

Minister of
Foreign Affairs



Ministre des
Affaires étrangères

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G2

His Excellency Neil Frank R. Ferrer
Consul General of the Philippines
The Philippine Consulate General in Vancouver
World Trade Center Office Complex
999 Canada Place, Suite 660
Vancouver BC V6C 3E1

AOUT
AUG 3 2016

Dear Consul General Ferrer:

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Philippine Consulate General in Vancouver, I am pleased to convey my warmest congratulations and best wishes.

The history of the Philippine Consulate General in Vancouver is truly unique. Fifteen years before the opening of the Philippine embassy in Ottawa, the Consulate General in Vancouver provided diplomatic and consular services in Canada. At that time, it was impossible to predict how close our two nations would become. Working together on issues of mutual importance, Canada and the Philippines have consolidated a relationship that has grown from strength to strength, and whose benefits are tangible and evident to all of us.

Today, Canada is proud to have one of the largest overseas Filipino communities in the world. Over 700,000 people of Filipino origin who live and work in Canada contribute to the economic development of both our countries and enrich the multicultural fabric of Canada. Our vibrant relationship is bolstered further through cooperation in international forums, such as the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum and the United Nations, where we work together on areas of shared interest such as democratic development, human rights and international security.

Allow me to congratulate everyone who has worked at the Philippine Consulate General in Vancouver during the past six decades for their contributions and express my hope for continued cooperation and friendship between our peoples.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stéphane Dion'.

The Honourable Stéphane Dion, P.C., M.P.

Canada