

SPOUSES — WORKING ABROAD AND AT HOME

Employment Policy for Spouses

Things are happening in the area of spousal employment. The first draft has just been completed on the *Employment Policy for Spouses*. It has been given to the FSCA and the Departmental Union Representatives, then it will be revised and sent to the External Affairs Joint Council and the Departmental Executive Committee. It has a long way to go yet, but the process is well underway. When it is finalized we will print a summary of it.

Employment Profiles

In April, a questionnaire, (entitled "Information Form, Employment") was distributed to all spouses who are on the *Direct Communication With Spouses* list. If you received it, please fill it in and return it. If you did not and would like to, please contact the Posting Briefing Centre. It is essential that we hear from you. No matter what your situation — whether you are not at all interested in employment, contentedly employed or actively seeking employment — please respond. The form will not be used by the Department as a formal request for employment, rather it will allow the Department to identify the number of spouses who might be interested in work at some time, plus note their fields of interest. The information gathered will provide an important basis for the development of the spousal employment program.

The Royal Commission on Conditions of Foreign Service noted the importance of employment opportunities for spouses. If the Department is to implement a program to assist spouses with employment, it must have its facts — and those facts must come directly from you.

Employment Abroad

The Centre is updating its information about employment opportunities for spouses abroad. In September, contracts will be available to spouses at posts to research the job markets there and provide the Centre, (and thus spouses heading out on posting,) with the most up-to-date information possible. Should you be at post and interested in doing this research, get in touch with the administrative officer there.

CANADIAN GROUPS TOURING ABROAD

The Montreal Symphony Orchestra received rave reviews from British critics following their performance in London. Mr. Edward Greenfield of the *Guardian* wrote "After a gruelling tour of 14 concerts in 15 days in four countries, I feel like upping the estimate and proclaiming them not only just the finest French orchestra of all time, but the most beautiful orchestra from North America." Their tour in Europe was the most ambitious and most successful ever undertaken by the group.

Les Grands Ballets Canadiens also received enthusiastic reviews just before they embarked on their \$1 million, 69 day trek through China, Hong Kong, Thailand, Singapore, Japan and South Korea. If you are in that area, hopefully you have already seen, or are about to see them. Their last performance will be on July 13 in Seoul, South Korea.



Danny Grossman Dance Company

During the summer period, numerous Canadian groups will be touring around the world partially funded by the Cultural Affairs Division of External Affairs. To highlight a few:

Danny Grossman Dance Company was formed in 1975 and has toured the world often since then. By blending humor, physical prowess and drama, they have appealed to audiences of all ages and even disarmed those who say they don't like dance. This summer they will be touring in South America.

Canadian Chamber Ensemble was formed in 1974 to provide the music programs at the Stratford Festival. Since then it has won critical and public acclaim through its extensive tours, recordings and broadcasts. The 16 member group will also be touring South America this summer.

Les Grands Ballets Canadiens was founded in 1958 by Ludmilla Chiriaeff and has since established itself as one of Canada's finest ballet groups. In August they will be touring the Far East, and judging from the reviews they have been receiving in the local papers, if you are in that area, it would be well worth your while to see them.

Mermaid Theatre is a puppet theatre from Nova Scotia that appeals to audiences young and old. Founded in 1972, they have toured across Canada often, plus England and the U.S. This summer they will be in Mexico.

Theatre Sans Fil is a puppet theatre from Montreal that has received enthusiastic reviews wherever it has toured. With over 40 puppets ranging in size from 4 to 12 feet, the stories and situations they can create will entertain and amuse audiences of all ages.

Touring from July to September 1984

Danny Grossman Dance Company — Mexico, Costa Rica, Columbia, Peru, Argentina, (September to October).

Canadian Chamber Ensemble — Mexico, Costa Rica, Brazil, Peru, Argentina and Columbia (August and September).

Grands Ballets Canadiens, Bangkok, Beijing, Singapore and Tokyo (August).

Theatre Sans Fil — Yugoslavia (August).

Mermaid Theatre — Mexico (August).