

# Introduction and Recommendations

The International Programmes Office of Memorial University in conjunction with several other university departments, the Frecker Institute, the College of the North Atlantic, Federation des Francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador, Franco Jeunes, representatives from three levels of government, the private sector, and interested students participated in a one day conference that focused on regional cooperation between the Atlantic Provinces, and the French Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon.

The project examined some international treaties, agreements (bilateral/multinational) affecting Canada's position with St. Pierre and Miquelon. The focus was on coastal zone management, environmental protection, trade, investment, cultural exchanges, and priorities and activities of the countries concerned. The survey incorporated a review of objectives for the coordination of initiatives between various levels of government and the private sector.

The following recommendations were made:

- Improve the transportation infrastructures on the Burin Peninsula.
  - Winterland airport requires an expansion of the runway, and the introduction of appropriate instrumentation;
  - Negotiate mutual landing rights between Winterland and St. Pierre and Miquelon;
  - Road service needs upgrading;
- Identify specific products that would be available and could benefit the Atlantic Provinces in transshipment and value added exports;
- Investigate the subsidized transshipment structure in St. Pierre and Miquelon;
- Coordinate cooperation between Customs Canada, and representatives of St. Pierre and Miquelon to provide information on trade information and products;
- Examine the terms and repercussions of establishing a duty free zone between the two islands;
- Include Memorial's Frecker Institute in the National French Bursary Programme;
- Establish a programme giving Canadian Business' French language training;
- Establish an international student exchange (billet) programme that focuses on language training and cultural exchange;
- Produce a catalog of what is being done in the areas of cultural exchanges and sports activities between the Atlantic Provinces and St. Pierre and Miquelon;
- Subsidize school boards to hire french teachers in the areas that border (are