

# CANADA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM

Historic, Strategic Partners  
in International Peace and Security



CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION



Canada 



**Canada and the United Kingdom** enjoy a close-knit defence partnership that dates back over several centuries. The Canadian Armed Forces were originally modeled on British precedents and we share many traditions, doctrines and attitudes; not the least of which is a high degree of professionalism. This brochure outlines the Canadian Forces structure and gives examples of current and recent operations. It then looks at the past, present and possible future of Canada-UK defence co-operation.

*Chief Crowfoot addressing Governor General the Marquis of Lorne, at a meeting at Blackfoot Crossing, Alberta, during Lorne's visit in the early 1880s. Coloured pastels and black chalk by Sydney Prior Hall (1842-1922).*

# The Canadian Armed Forces



**THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE** (DND) is located in Canada's capital, Ottawa, in a joint headquarters that accommodates the Chief of Defence Staff and the three service or Environmental Chiefs. **DND** has a total strength of 62,000 regular force personnel, 27,000 reservists and 20,000 civilian employees.

Canadian military doctrine stresses rapidly deployable, highly mobile and technologically adept units on land, at sea and in the air. The **CANADIAN FORCES'** (CF) primary duty is to defend Canada and contribute to the defence of North America. Domestic roles include search and rescue, disaster relief, surveillance to counter activities such as illegal immigration and ocean pollution, and the protection of fisheries and oilfields. Additionally, the **CF** fulfill Canada's commitments to allies and contribute to international peace and security. Participation in **UNITED NATIONS (UN)**, **NORTH ATLANTIC**

**TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO)** and coalition operations in the cause of international security and the struggle against terrorism, have earned **CF** personnel a proud reputation of professional excellence.

During the 41 years of the Cold War, the **CF** deployed on 24 missions. Since 1989, they have been deployed more than 70 times. Canada has one of the most operationally experienced armed forces in the western world, with almost half of currently serving members having been deployed on at least one operation abroad.

From 1992 until September 2001, the **CANADIAN FORCES** had maintained at least 12 per cent of deployable strength on overseas missions and that percentage doubled in 2002 and remains at that level. In early 2004, more than 3,400 Canadian soldiers, sailors and air force personnel were

deployed on overseas missions from the Balkans to Central Africa to Afghanistan, representing roughly 20 per cent of the deployable forces available.

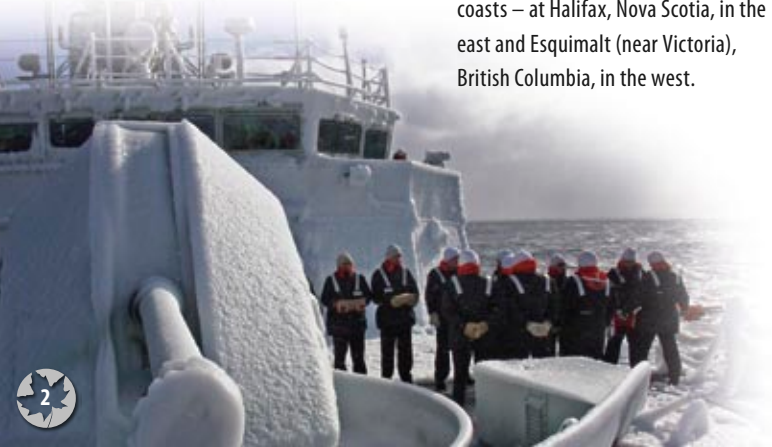
### The Navy

The **NAVY** is headquartered in Ottawa and has operational headquarters on both coasts – at Halifax, Nova Scotia, in the east and Esquimalt (near Victoria), British Columbia, in the west.

The fleet consists of four VICTORIA-Class (formerly UPHOLDER) long-range patrol submarines, three IROQUOIS-Class area air defence destroyers (DDGs), 12 HALIFAX-Class multi-role patrol frigates, 12 KINGSTON-Class coastal defence vessels (Reserve-manned) and two PROTECTEUR-Class replenishment ships (AORs). It is divided more or less equally on each coast. The DDGs, frigates and AORs each carry the CH 124 A/B Sea King helicopter. Our major surface warships have achieved a very high degree of interoperability with **U.S. CARRIER BATTLE GROUPS** and deploy regularly with them.

