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EAITC STREAMLINES OPERATIONS

External Affairs and International Trade Canada is transferring its responsibility for the delivery of four programs as part of the Department's move to concentrate resources and energy on its core mandate, the management of Canada's foreign interests and trade policy and development.

The move was announced in conjunction with the Feb. 25 federal budget. It involves the transfer of EAITC's immigration role to Employment and Immigration Canada, of the cultural and academic relations program to the Canada Council, of international expositions to Communications Canada and of the international sports program to Fitness and Amateur Sport.

Details involved in the shift of responsibilities will be decided in consultation with the recipient organizations. The transfers do not entail job losses.

"The Government has agreed to these changes at EAITC, in concert with the recipient organizations and the Privy Council Office, with a view to streamlining EAITC and positioning the Department to respond more effectively to the foreign policy and trade challenges facing Canada," said Reid Morden, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

"I and my counterparts from the other organizations are committed to making these changes work to the benefit of all the programs involved."

The changes will increase the Department's ability to focus on, and deal more effectively with, its core responsibilities. In addition to the central functions of conducting Canada's foreign policy and trade policy and development, these include

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