The effective date for the transfer of responsibility and accountability in all cases is April 1, 1992. Dates for the physical moves are still to be decided. The current plan, however, calls for the immigration program (i.e. OFB and the geographic program divisions) to move from EAITC to EIC headquarters this summer. The same timing holds for the move of cultural and academic relations (BKA and BKR) to the Canada Council. Both international sports (BKA) and international expositions (BKE) will move April 1 or soon thereafter. Symbols for all affected programs will remain in use until further notice.

The consular function will remain within EAITC. Consular operations and policy (including consular awareness, contingency planning and the watch office) will move this summer from OFB to JFB. Similarly the Passport Office will be moved under the umbrella of JFB.

Those positions at headquarters dedicated to immigration, international cultural and academic relations, international sports and international expositions will be transferred to recipient organizations.

As in the case of the development assistance program, positions abroad dedicated to the immigration program will remain on the establishment of EAITC. EIC will exercise assignment and staffing authority for these positions, subject to the approval of Heads of Mission. EAITC will continue to be responsible for the administrative aspects of postings of officers to immigration positions in Canadian missions abroad (e.g. FSDs, removals, allowances etc.). A mutual secondment program will be set up to facilitate assignments between EAITC and EIC foreign service officers.

In the case of international cultural and academic relations, positions abroad dedicated to these programs will continue to be on the establishment of EAITC. The Canada Council will exercise assignment and staffing authority for these positions although EAITC experts in these programs may continue to be assigned to such positions, particularly in the near term, to ensure continuity in the delivery of international cultural and academic relations programs on behalf of the Canada Council.

Attached are a series of questions and answers that will address most of the issues of concern to employees. However, the comments below on major personnel matters will be helpful: