

PROPERTY SERVICES

The Physical Resources Bureau's support is key to DFATD's ability to achieve its strategic outcomes and an essential component of International Platform Branch's common services. The Bureau provides real property services in the areas of portfolio management, accommodation planning and project delivery for the compounds, chanceries, official residences and staff quarters located at missions. The Bureau's core mandate is to ensure that real property is managed in a sustainable and financially responsible manner throughout its life cycle, and to support the cost-effective and efficient delivery of programs abroad. Clients are engaged in decision-making through an extensive intra- and inter-departmental governance structure.

While the Bureau provides oversight and policy guidance, and remains accountable for real property management and major project delivery, operational planning and facilities management have been devolved to Regional Service Centres and missions.

DFATD's portfolio abroad consists of 2,256 crown-owned and leased properties with a total replacement value estimated at \$3.2 billion and comprising 900,000 square metres (gross). This year, DFATD has invested \$201.6M in major capital projects and \$10.9M on approximately 460 maintenance projects abroad.

Key achievements during 2012–2013:

- In response to Budget 2012 cost reduction commitments, DFATD closed several missions: Anchorage, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Raleigh-Durham and Princeton. Tehran and Niamey were also closed. Operations were suspended in Damascus.
- DFATD implemented rent ceilings for leased accommodations in response to Budget 2012 commitments. During the 2012–2013 posting cycle, this revised policy enabled the department to renew and/or replace 288 more cost-effective staff-quarter leases.
- The Critical Infrastructure Protection Program (CIPP), a program to enhance the physical security of chanceries and residences abroad, continued, managing 31 active projects and completing five.



Mock-up of the future Canadian chancery in Amman (Jordan), including design of the glass wall by Canadian artist Marianne Nicolson.

Courtesy of ARBC



Canadian Embassy in Beijing.

Courtesy of ARBC

Eight projects were in final-design stage and ready for construction. Eighteen new locations were identified for security upgrades. Physical-security upgrades were implemented and equipment acquired to enhance the security of Canadian diplomatic staff working abroad.

- DFATD introduced and applied the Government of Canada Workplace 2.0 office standards to its projects abroad. This policy will reduce aggregate space requirements in new and renovated missions while improving collaborative space and workflow