

## Mr. Clark Holds Wide-Ranging Talks With Prime Minister Lee

Following upon his participation at the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference, Secretary of State for External Affairs, The Right Honourable Joe Clark spent a short but productive visit in Singapore. While in the Republic, he had the opportunity to meet with Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and Foreign Minister S Dhanabalan to exchange views and discuss a number of bilateral and multi-lateral issues. These included discussions on the international economic situation, United Nations and the Commonwealth and international terrorism. In the context of the former, Mr Clark announced the forthcoming visit of a team of Canadian experts on multilateral trade negotiations to discuss with their counterparts the modalities for establishment of negotiations in the new round of multilateral trade talks. Mr Clark emphasised the importance that Canada attaches to the MTNs and to the objective to consult closely with ASEAN countries in preparing for the negotiations.



*The Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark in conversation with Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew.*

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## Canadian Alumni Association Celebrates Sixth Anniversary

Education has always been of vital importance to Singaporeans and no greater time than now. Canada has become one of the most significant and popular education destinations with close to 2000 students in various programs. Today, out of every ten Singaporeans studying abroad, two are found in the various provinces of Canada and the number is increasing. Many are enrolled in Canadian high schools, as well as universities.

Out of the desire to help such students intending to study in Canada, a group of enthusiastic returned students formed an association of Canadian graduates in

Singapore. Now in its sixth year, the Canadian Alumni Singapore, or "Alumni Canadien de Singapour" plays a key role in providing orientation to students before they depart. On July 20, two hundred young Singaporeans were briefed by the Alumni and High Commission members on the various aspects of Canadian society, culture, social practices, university education system, and immigration matters. They were also advised on how to adapt to the new living conditions they will soon encounter.

With its membership growing rapidly, the Alumni also offers a wide range of social activities for its members from

talks to wine-tasting, from sports and games to charity balls. Run by a group of relatively young executive and professional people, its membership is open to any persons resident in Singapore, who have received formal education or training in Canada. Over 90% of its members are Singaporeans who cut across the spectrum of Singapore society including engineers, nurses, teachers, businessmen, contractors, civil-servants, management consultants and diplomats.

In the last one to two years, the Alumni has shown itself to be the most active alumni of graduates of foreign universities. According to Alumni President, Dr C K Chen, a consulting engineer trained at McGill University (Quebec), the creation of goodwill between the two countries is one of the objectives of the Alumni. Dr Chen sees a growing Canadian presence or involvement in Singapore in many fields such as business, trade, education and culture. He feels that the time has come for Singaporeans to make inroads in Canada to take advantage of the business and other opportunities there, perhaps spearheaded by a trade representative office in Canada, or even a high commission in Ottawa. Business interests aside, Dr Chen sees the importance of having a Singapore office there to cater to the needs of the almost two thousand Singaporeans studying in Canada, a matter of much concern to the Alumni.



*Large audience attends the Alumni's annual general meeting.*