

San Francisco, therefore, became the third city in which a consular office was opened when, after a delay of six months, the Consulate General under Harry A. Scott, former Commercial Counsellor in Washington, opened July 2, 1948.⁷⁶ Scott wrote to the Embassy shortly after he arrived inquiring whether his responsibility extended to Alaska and Hawaii or whether he should leave these States in the hands of the British consuls.⁷⁷ External replied that no extension of the jurisdiction of the Consul General was contemplated. Scott's early reports indicated that he found San Francisco a fertile area for contacts, and that his work included a wide range of activities.⁷⁸ After Scott left, the staff was gradually depleted by reason of the spending cutbacks in 1949, and consequently, Hector Allard, Head of Consular Division, reported in 1952 that without reinforcements they could not cope with all the varied types of work they were called upon to perform.⁷⁹

After his tour of American cities in 1947, Leslie Chance commented that although a Consulate in Boston was not urgently required to deal with the pressure on the British of shipping or other consular services, there was a definite lack of Canadian flavour in the services provided. He emphasized that it was ... "the representational aspect of a Canadian office which is most important in Boston". He first inclined towards establishing a consulate general in Boston to accommodate this need, but later he changed his mind and in his final report he opted for a consulate.⁸⁰ In addition to Chance's recommendations, the 1955 consular review suggested that the following were important factors influencing the decision to open an office in Boston:

- (1) the large Canadian, especially French-Canadian, population