## **BACKGROUNDER**

## CANADIAN OFFICES IN THE BALTIC STATES

- O With the opening of the Office of the Canadian Embassy in Vilnius, Lithuania, Canada has established a presence in all three Baltic States. Similar offices were opened in Tallinn, Estonia, in November, and in Riga, Latvia, last December.
- O . Canada's Embassy in Stockholm is accredited to Lithuania and Latvia, and our Embassy in Helsinki to Estonia.
- O The Vilnius and Riga offices are satellites of the Stockholm Embassy, while the Tallinn office is a satellite of the Helsinki Embassy.
- O These offices are staffed by locally engaged employees, who act in a liaison capacity only, providing support and information to Embassy officials in Stockholm and Helsinki.
- O Stockholm and Helsinki Embassy officials visit the satellite offices regularly.
- These officials provide consular and immigration services in the Baltic States on a periodic basis; the satellite offices serve as points of contact, particularly in emergency situations, and provide limited consular/immigration services and information.
- O Under the guidance of the Canadian Embassies in Stockholm and Helsinki, the offices will assist Canadian exporters to identify new markets in the Baltic States and provide trade and investment assistance to Canadian businesses.
- O Canadian companies seeking information on opportunities in the region should contact the relevant Embassy first.