DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

OPENING OF A REGIONAL PASSPORT OFFICE
IN SAINT-LAURENT (MONTREAL), QUEBEC

The Honourable Monique Landry, Minister for External Relations, today opened a new regional passport office in Saint-Laurent (Montreal).

The opening of the Saint-Laurent Office responds to a growing need in this community and surrounding area, and brings to nineteen the number of passport offices in major population centres across Canada. This falls within the Government's policy of decentralizing the passport system, thereby improving passport services to Canadian travellers.

Regional passport offices handle only passport applications presented in person. People who wish to mail their applications 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 both official languages.

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

- fast service. An applicant who brings in his completed application form will normally have his passport in three working days. It takes approximately three weeks to receive a passport if the application is mailed to Ottawa.

- Assistance with any problems in filling out the application form.

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- Correction of errors "on the spot". Some 35 percent of passport applications contain errors which can cause delays.

- Immediate return of supporting documentation, e.g. citizenship or birth certificates.

Passport application forms are available at passport offices as well as at post offices and travel agencies.

The office is located at 3300 Côte Vertu Road, Suite 112. The Manager of the office is Mr. Michel Lespérance.

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