

passport was issued for your child or whether the child was included in the other parent's passport. The Consular Affairs Bureau can do this if you so request.

- If your child has only Canadian citizenship but the other parent has close ties to a particular country, inform the diplomatic or consular office of that country in Canada of what has happened and enquire whether a visa was issued for your child. Again, the Consular Affairs Bureau can do this if you so request.

### *The Search*

- Ensure that you have several certified copies of your custody order from the issuing court.
- Obtain information on the family and child welfare laws and customs of the country to which your child has been abducted.
- Find out the various legal aspects of your situation under Canadian law.
- Establish contact with relatives and friends of the other parent in Canada and abroad and try to enlist their support.
- Advise your child's school, doctor and hospital that he or she has been abducted and request that they inform you if they are contacted by the abducting parent.
- In consultation with your lawyer and the local police, consider whether it would be beneficial to obtain information from telephone and credit card companies on the whereabouts of the abducting parent.

### *After Your Child Has Been Located Abroad*

- Obtain advice and guidance as to the necessity of retaining the services of a lawyer in the country where your child is located.
- If a foreign lawyer is retained, ensure that you fully understand what will be done, how much time it is likely to take and what costs will be involved.
- Provide the foreign lawyer with certified copies of all relevant documents.
- Consult with the Consular Affairs Bureau to determine whether it would be appropriate for you to travel to the country concerned.

### *Legal Proceedings in Canada*

- Seek advice and guidance on how to proceed from the Crown Attorney, your lawyer and / or your provincial / territorial central authority.