

Valérie La Traverse

Valerie La Traverse has been the Science and Technology Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy since 2005, focusing on science and technology policy and developing and facilitating partnerships between Canada and the US in various science and technology-related areas. Prior to coming to Washington, she was opened a Canadian Consulate in Phoenix, Arizona where the core of her work focused on business development and R&D collaboration and technology transfer in the areas of information technologies, biotechnology, and aerospace.

Valerie also worked at Industry Canada and managed the information highway programs (“Connecting Canadians”, electronic commerce) for the Ontario region, working mostly with small and medium-sized companies based in Ontario. She also served as Executive Director of the New England-Canada Business Council, a Boston-based international trade and membership organization, from 1995 to 1998.

Valerie La Traverse graduated with a BA in International Relations from McGill University and a MBA in International Business from Concordia University in Montreal. Upon graduation, she was recruited into the Government of Canada's Management Trainee Program and assigned to the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Ms. La Traverse worked in Ottawa for several years, specializing in Middle East trade and working on issues such as the creation of the Canada-Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation, the re-opening of the Canadian Embassy in Lebanon, and the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement.