

Philippine ambassador to Canada Petronila P. Garcia (above, left) is seen with Canada's Governor General David Johnston after presenting her credentials at a Sept. 3 ceremony at the Rideau Hall in Ottawa.

In welcoming the first female envoy of the Philippines to Canada since diplomatic relations between the two nations were established in 1949, Johnston recognized the knowledge and skills that he said Garcia will bring to the Philippines-Canada relations "which are largely shaped by people-to-people ties fostered by some 660,000 Filipinos in Canada."

Garcia, for her part, said her priorities include more educational tie-ups in agriculture, engineering, environmental protection, and educational and information technology.

## PH's first female envoy to Canada

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She also conveyed the gratitude of Filipinos who benefited from Canada's relief assistance after Typhoon Haiyan hit central Philippines in November 2013.

(Photo by Sgt. Ronald Duchesne)