

preclearance officer. Intransit preclearance allows third-country passengers to proceed directly to U.S. preclearance facilities without first going through Canadian inspection.

In June 1997, the United States opened an intransit preclearance pilot project in Vancouver, British Columbia. Since that time, over 70 000 passengers have enjoyed more travel choices and shorter transit times.

#### **What today's agreement will mean**

The pilot project at the Vancouver airport has been a success and will become permanent. The United States and Canada will also expand this project to other airports in Canada. All Canadian airports with existing U.S. preclearance facilities will be eligible for intransit preclearance services. Intransit services at Vancouver will be eligible for indefinite extension. Toronto's Pearson International Airport and the Aéroport de Montréal (Dorval) will be eligible for intransit preclearance in 1999. Calgary intends to follow in 2001. Edmonton, Ottawa and Winnipeg would be eligible after 2001.

For more information, please refer to our Web site at:  
<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/geo/usa/trans-e.htm>