports will give you background information on security and political conditions, health issues and entry requirements for over 170 countries. If you would like to receive information by fax, dial 1-800-575-2500 (in Canada) or (613) 944-2500 and follow the automated instructions.

If you are planning to work in the United States or Mexico, you should also obtain copies of the DFAIT booklets *Crossing the 49th* and *México: ¿Qué pasa?*. See page 25 of this booklet for details on how to order these publications.

This information is also available at DFAIT's Internet site (<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca>).

When you are abroad, you will be able to tune in to Radio Canada International (RCI) for the latest news. RCI also broadcasts messages from the Canadian government during emergency situations. You can obtain a schedule of times and frequency of broadcasts to different parts of the world by calling the Canadian

Broadcasting Corporation at (416) 205-3311 in Toronto or (514) 597-7555 in Montreal.

What Documents Do You Need?

Passport

All Canadian citizens must have a valid passport before taking up residence abroad. Once living overseas, you should continue to maintain a valid passport. Application forms are available at passport offices, Canadian missions, travel agencies, and at the nearest Northern Store in northern communities. Passport applications accompanied by the required information and supporting documentation are usually processed within five working days if presented in person or up to three weeks if mailed to the Central Passport Office. When planning your departure time, however, allow yourself more time if you need a visa, since a valid passport is required before you can apply for a visa.

Your passport is valid for five years. If your passport is due to expire within the next six months, check with your host country's embassy or consulate in Canada for its rules and restrictions