

Focus on
The Canadian Trade Commissioner Service



Poirier, Gilles

Gilles Poirier joined the Department in 1972 after earning a BA in Business Administration from the École des Hautes Études Commerciales in Montreal. Gilles' previous foreign assignments include Cameroon, Venezuela, the Canadian Embassy to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Paris and Canada's mission to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (Vienna and Paris). He has served as Commercial Counsellor in Algiers since August 1997.

Thornley, Christopher

Christopher Thornley is Consul and Senior Trade Commissioner at the Canadian Consulate in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. His previous foreign assignments have taken him to Stockholm (1992-93) and Boston (1993-96). In Ottawa, Christopher held a number of trade development and policy positions and most recently was Deputy Director (Trade), Trade/Political Personnel Division. From 1985 to 1990, he was Manager of the World Trade Centre in Halifax.



United States



Bieber, Doug

Doug Bieber is Consul and Senior Trade Commissioner at the Consulate in Chicago where he is responsible for trade, investment and technology activities in Illinois, Wyoming, Wisconsin and North Dakota. From 1996, Doug was responsible for the Investment Development Program and managed the Strategic Alliance Center in Chicago. He was with the Investment and Technology Bureau (1995-96) and the TCS Operations Division (1993-95). Doug's previous assignments include London (1989-93) and Dallas (1985-89).

Boucher, Catherine

In Catherine Boucher's first posting abroad, she is responsible for the new Info Centre at the Canadian Consulate in Boston and for the New Exporters to Border States Program (NEBS). Prior to her posting to Boston, Catherine worked in the United States Business Development Division (UTR) (1997-99).



Brathwaite-Sturgeon, Gerard

Gerard Brathwaite-Sturgeon is Second Secretary (Commercial) at the Canadian Embassy in Washington. Gerard has also served as Assistant NEBS Co-ordinator, UTR (1998-99); Second Secretary (Administration), Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago (1997-98); and Trade Commissioner, Minneapolis and Georgetown, Guyana (1996).

Burchett, J. Ian

Ian Burchett is Consul, Investment and Corporate Relations at the Canadian Consulate General in New York. Ian's previous assignments include Deputy Director, China and Mongolia Division (1997-99); Desk Officer, Korea and Oceania Division (1995-97); Consul and Trade Commissioner, Canadian Consulate, Monterrey, Mexico (1993-95); Consul and Trade Commissioner, Canadian High Commission, Kingston, Jamaica (1992-93); and Desk Officer, Middle East Trade Division (1990-92).



Chan, Roger

Roger Chan is the newly appointed Deputy Consul General of Canada in Los Angeles, as well as Senior Trade Commissioner for trade offices in San Francisco and San Jose. Roger joined the Department in 1975, working at the International Trade Centre in Regina. Since then he has held a number of positions in Canada and abroad, including Director, Export Programs Division (1995-97); Counsellor (Commercial), Mexico (1993-95); Program Manager, Oslo (1989-93); Deputy Director, Central Information Management Office (1987-89); Consul and Trade Commissioner, Buffalo (1980-84); First Secretary (Commercial) and Consul, Caracas (1977-80).