

February 26, 1992

EAITC STREAMLINES OPERATIONS

External Affairs and International Trade Canada is transferring its responsibility for the delivery of four programs as part of the Department's move to concentrate resources and energy on its core mandate, the management of Canada's foreign interests and trade policy and development.

The move was announced in conjunction with the Feb. 25 federal budget. It involves the transfer of EAITC's immigration role to Employment and Immigration Canada, of the cultural and academic relations program to the Canada Council, of international expositions to Communications Canada and of the international sports program to Fitness and Amateur Sport.

Details involved in the shift of responsibilities will be decided in consultation with the recipient organizations. The transfers do not entail job losses.

"The Government has agreed to these changes at EAITC, in concert with the recipient organizations and the Privy Council Office, with a view to streamlining EAITC and positioning the Department to respond more effectively to the foreign policy and trade challenges facing Canada," said Reid Morden, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

"I and my counterparts from the other organizations are committed to making these changes work to the benefit of all the programs involved."

The changes will increase the Department's ability to focus on, and deal more effectively with, its core responsibilities. In addition to the central functions of conducting Canada's foreign policy and trade policy and development, these include

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consular affairs, communications with the public and media, and the Passport Office.

The moves will also strengthen and clarify accountability by tightening the linkage between policy formulation and program delivery.

Transfers of responsibility and accountability are effective April 1. Dates for physical moves are still to be determined.

"Every effort will be made by this Department and the other organizations involved to ensure that this transfer is carried out equitably and with a minimum of disruption for both the people and programs involved," Mr. Morden said in a message to employees.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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TRANSFER OF EAITC PROGRAMS

SUMMARY

<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>EAITC BRANCH</u>	<u>RECIPIENT</u>
Immigration	OFB* geographics	Employment and Immigration
Cultural and Academic Relations	BCB**	Canada Council
International Sports	BCB	Fitness and Amateur Sport.
International Expositions	BCB	Communications Canada

*Consular, Immigration and Passport Affairs Branch

**Communications and Culture Branch

(Note: some staff in the program divisions of geographic branches will be involved in the transfer of the immigration program.)

- transfer of responsibility and accountability is effective April 1
- dates for physical moves are not yet firm, but will be agreed with the recipient organizations
- all EAITC employees are to be offered equivalent positions in recipient organizations
- employees who decline positions in recipient organizations will be eligible for cash-out
- since Canada Council does not operate under the same public service regulations, EAITC employees who do not want to join that organization from the cultural and academic relations program will be offered equivalent public service job or cash-out
- employees who decline both positions in recipient organizations and cash-out will be placed on the Public Service Commission's priority list
- consular affairs and the Passport Office remain at EAITC