

	<u>1976/77</u>	<u>1977/78</u>	<u>1978/79</u>
Bureau of Consular Services PY	34	34	36
Related Post PY	<u>188</u>	<u>182</u>	<u>177</u>
TOTAL	222	216	213

It should be pointed out however, that the Bureau of Consular Services has little influence on the number or distribution of post personnel that are assigned to consular activities; post resource allocation falls within the jurisdiction of the Interdepartmental Committee on External Relations (ICER). The estimate above is based on a tabulation of "Country Program" figures submitted by posts, but the "Consular Program" therein defined includes activities for which the Bureau has no headquarters responsibility (e.g., passports).

Detailed program expenditures are not obtainable because the budget breakdown does not reflect a program perspective; consular program costs are therefore quite difficult to isolate, total annual expenditures are estimated to be between \$10 and \$12 million dollars. However, most of this amount is used for salaries and other operating costs abroad. The Bureau of Consular Services is responsible only for the headquarters portion of total program costs, amounting to roughly \$250,000 per year, exclusive of salaries.

### 2.3 Mandate

Two principal instruments provide the program's mandate: one is the Department of External Affairs Act of 1909, which directed that the administration of consular matters be performed by the Department of External Affairs. The other is the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations which entered into force in Canada in 1974. Certain Acts of Parliament also provide specific authorities and instructions, e.g., the Canadian Citizenship Act (1977), the Immigration Act (1976), the Diplomatic and Consular Privileges and Immunities Act, (1977).

### 2.4 Objectives

The primary purpose of the Consular Services program is to provide protection and assistance to Canadians and Canadian interests abroad. (This is an essential element of Canadian foreign policy).