

By Catherine McDonald

he Awards and Recognition program is always looking for new ways to acknowledge individual or team contributions and achievements at DFAIT.

Instant Awards have traditionally been used as a form of recognition and to show appreciation. They allow managers to reward employees for a job well done and bring attention to efforts that go beyond the call of duty.

Acknowledging achievements raises morale and increases job satisfaction, helping all employees find value and pride in their work. When someone makes an exceptional contribution to the organization, an award is a simple yet effective way to say, "Great job...keep it up!"

Instant Awards aren't the only form of recognition at DFAIT. Indeed, the Awards and Recognition office (HSI) is investigating new and innovative awards to honour employee engagement, involvement, improvement and performance. We also plan to update the certificates that are issued for various achievements with a new look.

Familiar to all, Long Service Awards will now be given twice yearly, to ensure that employees are honoured for their public service in a timelier way. Retirement certificates and gifts are in high demand, so be sure to contact us if you're nearing retirement so we can help with your gift selection and ensure delivery of it as well as your retirement certificate.

New programs and initiatives are coming from HSI, so keep your ears to the ground. To find out more about Instant Awards, retirement gifts and various types of certificates, visit the Human Resources Branch site on the intranet under HR Programs.

We're here to help. Give us a call or email us at Awards.Prix@international. gc.ca with questions, to offer an idea or make a comment.

Catherine McDonald is the acting awards and recognition coordinator for HSI.

