

# **REPORT ON EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ABROAD FOR FOREIGN SERVICE SPOUSES AND DEPENDANTS**

## **1. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT**

This report is a compilation of information on employment opportunities for foreign service spouses and dependants provided by Canadian Missions abroad. The workability of the Reciprocal Employment Agreements, where applicable, is discussed. A guide is given as to work generally available within the Mission for spouses, including Community Coordinator and Registered Nurse contracts. The approximate number of spouses employed in a year at a mission as locally engaged staff (LES) is also indicated. Laws and regulations governing local employment are provided and recommendations as to language training, qualifications, etc. are given. Whenever possible, lists of potential employers are included.

## **2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

While neither Headquarters nor missions can act as an employment agency, the Department will offer encouragement and whatever assistance is possible to spouses and dependants seeking employment. Unfortunately, appropriately paid work abroad, particularly at a professional level, is not easy to find. In many countries of the world there are linguistic, legal, and economic restrictions on employment of non-nationals. As a consequence, only a portion of those who seek work while abroad are able to find jobs compatible with their expectations. Many seek a compromise in volunteer or study activities related to career interests. If members of your family are interested in employment while abroad, they may find the following information and suggestions helpful

### **- The Spousal Employment Counsellor at the Posting Services Centre**

At the Posting Services Centre (ABC) in the Lester B. Pearson building, you may consult with the Spousal Employment Counsellor on employment opportunities at various mission, or request help in drawing up an employment resume. Reference material is available: sample resumes, typical interview questions, useful addresses and books and pamphlets on employment at home and abroad. Once your posting is confirmed, the Spousal Employment Counsellor can send a telegram to the mission to inform them of your employment interests, and to give your background and experience. If there is a good chance of your obtaining work at the mission, and a security clearance is required, you should request a set of the necessary forms from the Employment Counsellor. You will then be ready to submit them to the mission when requested to do so.