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CANADA LIFTS TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS ON RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today announced that, effective immediately, Canada is lifting all travel restrictions on Russian diplomats, consular officials, business representatives and journalists in Canada.

"Now that Canadians are free to travel around Russia, we are reciprocating by scrapping this Cold War relic," said Mrs. McDougall. "This will strengthen diplomatic, business and people-to-people contacts."

Canada's regulations were, from the beginning, a response to restrictions imposed by authorities in Moscow. Russia has now abolished these restrictions.

Until today's announcement, official representatives in both countries have been required to submit detailed travel notices two days in advance of trips outside the cities where they were stationed.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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