

(6) Issue: The successful implementation of the new policy will require the full understanding and co-operation of the diplomatic corps.

Action Taken: Beginning this summer, at the same time as he or she receives a diplomatic identity card, every newly arriving diplomat in Canada will be given an information package outlining the new policies as they pertain to diplomatic misbehaviour, particularly in the case of driving while impaired. Newly arrived diplomats will also be invited to participate in an orientation program offered by the Canadian Foreign Service Institute every fall.

In addition, in order to ensure mutual understanding and to create a forum in which issues may be raised and discussed, an Advisory Committee made up of representatives of the diplomatic corps, the police and this Department, and (as required) representatives of social assistance agencies will be established. The Committee will meet twice a year or more often as required.

Finally, Canadian heads of mission are being informed of the new policy and the implications for Canadian diplomats posted abroad in a message from the Deputy Minister.

Attachments:

1. New Policy on Impaired Driving (including a background note and written Questions and Answers)
2. New Standard Operating Procedures for the Office of Protocol
3. Letter to the President of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police
4. Background Note on the Vienna Convention