After the events of September 11, 2001, and the invocation of Article 5 by the **NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL**, Canada

was the first coalition nation to deploy a single warship, followed quickly by a full naval task group, into the **U.S. CENTRAL COMMAND** area of responsibility in the northwest Arabian Sea. Later in 2001, the frigate HMCS VANCOUVER departed San Diego as part of the USS JOHN C. STENNIS Carrier Battle Group. From that time until the conclusion of **OPERATION APOLLO** (which paralleled the US Operation Enduring Freedom) in December 2003, 11 of 12 frigates and two of three destroyers (one twice) plus both supply vessels had each completed a six-month rotation in theatre. The operational tempo reached its zenith in late 2002, when Canada deployed three frigates, a





destroyer and a supply ship in the Arabian Sea working together as a distinct Canadian task group. Of 4,500 seagoing billets in the fleet, 4,100 served at least one rotation in theatre. One ship, the VANCOUVER, was at sea continuously for 79 days (a record for a Canadian warship) and another for 73 days. In February 2003, a Canadian Commodore took command of **COALITION TASK FORCE 151**, which included an American warship and those of eight other nations.

Throughout the 27 months of **OPERATION APOLLO**, Canadian ships conducted

*A typical Canadian Task Group: the tanker HMCS PROTECTEUR flanked by the HALIFAX-Class frigate HMCS ST. JOHN'S (left) and the IROQUOIS-Class destroyer HMCS ALGONQUIN in the north-west Atlantic.*

*Corporal Jason Stoneham, from the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment stands sentry with a C7A1 assault rifle at an observation post overlooking the ruins of the King's Palace in Kabul, Afghanistan.*

*Cpl Stoneham is part of Operation ATHENA, the Canadian contribution to the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul.*



force-protection, fleet-support and maritime interdiction operations. Despite making up just 20 per cent of the Coalition Task Force, the **NAVY** carried out nearly half of the 1,100 boardings undertaken by the **COALITION** as well as the majority of 22,000 hailings.

## The Army

The **ARMY** is organised around **LAND STAFF HEADQUARTERS** in Ottawa and four area commands across the country at Edmonton, Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax. It is composed of three regular

force brigade groups, an air defence regiment and an engineer support regiment, with a total strength of 19,000. The **ARMY RESERVE** is 14,000-strong and organized into 10 brigade groups. Reservists regularly augment the **REGULAR FORCE** and deploy to international operations with the battle groups.

The **ARMY** has been equipped with the LAV III light armoured vehicle since 1999 as well as the Coyote armoured reconnaissance vehicle, a highly mobile, well-armed, and well-protected variant of the LAV family. The Coyote has been employed in the conduct of battlefield reconnaissance and surveillance missions at the battle group and brigade levels in numerous



*An AS90 self-propelled howitzer from 14 Regiment Royal Artillery*

theatres of operations including Bosnia, Macedonia, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Afghanistan. The Stryker Armoured Vehicle will enter operational service in the near future (replacing Leopard Mk I Main Battle Tanks) furthering the **CANADIAN ARMY**'s interoperability with the **U.S. ARMY** and other forces.

Canada's ground contribution to combat operations in Afghanistan in 2002 included the **3RD BATTALION PRINCESS**

**PATRICIA'S CANADIAN LIGHT INFANTRY BATTLE GROUP**, which operated alongside the **U.S. 187TH BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM** from the **101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION** (Air Assault). The Battle Group included a reconnaissance squadron from **LORD STRATHCONA'S HORSE** (Royal Canadians) equipped with Canadian-made Coyote armoured reconnaissance vehicles, specifically requested by US forces. With a top speed of 100 kilometres per hour and the ability to climb a 60-degree slope, the Coyote was well suited to Afghanistan's rough terrain. It also has excellent surveillance and long-range detection systems including advanced optics, thermal imagery, image intensifiers, surveillance radar and laser range-finders.

