



# communiqué

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## OPENING OF REGIONAL PASSPORT OFFICE

The Regional Passport Office in Fredericton, N.B., was opened today by Senator Charles McElman on behalf of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Dr. Mark MacGuigan.

The office is located at Kings Place, Sixth Floor. The Director is Miss Marsha Firth.

On December 18, 1980, Dr. MacGuigan announced plans for opening new regional passport offices in Windsor, London, Victoria and Fredericton, bringing to sixteen the number of regional offices operating in major population centres across Canada.

The regional passport offices handle only passport applications presented personally. Those who wish to mail passport application forms must continue to direct them to the Passport Office in Ottawa, preferably in the envelope provided with each application form. The regional offices provide services in English and French.

The Fredericton Passport Office will offer several advantages to those who wish to use it. Among these are:

1. Fast service. An applicant who brings in his completed application form will normally have his passport in 72 hours. Mailed applications to the Passport Office in Ottawa usually take longer.
2. Help with any problems in filling out the application form.
3. Correction of errors "on the spot". Some 35 per cent of passport applications contain errors which can cause delays.
4. Immediate return of supporting documentation, e.g. citizenship papers.

Passport application forms are available at all passport offices as well as at any post office, travel agency or airline representative office.