

In addition to these documents, the Passport Office issues burgundy-coloured Diplomatic Passports to Canadian diplomats, top ranking government officials, diplomatic couriers and to private citizens nominated as official delegates to diplomatic international conferences.

The Office also issues Special Passports to people representing the Canadian government on official business. These include members of the Privy Council who are not members of the Cabinet, Members of Parliament, provincial Cabinet members, public servants and private citizens nominated to conferences that are not diplomatic in nature.

Diplomatic or Special Passports may be provided to the families of officials if they are also travelling at public expense. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade determines eligibility. Diplomatic and Special Passports are valid for

Certificates of Identity are issued to non-Canadians legally landed for less than three years who are stateless or unable to obtain a travel document from their country of origin and who have resided in Canada. The Certificate of Identity is endorsed for travel to countries specified in the document and valid for not less than one year or more than two years, with one year extension periods up to a maximum of three years.

Long-term and future services

The Passport Office is constantly looking for new technologies to improve our efficiency and service to clients. We have made significant progress in implementing the Technology Enhancement Plan which is designed to incorporate modern technologies in the issuing process of Canadian travel documents. It is hoped that changes such as Wide Area Networks (WAN) and fibre optics will improve our link within

? > The rising popularity of rail travel in the mid-19th century led to an explosion of tourism throughout Europe and caused a complete breakdown in the European passport and visa system. In answer to the crisis, France simply abolished passports and visas in 1861. Other European countries followed suit and by 1914, passport requirements had been eliminated practically everywhere in Europe...until World War One. <



five years, but entitlement to them ends upon termination of the official status of the bearer or on the date of the termination of the official duty. When the entitlement ceases, the passport must be returned to the Passport Office.

Canadians stranded abroad may be issued replacement or emergency passports by Canadian missions on behalf of the Passport Office.

Refugee Travel Documents are issued to persons who have been determined by Citizenship and Immigration Canada to be refugees under the 1951 United Nations Convention on the Status of Refugees and are legally landed (or on a Minister's permit pending landing) in Canada. Refugee Travel Documents are endorsed for travel to all countries, except the holder's country of origin. They are valid for two years but may be extended for an additional period of one or two years, to a maximum of five years.

the department and allow the rapid exchange of information regarding our clients.

The Passport Office plans to introduce a passport card, and surveys indicate great promise. Its purpose is to facilitate movement across the Canada-U.S. border.

Recent trial tests of CANPASS at the Vancouver International Airport were conducted to demonstrate the benefits of this transboundary travel document, designed for use by the frequent U.S.-Canada business traveller.

The Passport Office hopes to continually respond to the travel and business needs of Canadians. It is a needed service that we are proud to undertake. We try to make the first step, and every step, that much easier. This year has demonstrated that the Passport Office is quite capable of adapting to change and that its services and employees know no boundaries...