

The Department of External Affairs announced today that the twelfth CISGO (Commonwealth Interchange Study Group Operation) leaves London on 14 September for a four-week study tour of Canada which will take them to Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver. It is one in an annual series of tours that have visited almost every area of the Commonwealth.

The aim of the scheme is to provide young men and women of ability and promise with the experience of a broad but intensive study of the important characteristics - economic, political and social - of Canada and to encourage understanding and goodwill through personal contact.

The participants - a cross-section of young top-level executives in banking, business and the professions - average age 28.7 years - each sponsored by their own organisations and paid for them except for a few bursaries for professional people. The diversity of the group gives them a unique opportunity to learn nearly as much from each other as they do from the tour itself.

The programme is designed to highlight the important features of each area to be visited and is very varied, including such subjects as industrial development, cultural background, agriculture, education, communications, etc. The group will visit factories and universities, forests and farms and meet a wide cross-section of Canadians. The itinerary does not cover the whole country but includes enough travelling by air and land to enable the group to grasp the scale and diversity of Canada. The group will stay in private homes as guests of local families throughout the tour.

The programme is co-ordinated in Ottawa by the Department of External Affairs and in the provinces by the Provincial Governments with the co-operation of the local Royal Commonwealth Society branch and other interested bodies.

Ottawa	15th - 18th September
Montreal	19th - 23rd September
Toronto	24th - 29th September
Edmonton/Calgary	29th September - 3rd October
Vancouver	4th - 8th October