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## **12. WORLD-CLASS BUSINESS SERVICES**

Canada's business service sector saw a major expansion in the past two decades. Canada ranks third among industrial countries in the performance of capital markets and the quality of financial services.

Canadian banks, which provide both lending and investment banking services, rank among the largest in North America. Canada has largely avoided the high public costs associated with failures of numerous smaller institutions seen in the United States. Many Canadian financial institutions maintain offices in major financial capitals around the world in order to serve their international clients.

Trust companies and insurance companies provide additional financial services. International investors who prefer to deal with financial service firms based in their home countries will find that many leading international banks, investment dealers and insurance companies have offices in Canada.

Stock exchanges in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver provide many international firms with Canadian equity participation.

In the fields of engineering and architecture, Canadian firms are world-renowned for their expertise. Other top quality professional services are available from globally active accounting, advertising, law and consulting firms.

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**"CANADA IS ... A  
GOOD PLACE TO DO  
BUSINESS. BANKING,  
COMMUNICATIONS AND  
TRANSPORTATION  
SERVICES ARE AS  
GOOD HERE AS  
ANYWHERE IN THE  
WORLD."**

*GEORGE A. PEAPLES,  
FORMER PRESIDENT, GENERAL  
MOTORS OF CANADA*