



Interdepartmental Committee on External Relations
Comité interministériel sur les relations extérieures

CONSOLIDATION BULLETIN

NO. 2

Interdepartmental discussion and negotiations have been actively pursued through the Personnel Management Committee (PMC) and its task forces, and a common understanding of the format and structure of consolidation is gradually emerging. This progress has been due, in part, to the fact that several departments have sought, from the Prime Minister and the PCO, clarification on some of the basic issues; as a result, at the most recent meeting of the PMC, several important questions were resolved and a new impetus has been created.

What is the intent of Consolidation?

The intention is to establish a consolidated Canadian Foreign Service, managed according to a single set of personnel policies, but recognizing a dual operational level which provides for a separate Trade Commissioner Service.

Who will be affected?

Consolidation is meant to encompass virtually all public servants of the Federal Government on any form of foreign service. Serving members of the RCMP and DND, whose officers are outside the Public Service Act, will be exempt.

What are the concepts by which the consolidated Foreign Service will be established?

1. All members of the consolidated Foreign Service will be employed by the Department of External Affairs, or serve in External Affairs positions abroad.
2. Officers of foreign interest departments (e.g. National Revenue, Health & Welfare, Supply and Services) will be on loan to External Affairs, while continuing to be on the payroll of their home departments, and will serve in External Affairs' positions set aside for them.
3. Heads of Posts and the Personnel Management Committee are to be the twin interdepartmental pillars of the consolidated Foreign Service.
4. Responsibility and accountability for day-to-day personnel management will rest with the Department