

MANDATE OF THE OFFICE OF PROTOCOL

The Office of Protocol manages relations with 8,200 foreign representatives and families accredited to Canada. It manages the incoming and outgoing visits program for the Governor General, the Prime Minister and portfolio ministers; maintains and interprets the Standards of Treatment afforded foreign dignitaries who are guests of the Government of Canada; provides visit and hospitality support for summits and international conferences; and authorizes relevant expenditures from the Government Hospitality Allotment (GHA) for visits to Canada and the International Conference Allotment (ICA) for visits abroad.

Many improvements in the Department's management of high-level visits, in and out, have occurred, largely in the way in which Protocol has centralized the approval function, allowing for a more coordinated approach to decision making and better consultation with PCO/PMO, DFAIT's deputies and geographic bureaus. The Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services, Passport and Consular Affairs (MKM) and the Office of Protocol (XDX) will be pleased to provide a full briefing on current management practices to ensure that they are understood, approved and, as necessary, modified to comply with new ministerial preferences.

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