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¹³ The Canadian delegation to the 1926 League of Nations General Assembly. Front row, seated from left to right: Sir George Foster, Sir Herbert Ames, Philippe Roy, and Walter Riddell. (Source: York University Archives)

Skelton began by appointing Jean Désy from the Université de Montréal as the first senior francophone officer at headquarters. In January 1925, King's government opened an office in Geneva under Walter Riddell to deal with the International Labour Office and the League of Nations. However, King's precarious position as head of a minority government made him unwilling to court criticism by expanding his own department too rapidly.

That constraint was removed when King's Liberal party won a majority in the September 1926 federal election. Later that fall, at the Imperial Conference in London, Canada and the other Dominions won the right, later enshrined in the *Statute of Westminster*, to establish diplomatic missions abroad. King quickly appointed Vincent Massey as the first Canadian minister in Washington. Following this appointment, the office in Paris was raised to legation status and a