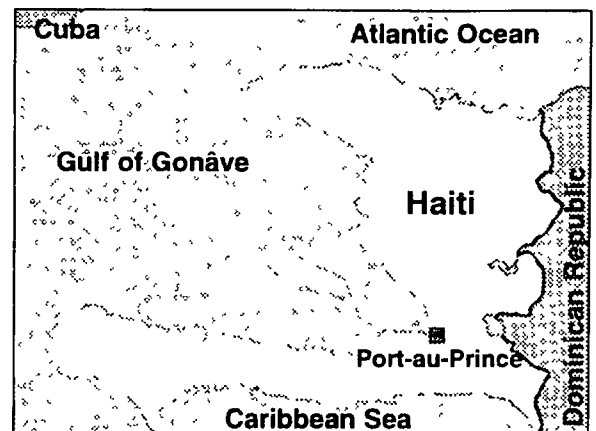




CANADA'S RESPONSE TO THE CRISIS IN HAITI

Canada-Haiti Relations

- Ties between Canada and Haiti date to the first half of the 20th century when Canadian missionaries arrived in Haiti. Substantial immigration to Canada from Haiti began during the Duvalier era.
- After the overthrow of the Duvalier regime, Canada took part in efforts to promote democratic development in Haiti, including the Organization of American States/United Nations mission to observe the 1990 elections.
- Canada has hosted President Aristide twice since the coup d'état on September 30, 1991.
- Canada has a dynamic Haitian community of about 60 000, most of whom live in Quebec. Thousands of Canadians have worked in Haiti over the past 50 years.



Response to the Coup

- One of the "Friends of Haiti," Canada has played a leading role in international efforts to reinstate President Aristide. Since the coup, Canada has supported and co-sponsored numerous resolutions on Haiti in the UN and the OAS. Canadian efforts led the G-7 and la Francophonie to issue statements supporting international action on Haiti. Canada has also taken part in a series of UN and OAS humanitarian, conciliation, and observer missions to Haiti.
- Canada committed 210 police officers and peacekeepers to the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH), which was to help implement the Governors' Island Agreement. The first contingent of RCMP officers was withdrawn in October 1993 when supporters of the military regime refused to allow further deployments.
- Canada strongly advocated the use of sanctions against the military regime in Haiti and has put in place all sanctions called for by the UN and the OAS.
- In July 1994, Canada helped draft and co-sponsored United Nations Resolution 940. The resolution authorized the creation of a multinational force, which could use "all necessary means" to implement the terms of the Governors' Island Agreement. The resolution also extended and strengthened the mandate of UNMIH.

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