

## Appendix B

# History of the Passport Office



**1968:** Cabinet confirms a decision to open branch passport offices in cities where major air terminals are located for scheduled overseas flights beginning with Vancouver, Montréal and Toronto.

**1969:** The following changes in passport requirements become effective April 1<sup>st</sup>:

- all applicants must support their claim to Canadian citizenship by documentary evidence;
- passports are no longer renewable, and validity is limited to five years;
- passport services are to be decentralized;
- the Passport Office is made self-supporting, with operations paid for through fees charged for services rendered; and
- the passport fee increases from \$5 to \$10.

} These changes cause a temporary collapse in passport service as Canadians apply in massive numbers for new passports.

**1970:** Offices open in Montréal, Toronto and Vancouver.

**1972:** Offices open in Halifax and Edmonton.

**1973:** Office opens in Winnipeg.

**1974:** Satellite office opens in North York.

**1976:** Fee increases from \$10 to \$12.

**1979:** Offices open in Saskatoon, St. John's, Hamilton, Calgary and Québec.

**1980:** Fee increases from \$12 to \$20.

**1981:** Offices open in Windsor, London, Fredericton and Victoria.

**1982:** A toll-free telephone service is implemented.

Fee increases from \$20 to \$21.

Head office moves from Ottawa to Hull.

**1985:** Machine readable passports are introduced in Canada.

**1986:** Automated writing systems are installed in Atlanta, New York, London and Los Angeles.  
All Canadian missions issue machine readable format passports.

**1987:** Offices open in Saint-Laurent and Scarborough.  
Automated writing systems are installed in Rome, Paris and Bonn.

**1988:** Fee increases from \$21 to \$25 effective January 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Automated writing system is installed in Detroit.  
Ottawa Public Counter becomes an issuing office.  
Offices open in Jonquière, Regina and Thunder Bay.

**1989:** Automated writing systems are installed in San Francisco and Hong Kong.

**1990:** North York satellite office becomes an issuing office.  
The Passport Office becomes a Special Operating Agency.  
Regional offices are reorganized into three reporting units: Eastern, Ontario and Western Operations.  
The Passport Office becomes part of the Consular, Immigration and Passport Affairs Branch.

**1991:** First Meeting of the Advisory Board is held.  
The Secretary of State for External Affairs approves new security enhancement measures.

**1992:** Fee increases from \$25 to \$35 effective January 1<sup>st</sup>.