PRESS RELEASE



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DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS

The Honourable Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, today announced the appointment of Mr. Robert Choquette, at present Canadian Consul General at Bordeaux, to be the new Canadian Ambassador to Argentina with concurrent accreditation to Uruguay. He will be replaced by Mr. René Garneau, Canadian Ambassador to Switzerland who is also accredited to Algeria.

Mr. Choquette was born in New Hampshire, USA, in 1905 and educated at the College Notre-Dame de la Côte-des-Neiges, College Saint-Laurent and Loyola College, Montreal (BA, 1926). After graduation, he was with the staff of the Montreal Gazette and was editor of "La Revue Moderne" and was active in the period 1932-61 as a writer for CBC television and radio ("La Cure de Village", "La Pension Velder", "Métropole", and "Quatuor"), and was an instructor in radio writing at Smith College in 1942-43. He was appointed Associate Commissioner of the Centennial Commission in Ottawa in 1963 and joined External Affairs as Consul General at Bordeaux in November 1964. Mr. Choquette is also well-known as a novelist and poet and is a member of many Canadian and French academic groups and societies. He was awarded the poetry prize of the Province of Quebec in 1926, 1931 and 1956; the Governor General of Canada Prize in 1930; prix Duvernay, 1954; prize by the French Academy for poetry, 1954; prix Edgar Poe (Paris), 1956, and prix international des Amitiés françaises (Paris) in 1962. He is married to the former Marguerite Canac-Marquis and they have two children.