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Welcome to DFAIT's Open House

Everyone knows the value of a Canadian passport. It opens doors around the globe, and proudly announces that you are from a well-respected country.

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This Open House passport also opens doors. We invite you to enter the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to see what we're all about, to meet our employees and to get a sense of the range of work we are doing on your behalf.

The Lester B. Pearson Building is headquarters for a department of more than 7 000 employees working both in Ottawa and at 150 embassies and consulates around the world. But it is more than that. It is a workplace quite unlike any other in Ottawa, bringing together a diverse community of people. It's a prestigious location which hosts foreign leaders, conferences and national events. Most important, it is Canadians' link to the world and a symbol of the work we are doing to weave together a more peaceful, prosperous global community.

On behalf of all our employees – here and around the world – we welcome you to DFAIT's first Open House.

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Hon. Sergio Marchi, Minister for International Trade

Hon. Diane Marleau, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for La Francophonie

Hon. Raymond Chan, Secretary of State, Asia-Pacific

Hon. David Kilgour, Secretary of State, Latin America and Africa

Donald W. Campbell, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs

Robert G. Wright, Deputy Minister for International Trade