

*may be particularly vulnerable in the event of the need for consular or other service or support from the Government of Canada.*

At the time Canada established diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China, an exchange of notes on consular matters between the two governments was made. These notes, dated October 24, 1974, provide for the facilitation of visits by consular officers to Canadian nationals and established procedures for the provision of consular assistance. As well, on September 19, 1996, Canada and China exchanged diplomatic notes providing for the conversion of the Commission in Hong Kong to a Consulate General on July 1, 1997. The notes stipulated that consular matters in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region are to be regulated by the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of April 24, 1963.

## **TRAVEL TO CANADA FROM HONG KONG**

At the time of publication of this pamphlet, a final decision on the visa arrangements for travel to Canada from Hong Kong by persons with a Hong Kong Special Administrative Region or British National Overseas (BNO) passport had not been made. The matter is under urgent consideration, and it is expected that a decision will be made in the coming weeks.

## **TRAVEL ELSEWHERE IN CHINA**

Canadians resident in or visiting Hong Kong will require a Chinese visa to go beyond the HKSAR to another point in