During March 2002, members of the **BATTLE GROUP** were in the mountains of Paktia Province east of Gardez on **OPERATION ANACONDA**, the U.S.-led coalition effort to search the mountains for Al-Qaeda and Taliban fighters. The Canadian force included an emergency extraction force of medical, security and transport personnel with vehicles equipped for winter operations.

Beginning in mid-2003, **OPERATION ATHENA** became Canada's contribution to the **INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**

*British Army Training Unit Suffield, Canada:  
A Forward Observation Officer from 1 Royal  
Horse Artillery with a WARRIOR observation  
post vehicle during EX Medicine Man 4. Both the  
soldier and vehicle are equipped with the DIRECT  
FIRE WEAPONS EFFECT SIMULATOR kit.*





**ASSISTANCE FORCE (ISAF)**, UN-authorized mission in Kabul, Afghanistan. With about 1,900 personnel equipped with LAV III infantry fighting vehicles, LG1 Giat howitzers, and Coyote reconnaissance vehicles, the Canadian contingent is the largest in **ISAF**. In February 2004, **NATO** appointed Canadian Lieutenant General Rick Hillier overall Commander of **ISAF**.

### **The Air Force**

The strategic level of Canada's **AIR FORCE** is headquartered in Ottawa. Thirteen Wings, located across Canada, report to the operational level headquarters at 1 **CANADIAN AIR DIVISION** (1 CAD) in Winnipeg, Manitoba, which also

serves as HQ of the Canadian **NORAD** Region. Supported by the **SECTOR AIR OPERATIONS CENTRE** in North Bay, Ontario, 1 CAD oversees Canadian airspace in support of Canada's commitment to **NORAD** and all other domestic air operations.

The CF-18 is the Air Force's front-line tactical fighter-bomber primarily tasked to support **NORAD** and **NATO** commitments. Canadian CF-18s were employed to good effect during the 1991 war in the Persian Gulf and Kuwait and in 1999 during the **NATO** air campaign in Kosovo. The **AIR FORCE** also operates CC-130 Hercules, CP-140 Aurora, CC-150 Polaris, CC-144 Challenger, CC-138 Twin Otter and

CH-146 Griffon aircraft. The last of 15 new CH-149 Augusta-Westland Cormorant medium-lift helicopters have recently become operational in the search and rescue role. The replacement of the CH-124 A/B Sea King maritime helicopter fleet is a high priority.

The **AIR FORCE** also operates the **NATO FLYING TRAINING IN CANADA** (NFTC) program. **NFTC** is a unique public-private sector fighter pilot training program. Air forces from all over the world – including the **RAF** – send pilots to train at this excellent facility.

During the Afghanistan campaign, the **CANADIAN AIR FORCE** operated a strategic air-lift detachment made up





of one CC-150 Polaris (Airbus A310) and supporting personnel. The detachment logged more than 590 flight hours, moving nearly 8 million pounds of cargo and more than 2,300 personnel into theatre. As well, three CC-130 Hercules tactical transport aircraft flew 330 missions and moved more than 3,800 passengers and about 4.4 million pounds of cargo into Kandahar. The **AIR FORCE** also operated a long-range patrol detachment of two CP-140 Aurora maritime patrol aircraft that provided essential surveillance and intelligence gathering in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf.

*CP-140 Aurora Departs  
"Lion's Gate" on patrol*



## The Communications Security Establishment (CSE)

CSE gathers and analyses signals and electronic intelligence. It is the Canadian counterpart to the **GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATIONS HEADQUARTERS (GCHQ)**, and makes critical intelligence contributions to the campaign against terrorism. Additional funding is being provided to expand capabilities in counter-proliferation and security screening. More personnel are being recruited and more are being trained in Arabic and other languages. CSE works closely with the UK, US and Australian intelligence agencies.

## Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC)

**DEFENCE R&D CANADA (DRDC)**, an agency within the **DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE**, provides leading edge science and technology to the **CANADIAN FORCES**. DRDC operates six research centres across Canada, each with a unique combination of expertise and facilities to carry out world class research and development. DRDC's program spans the technology spectrum in the broad defence areas but specialises particularly in Sensors and Information Systems, Combat Systems and Human Systems. The latter area incorporates communications, space

*A CC-130 Hercules rather dramatically tests its Defensive Electronic Warfare System/Self Protection Suite (DEWS/SPS) by firing all 300 of its anti-IR flares in a single salvo.*

systems, human factors engineering, simulation and modeling, friend-or-foe identification, chemical/biological and radiological threats, weapons performance and countermeasures. Examples of DRDC's innovative research include:

- ✦ *the CANADIAN INTEGRATED BIOLOGICAL DETECTION SYSTEM (CIBADS), the world's first system capable of detecting airborne biochemical agents in real time;*
- ✦ *INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR URBAN OPERATIONS, an advanced 3D modeling and viewing system to assist in conducting operations in complex urban environments; and*

✦ *AUTO CONTEXT IMAGE DATABASE EXPLOITATION SYSTEM (ACIDES), an advanced imaging system being adapted for research into computer-based cancer detection.*

DRDC is leading the **CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, NUCLEAR (CBRN) RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE**, a five-year project to increase Canada's ability to respond to CBRN incidents through improved co-ordination among government, private industry and academic players. The **COUNTER-TERRORISM TECHNOLOGY CENTRE (CTTC)** being constructed at DRDC Suffield in Alberta will be used to train first responders using high-technology techniques such as simulators and detailed mock-up sites. The Centre will

also evaluate technology submitted by companies and offer access to a forensic reference laboratory. DRDC is actively working with British defence scientists in over 70 technological initiatives under **THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM (TTCP)**, an international research forum involving defence scientists from Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand.

### **The North Atlantic Treaty Organization**

As founding members of **NATO**, Canada and the United Kingdom have shared their commitments and mutually benefited in terms of interoperability through continuous exercises and operations over many years.

For example, Canada currently contributes 118 personnel to the **NATO AIRBORNE WARNING AND CONTROL SYSTEM (AWACS)** squadron at Gielenkirchen, Germany. Canada provided a ship on a continuous basis to the **STANDING NAVAL FORCE IN THE ATLANTIC (STANAVFORLANT)** from the 1960s until 2001 when it was temporarily interrupted due to **OPERATION APOLLO**. On the army side, more than 1,250 Canadians were deployed at any one time as part of the **NATO-LED STABILIZATION FORCE (SFOR)**, in Bosnia-Herzegovina, with numbers subsequently diminishing as the EU assumes responsibility in the area. The UK and Canada are now turning the page to the future of

**NATO** as we embark on transformation in the face of emerging threats.

## The United Nations

Canada is often referred to as a nation of peacekeepers as it strongly supports **UN** international peacekeeping operations. Since Prime Minister and Nobel Peace Prize winner Lester B. Pearson first proposed the concept of peacekeeping following the Suez Crisis in 1956, more than 125,000 Canadian Forces personnel have served in 72 missions (15 are still on-going) in 40 countries worldwide, at the cost of 107 lives. A British-born Canadian officer,

Lt Gen ELM Burns (a sapper who served in both WWI and WW II), led **UNEF**, the first international peacekeeping mission. Senior Canadian officers continue to lead **UN** and other international peace support missions.

In addition to participating in **UN** missions, Canada was a lead player in the establishment of an international rapid reaction capability through the **STANDING HIGH READINESS BRIGADE**

(SHIRBRG). This multinational formation, formed in 1996 as a result of the 1994 **UN** experience in Rwanda, provides the basis for deployment of a formation up to brigade level upon 15 to 30 days' notice. The Canadian commitment includes a battle group for the full range of peace support missions. This commitment was activated in December 2000 when Canada provided combat elements for the SHIRBRG as part of the **UN** Mission in Ethiopia

and Eritrea (UNMEE). In 2003, Canada held the Presidency of the SHIRBRG and is providing the Commander from December 2003 to July 2006.

