



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS

The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, announces the following diplomatic appointments:

Mr. John Alan Beesley, O.C., as Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the Office of the United Nations at Geneva with concurrent accreditation to GATT and as Ambassador to the Committee on Disarmament.

Born in British Columbia, Mr. Beesley (55) received his legal degree from the University of British Columbia (B.A. and LL.B.) and practised law from 1951 until 1956 when he joined the Department of External Affairs. He has served abroad in Tel Aviv and Geneva, and as Ambassador to Austria, and concurrently as Permanent Representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) from 1973-76. He was High Commissioner to Australia, with concurrent accreditation to Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, from 1977-80. In Ottawa he has served as Assistant Under-Secretary and twice as Departmental Legal Adviser. In 1973, in conjunction with his other duties, Mr. Beesley was appointed Special Adviser to the Secretary of State for External Affairs on the Law of the Sea, as well as Deputy Head of Canada's Law of the Sea Delegation. From 1980 until 1982, he was Ambassador to the Law of the Sea Conference in New York and in 1983 was appointed as Canada's Ambassador for Disarmament. Mr. Beesley will succeed Mr. D.S. McPhail who has been named Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany.

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Mr. Maurice Danby Copithorne (52), originally from Vancouver, B.C., as Commissioner to Hong Kong.

Mr. Copithorne (B.A., L.L.B., University of British Columbia) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1956. He has served abroad with the ICSC for Indochina, in Tehran, Kuala Lumpur and Peking. From 1977 to 1979, he was Legal Adviser to the Department of External Affairs and in 1979 he was named Ambassador to Austria. In 1982 Mr. Copithorne was named to his present post as Assistant Under-Secretary of State for Asian and Pacific Affairs. He will replace Mr. Allen Kilpatrick who has returned to Canada.

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Mr. James Angus Elliott (46), born in London, Ontario, as Consul General to Duesseldorf, Federal Republic of Germany.

Mr. Elliott (B.A., Economics, University of Western Ontario, 1959) joined the Trade Commissioner Service in 1960. He has served in Karachi, Duesseldorf, Paris, Bogota, Caracas and Chicago. In 1982, Mr. Elliott was named to his present post as Assistant Under-Secretary, Office of Trade Development for Latin America and the Caribbean. Mr. Elliott will replace Mr. J.M.T. Thomas whose next assignment will be announced later.

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Mr. Gilles Mathieu (50), originally from Montreal, Quebec, as Ambassador to Turkey.

Mr. Mathieu (B.A., Collège Sainte-Croix, 1953; M.A., Economics, Université de Montréal, 1956) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1956. He has served abroad at the Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York, in Accra, Paris and Washington. From 1972 to 1975, Mr. Mathieu was Ambassador to the Ivory Coast with concurrent accreditation to Upper Volta, Mali and Niger and from 1975 to 1978, was on secondment to the Treasury Board. In 1982, he was named to his present position as Assistant Deputy Minister, Management and Programmes. Mr. Mathieu will replace Mr. Marc Baudouin who will return to Canada.

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Mr. John Lawrence Paynter (42) originally from Victoria, B.C., as Ambassador to Thailand with concurrent accreditation to Vietnam.

Mr. Paynter (B.A., University of British Columbia, 1962; M.A., Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, 1963; B.A., Oxford, 1965; M.A., 1970) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1966. He has served in Moscow, Hong Kong, Peking and Geneva. Since 1980 he has been Director of the General Economic Relations, Finance and Investment Division. Mr. Paynter will replace Mr. Fred Bild.

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Mr. Peter McLaren Roberts (56) born in Calgary, Alberta, as Ambassador to the USSR.

Mr. Roberts (B.Ed., M.A. University of Alberta, 1949-51; M.A., Rhodes Scholar, Oxford University, 1953) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1955. He has served abroad in Moscow, Hong Kong, Saigon, Washington and the Canadian mission to NATO, Brussels. From 1970 to 1973 he was Press Secretary to the Prime Minister's Office and from 1973 to 1979 he was Assistant Under-Secretary of State, Cultural Affairs, at the Department of the Secretary of State. In 1979, Mr. Roberts was named to his present post as Ambassador to Romania. Mr. Roberts will replace Mr. G.A.H. Pearson who will return to Canada.