

- ❖ To reduce your long distance costs when travelling, you may wish to use *Canada Direct**, an operator-assisted long distance service that allows you to place calls to Canada or to other countries via a bilingual Canadian operator. For a list of all the *Canada Direct* access numbers, call **1-800-561-8868** (toll-free in Canada). They are also available on page 62 of this booklet.

While you are abroad, tune in to Radio Canada International (RCI) for the latest news. RCI also broadcasts messages from the Canadian government during emergency situations. A schedule of times and frequency of broadcasts to different parts of the world can be obtained by calling the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation at **(416) 205-3311** in Toronto. Ask to be connected to RCI. In Montreal, call **(514) 597-7555**.

Make Sure Your Passport Is in Order

Your passport is the best proof of your Canadian citizenship. You and all family members should have a valid passport if you plan to travel outside Canada. If you have any questions about passports call **1-800-567-6868**. Locally you can call: in Toronto, **(416) 973-3251**; in Ottawa-Hull, **(613) 994-3500**; in Vancouver, **(604) 775-6250**; or in Montreal, **(514) 283-2152**.

Applications for Canadian passports may be obtained at passport offices, Canadian missions, travel agencies, and at the nearest Northern Store in northern communities. Allow at least three weeks for delivery.

If your passport is due to expire within the next six months, check with your destination's embassy or consulate in Canada for their rules and restrictions regarding passport validity and expiration. Some countries will not let you enter if your passport is close to expiring.

Before you leave on your trip, be sure to complete the "Who to notify in case of emergency/next of kin" section. This will help us quickly notify your family or friends if an emergency situation arises.

Make a photocopy of your passport's identification page and keep it separate from the original when you travel. For added security, leave a photocopy with a friend or a relative at home. These simple steps may speed the replacement process if you lose your passport.

If your passport is lost or stolen while you are travelling, contact the nearest Canadian mission immediately for a replacement **after** reporting the loss or theft to the local police. Make sure you get a copy of the police report or the report number. Before a new passport can be issued, you must complete an application form, produce written evidence of your Canadian citizenship (e.g. a birth or citizenship certificate), produce a copy of the police report or report number, present new photographs and pay the required fee.

Do You Need a Visa?

You need a visa to travel to certain countries. Check with your travel agent or with the country's embassy or consulate in Canada to determine the requirements. You can also call DFAIT's Consular Operations division at **1-800-267-6788** (toll-free in Canada) or **(613) 944-6788**.

Apply for visas well in advance of your trip.

When you arrive at your destination, be prepared to prove that you have enough money to support yourself during your stay.

Be aware of the rules and restrictions governing visas and your length of stay. This knowledge can save you both time and money.

Some countries will only allow you to enter if you can prove you will be leaving — be prepared to show your return or onward ticket or any visas that demonstrate you plan to visit another country.

Charter Flights

Before you book a charter flight to your destination, check out both the travel agency's and the charter company's