## Other Multinational Military Activities

Canada is committed to enhancing global peace and security and is often in the forefront when volunteers are needed to achieve this. Although the majority of missions tend to fall under the auspices of the **UN**, Canada also participates in numerous non-UN multinational peacekeeping operations. These include the **INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER TEAM TO NIGERIA** (OTN 1968-70); two truce supervisory operations in Indochina – the **INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION**



*An AS90 self-propelled gun of D Battery, 3 Royal Horse Artillery returns to camp after a training exercise in the Kuwait desert.*



FOR SUPERVISION AND CONTROL (ICSC, 1954-74) and the **INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CONTROL AND SUPERVISION (ICCS, 1973)**; the **MULTINATIONAL FORCE AND OBSERVERS (MFO)** in the Sinai, (since 1986); and the **EUROPEAN COMMUNITY MONITOR MISSION (ECMM)** in the former Yugoslav republics and neighbouring states between 1991 and 1994. In addition, Canada provided the largest non-British contingent in the **INTERNATIONAL MILITARY ADVISORY TRAINING TEAM (IMATT)** mission to prevent the resumption of hostilities in Sierra Leone.

*Canadian destroyer HMCS IROQUOIS leads the frigates HMCS REGINA (left) and HMZN TE MANA in the northwest Arabian Sea during Operation APOLLO. IROQUOIS was the Coalition Task Force 151 flagship throughout the spring, 2003.*

(Credit: Cpl Shawn M. Kent)

# A shared culture of excellence, honour and professionalism...



*General Isaac Brock falls  
at the Battle of  
Queenston Heights, 1812.*

## **The Past**

**BRITISH GENERALS SUCH AS WOLFE AND BROCK**, with their armies and Native Canadian allies, who fought and died on Canadian soil, fundamentally shaped our modern state. Canadians were always among the first to stand beside their

British comrades whether it was the volunteer boatmen or *Voyageurs* who carried British soldiers many hundreds of miles up the Nile to relieve Gordon in Khartoum or those who fought and died in the South African or Boer War.

From Vimy Ridge in 1917, through the Battle of Britain, the Battle of The Atlantic, Dieppe, Normandy to VE Day and on to the Pacific Theatre, Canadians were amongst the first to come to the aid of the United Kingdom and allies on the continent. Almost one million Canadians served in the two great wars of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with 116,000 dead

and almost 300,000 wounded. This collective experience, shoulder to shoulder with **BRITISH ARMY**, **ROYAL NAVY** and **ROYAL AIR FORCE** units, deepened the strong and enduring military relationship between Canada and the United Kingdom.

In Korea, the Cold War and innumerable missions to make and keep the peace, our two countries have fought side by side for causes common and fundamental to us both, and most particularly a resolute belief in parliamentary democracy and an aversion to tyranny.



Most Canadian regiments, including the French-speaking **ROYAL 22<sup>E</sup> RÉGIMENT** (Van Doos), share a sister regiment in the **BRITISH ARMY** and many members of the **ROYAL FAMILY** are Colonels-in-Chief of numerous Canadian regiments. Three of those regiments were on parade when their Colonel-in-Chief, HM the Queen Mother, died in 2002, and The Royal Highland Regiment of Canada (Black Watch) stood vigil over the body of Her Majesty as it lay in state in Westminster Abbey.

*In 1937 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth consented to become Colonel-in-Chief of the Toronto Scottish Regiment. Here she is shown presenting her new Queen's Colour in 1965. In 2000, The Toronto Scottish Regiment was granted the secondary title of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's Own.*



*Exercise Medicine Man, British Army Training Unit, Suffield, Canada, in 2002:  
A Challenger 2 Main Battle Tank of 2nd Royal Tank Regiment.  
"The battle for Basra was won on the plains of Suffield."*

*—GENERAL SIR MIKE JACKSON*

## The Present

Our shared history, philosophies, language, values and cultures have laid the groundwork for the close association we enjoy today. However, it takes more than history to cement a lasting relationship. Canada and the United Kingdom are strategically important to each other. Canada offers huge land areas, unavailable in Europe, for essential training; our intelligence activities complement one another; and our forces interoperate extremely well. Canada and the UK share many defence agreements and are NATO partners.

On a broader scale, we share much in common. Of course, we are both

constitutional monarchies. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is the Queen of Canada and we are loyal members of the Commonwealth. Our systems of law, education, health care and social services are broadly similar. Like Britain, Canada favours political attitudes that emphasise social justice and tolerance, as well as individual freedoms and responsibilities.

