

assistance to Canadians; and passport services. Training may also include a short practical assignment overseas and learning a foreign language as required. You will then be prepared for your first overseas posting of two to four years.

During a typical day at a Canadian diplomatic mission you could:

- interview and counsel immigrant applicants who wish to
 - join close family members already settled in Canada;
 - establish a business or make a substantial investment in Canada;
 - move to Canada because of better employment and living conditions;
 - be resettled in Canada under the refugee and humanitarian program;or
 - go to Canada for a temporary purpose: to study, work or simple visit;
- prepare comprehensive reports, case summaries and reasons for decisions in complex immigrant and visitor cases;
- complete a detailed report on the local refugee situation based on a recent visit to a nearby refugee camp and on information provided by local United Nations and human rights group representatives;
- participate in a meeting with colleagues to discuss new Canadian regulations and operational guidelines on the business immigration program,

and to analyze their possible consequences for your work;

- arrange for an emergency passport for a Canadian tourist who has been robbed and supervise the necessary paperwork prepared by a locally hired staff member;
- complete a report on developments in your host country's job training, health, unemployment insurance and other social programs, for use by federal and provincial governments;
- during a dinner meeting, brief airline and travel industry officials about fraudulent documentation and irregularly documented migrant flows to Canada.

Social Affairs assignments are a diverse and rewarding challenge in a world increasingly characterized by rapid change. An understanding of global trends and an appreciation of Canada's policies as well as its short- and long-term requirements — political, economic and social — are crucial. The work involves daily and direct contact with citizens or residents of the host country from every level of society: the ideal officer has the ability to assess human potential and make sound and consistent decisions based on astute judgement and knowledge. Excellent interpersonal skills are essential in making and conveying decisions that will influence the lives of persons wishing to live in or visit Canada.

During your career, you can expect to spend more time working abroad than in assignments at headquarters. In Ottawa, your