



Minister for
International Trade

Ministre du
Commerce extérieur

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THE MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONCLUDES HIS VISIT TO JAPAN

The Minister for International Trade, James Kelleher, today concluded his two-day visit to Osaka in the Western (Kansai) region of Japan.

The Minister's focus on the Kansai region during this visit was in direct support of new Canadian trade initiatives, under the National Trade Strategy, aimed at tapping this area's excellent potential for trade development and as a source of capital investment. With a population of over 22 million, 45 percent of all exports to Japan are destined for companies in the Kansai area. "As one of the great industrial zones of the world," observed Minister Kelleher, "Western Japan offers Canada increasing trade opportunities in grains and oilseeds, 2 x 4 construction materials and consumer products."

During his tour of the new premises of Canada's new Consulate General in Osaka, Mr. Kelleher remarked that the recent establishment of the Consulate General "creates an excellent avenue from which increased public and private sector economic and commercial co-operation between Canada and the industrial sectors of Japan can actively be pursued."

"One of the first major projects I would like to see Canada getting involved in is the Kansai International

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