

November 1, 1988

CFX-1652

CANADA-BASED PERSONNEL IN PROVINCIAL
OFFICES IN THE USA

With reference to our message CFX0162 of February 10, 1988 concerning the posting of Canada-based personnel to provincial offices abroad and my letter CFX0954 of July 5, 1988, I would like to remind provincial governments of the procedure which has applied specifically to the USA, and should be followed prior to departure from Canada to facilitate your representatives' accreditation in the United States.

All Canada-based officers assigned to work in the USA at offices of provincial Governments, their agencies or Crown Corporations, whether holding special or ordinary passports, require an A-2 visa. This visa will be issued under the authority of the USA Embassy in Ottawa (not directly by USA Consulates), acting on information provided by the Department of External Affairs.

Therefore, provincial authorities should provide the Office of the Senior Advisor for Federal-Provincial Relations (CFX) of the Department of External Affairs with the name of the person being posted. The Department of External Affairs will then submit the request to the United States Embassy, which, after approval, will arrange for the emission of the required A-2 visa, either by the Embassy or through a USA Consulate General. This procedure also applies to officers already in the USA who are extending their assignment.

In continuing to facilitate the issuance of these visas, the Department of External Affairs will do its best to ensure the procedure operates as smoothly and quickly as possible.

(see CFX-0954 that follows, on Provincial Representatives in Washington)