

- \* Security is an issue that must be remembered. Unfortunately, even though the bullet-proof glass is unwelcoming, it is necessary. Similarly, even though some furniture or fixtures may be welcoming, they may jeopardize the security of the office.
- \* The economic reality of Canada must be considered. We cannot expect disgruntled taxpayers and laid-off civil servants to accept extravagant expenditures on our foreign missions.
- \* Furniture must be functional and adaptable - it is moved around a lot; it must be able to meet new requirements (ie. hold computer equipment). It should also be the highest quality made in Canada unless this is clearly not cost effective.
- \* Artwork and Antiques are the key components to a visual image. They are also the only aspects that a post can/should control. It would be helpful if catalogues of art were available so choices can be made. It would also be helpful to have guidelines for the moving, maintenance, display and storage of them.
- \* The colour schemes need to be generic, neutral, muted. Perhaps a list of acceptable colours should be developed and circulated.
- \* Flooring must be functional. White carpets in public/representational areas are not wise. They are too difficult to keep clean. Also hardwood, or marble floors make a lot of noise and disturb personnel working in chanceries.
- \* Standards, guidelines and directives cannot be too detailed or too restrictive. The auditors will not be able to check them if they are.
- \* Canada's foreign policy objectives change. The interior designs must therefore be flexible enough to adapt to these changes.
- \* Interior design is a subjective art. Not everyone will agree on design standards. But since they must be established consider drafting them in committee (representing as many different viewpoints as possible) and voting on issues of dissention.
- \* Missions are vehicles of international relations. Designs must be sensitive to foreign values and beliefs.