Here are but a few examples of the present-day links between the Canadian Forces and our UK partners:

- ✦ *British Army Training in Suffield (BATUS) – 7 battle groups trained annually, and this will be raised soon to formation-level training.*



- ✦ *NATO Flying Training in Canada (NFTC)*  
– Under a 10-year program, every year 20 RAF Pilots undergo Phase IV advanced flying training on the BAE Systems Hawk 115 aircraft at Cold Lake, Alberta.
- ✦ *Canada has 11 Navy, 26 Army and 16 Air Force exchange officers plus three liaison officers serving in the UK, while the same number of UK personnel serve in Canada.*
- ✦ *Canadian Air Reserve and Militia teams participate in the annual NATO Reserve Shooting Competition held in Edinburgh.*
- ✦ *Several professional development exchanges are shared annually at various institutions such as the*

*Canadian Forces College, the Royal College of Defence Studies and the Royal Military College of Science.*

- ✦ *About 150 Canadians serve annually in the UK, including those undergoing advanced training and higher education with their British counterparts.*
- ✦ *Canadian Defence Liaison Staff in London manages the bilateral relationship with a team of 22 military and civilian personnel.*
- ✦ *The Canadian Forces Intelligence Liaison Office, co-located in the UK Ministry of Defence with Chief of Defence Intelligence staff, provides an ongoing intelligence sharing capability.*

*Canadian special forces  
(Joint Task Force 2) training.  
(Credit: Cpl François Charest)*





*Led by HMS Ark Royal, the British Task Force forms up en route to the Arabian Gulf during Operation TELIC.*

- ✦ *The RAF regularly participates in EXERCISE MAPLE FLAG in Cold Lake, Alberta.*
- ✦ *The VICTORIA Class British-built submarines are being introduced into the fleet. Much of the crew training, as well as refit of these former UPHOLDER Class submarines, is conducted in the United Kingdom.*

✦ *Every year, Canadians participate in a wide variety of competitions and exchanges with the British Army. For example, Canadians participate annually in the Cambrian Patrol exercise, the NATO Reserve Shoot and Bisley competitions. In addition to Small Unit Exchanges involving both active and Territorial Army units, there is a healthy and energetic Army Cadet exchange program.*

- ✦ *The four nations (UK, Australia, New Zealand, Canada) annual air force competitions include FINCASTLE (Maritime Patrol Aircraft) and BULLSEYE (Tactical Airlift).*

## **The Future**

The future looks bright for continued and indeed increased links between the United Kingdom and Canada.

- ✦ *The UK and Canada have agreed to a partnership in the NATO Reaction Force (NRF). Focused primarily on our armies, this promises to enhance our interoperability while jointly fulfilling an important NATO commitment.*

- ✦ *Building upon the valuable training already being accomplished at Suffield, the UK is exploring ways to enhance BATUS, increase the number of personnel in training, and possible joint air-land opportunities.*

*Members of The Royal Scots take aim to provide fire support to other members of their company assaulting an enemy position to their front. Within the Wainwright training area daytime temperatures average -20°C. Arctic mobility/survival and battle skills are the core training aims during this period of the exercise.*



- ✦ *Canada is exploring ways to improve the valuable and cost-effective RAF flying training at Goose Bay, Labrador.*
- ✦ *Both our nations ascribe to NATO Transformation and will work with our allies to ensure that we are able to meet emerging threats.*
- ✦ *The structures of our exchange programs are being reviewed to ensure that they reflect transformational realities and meet the strategic needs of both countries.*
- ✦ *Canada is a third-tier partner in the Joint Strike Fighter Systems Development and Demonstration phase.*

## **Conclusion**

Since becoming an independent nation, Canada has been the United Kingdom's faithful ally and defence partner through times of uneasy peace, crisis and outright war. Our high levels of interoperability, grounded in tradition, culture and doctrine, have and will continue to be beneficial for both countries and our shared allies.

*Harrier GR7s from RAF Cottesmore in Arctic camouflage.*

(Credit: Jamie Hunter, Avia.com)





Government of Canada  
High Commission of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada  
Haut-commissariat du Canada

[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/london](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/london)

[www.forces.gc.ca](http://www.forces.gc.ca)

