

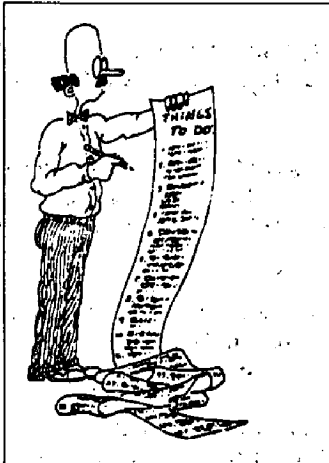
Corporate Review Update

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HAVING A BAD MONTH?



Let's face it...November is nobody's idea of a good time. What with budget blues, less daylight, mid-year resource problems and trying to get everything done so we can take a Christmas break, it is a long month. But there is some good news out there. We all know that these days we seem to be working harder, but much is happening around the Department to help us work smarter.

In particular, a lot has been happening in the Branch that affects so much of what this Department looks like and how we operate. This edition we look at the mysterious world of the M Branch, previously known as the Finance and Administration Branch, now the Corporate Management Branch.

This UPDATE is late getting to you (you're right it is December) but barring any new "emergencies", the next edition will be back on schedule.

FOCUS ON THE CORPORATE MANAGEMENT BRANCH (MCB) BEHIND THE SCENES

Next time your mail is a little late, that office move seems slow, you don't get an immediate answer from your accounts clerk or you need something printed in an hour and it takes a little longer, before you pick up the phone to complain, think about this:

Did you know that the mailroom handles almost 19,000 pieces of mail per day and by-hand deliveries just in Ottawa rack up enough kilometres to make 12.5 trips around the world every year? Or that we make 400 office moves per year in HQ alone, print 61 million pages of text, process 1.2 million financial transactions and transmit 2 billion words of message traffic with 12 million photocopies? Overseas we manage almost 1800 staff quarters and did you know that this Department owns real estate worth \$4 billion and constructs or purchases buildings at the rate of \$40 million per year?

All this, and a lot more, is the day-to-day work of the group toiling behind the scenes to keep our Department moving and functioning. But these days, the M Branch ain't what it used to be. The Branch that everyone likes to kick around is undergoing big changes. The Corporate Review not only changed the face of the Branch (the Passport Office left and COSICS, MCBA, MIX and MIV moved in) but it is also producing changes in the way the Branch performs its work, meets requirements of laws and regulation and basically helps us get things done. Not just the name has changed!

Here is some of the news of what is happening and what will be happening in the Corporate Management Branch in the coming weeks.

IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

* The Department's records and processes relating to accounting operations are being greatly improved. Three senior staff have joined the Financial Operations Division (MFF) on secondment to help overloaded staff to catch up and reorganize. A full review of accounting operations is being done including improvements to the processes, systems and procedures now in place.