

Croatia, and Emilija Krnjajski in Belgrade -- received departmental merit awards.

The Minister's Award for Consular Excellence will be presented annually and will recognize employees whose devotion and steadiness over a period of time have made a valuable contribution to the consular program. The Award is unique in that eligible recipients include Canada-based employees, locally engaged staff at Canadian missions abroad, Canadian citizens providing consular services abroad on a volunteer basis, Canada's Honorary Consuls and Passport Office employees.

The Award was instituted as part of the department's Consular Awareness Program, launched in April 1991. This major program is part of the ongoing efforts to inform Canadian travellers about consular services.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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