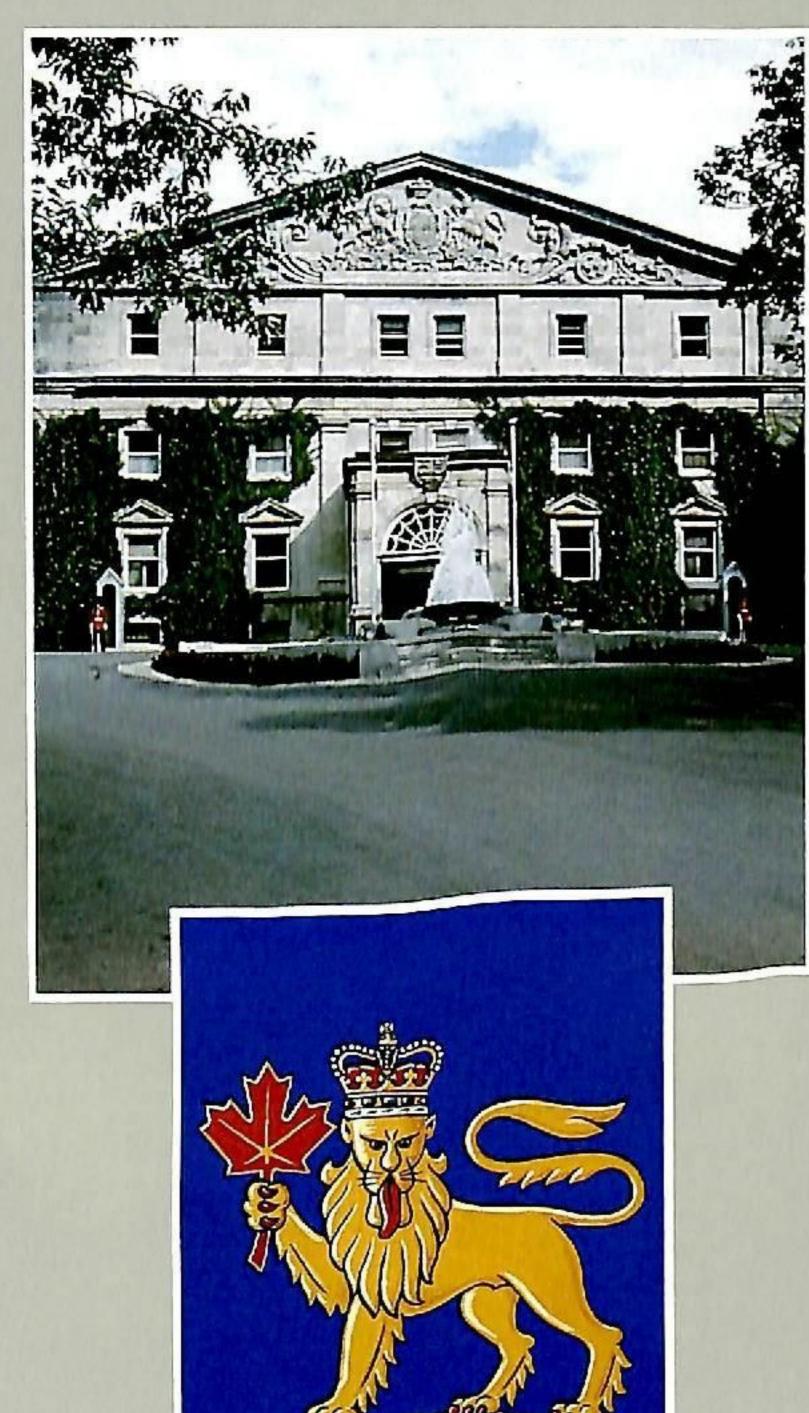
RIDEAU HALL



GOVERNMENT HOUSE OTTAWA

OUTDOOR WALKING TOURS

A SPECIAL INVITATION

Step into the grounds of historic Rideau Hall and walk through a world that glows with pageantry and tradition. For more than a century Rideau Hall has been the official residence of the Governors General of Canada and a focal point of Canadian history. Stroll through the magnificent grounds where mementos of a noble heritage are preserved.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

The Right Honourable Jeanne Sauvé is the twenty-third Governor General since Confederation.

As the official representative in Canada of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, the Governor General acts as Canada's head of state. Her duties are numerous and varied. She summons and dissolves Parliament on the advice of the Canadian government and gives royal assent to all legislation. Because she is above partisan politics the Governor General imparts a continuity and sense of permanence to our political system.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Rideau Hall was originally the home of Thomas MacKay, a leading industrialist in the early 19th century. Since 1865 the house has served as the official residence of the Governor General.

Through the years Rideau Hall has undergone extensive renovations that have transformed it into a stately mansion worthy of its role as Government House and home to Canada's Governor General.

Today it is the scene of state ceremony and of visits from royalty and other heads of state. Also, Canadians are honoured here with national decorations and awards. As you gaze up at the majestic façade, picture foreign ambassadors arriving by coach-and-horse to present their diplomatic credentials to the Governor General.

