

John L. Paynter (B.A., University of British Columbia, 1962; M.A., Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, 1963; B.A., Christ Church, Oxford University, 1965; M.A., Christ Church, Oxford University, 1970), born in Victoria, B.C., joined the Department of External Affairs in 1966 and served abroad in Moscow, Hong Kong, Beijing and Geneva. From 1983 to 1987, he was Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand with concurrent accreditation to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and from 1991 to 1994 served as High Commissioner to the Republic of India with concurrent accreditation to the Kingdom of Nepal. In Ottawa, Mr. Paynter held the positions of Director, General Economic Relations, Finance and Investment Division; Director General, Economic Policy Bureau; and Assistant Deputy Minister of the Economic and Trade Policy Branch. He is married to Inge Paynter and they have three children. Mr. Paynter succeeds Fred Bild.

Michael C. Spencer (B.A., Sophia University, Tokyo, 1964) joined the Trade Commissioner Service in 1967 and served abroad in Tokyo, in Osaka where he was the Public Relations Director for the Canadian Pavilion at Expo '70, in Milan, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Dallas, in Riyadh as Minister-Counsellor, and from 1986 to 1991, as Consul General in Osaka. In Ottawa, he has held positions in the Africa and Middle East Division of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, and as Director, Trade Development Operations in the Department of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Spencer is married to Yukiko Spencer and they have two children. He succeeds Mary Vandenhoff.

Christopher W. Westdal (B.A. [Political Science], University of Manitoba, 1968; M.B.A. [Public Policy], University of Manitoba, 1970) joined CIDA in 1973 after working in Tanzania on University of Toronto/CIDA projects. He served abroad in India and Nepal, and from 1982 to 1985 was High Commissioner to the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma. In Ottawa, he held the position of Director, Southeast Asia with CIDA, and twice was seconded to the Privy Council Office. From 1987 to 1991, he was Director General, International Organizations Bureau, External Affairs and International Trade Canada, and from 1991 to 1993 served as Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa. From 1993 to 1994, Mr. Westdal taught as Diplomat in Residence at Royal Roads Military College in Victoria, B.C. He is married to Sheila Hayes. Mr. Westdal succeeds Margaret Mason.