



A Longstanding Tradition of Cooperation

From the ocean depths to the vast expanse of outer space, Canada and the United States have a long and fruitful record of cooperation in fields of science and technology. World events, close proximity, shared precious resources and the innate desire of Canadians and Americans to forge a better life, have made such cooperation all the more desirable and, indeed, inevitable.

Each country has benefitted from the free flow of ideas, technology and highly qualified personnel. In industry, higher education, services to the public and defence, partnerships have greatly enhanced the standard of living in both countries and their readiness to meet the challenges of the future.

From the beginning, collaboration has been the key. One of the earliest examples is in the field of weather forecasting. In 1871 the U.S. Congress established the National Weather Service (NWS), and the following year, Canada and the U.S. initiated the formal exchange of daily weather data.

Canada was the third country in the world — after the United States and the Soviet Union — to place a satellite in orbit. Launched by a NASA rocket in 1962, Canada's Alouette I satellite provided both countries with over 10 years

of important scientific information about the behaviour of the upper atmosphere in the northern latitudes.

A century of close collaboration has allowed each country to specialize in aspects of science and technology which it considers vital to its own growth and development. As a result, Canadian scientists and engineers now lead the world in many fields.

The high level of scientific and technological activity in Canada is good news for America. Canada is America's largest customer for its high-technology exports. From computers to chemicals, Canada and the United States are each other's largest trading partner.

Canadian technology-based firms provide a large market for U.S. goods and services. Canada imports over three-quarters of its high technology purchases — over \$16 billion in 1987 — from the U.S. In the field of aviation, for example, American companies provide from 36 percent to 66 percent of the components used to make Canadian aircraft and avionics.

At the same time, Canadian industry has proved itself to be a reliable supplier of products and components to U.S. companies and governments. High-tech Canadian goods and services are crucial ingredients in many American products and industrial capabilities.

One of Canada's best known exports, the remote manipulator, Canadarm, is a joint development of Spar Aerospace

Artist's view of the Mobile Servicing System, Canada's contribution to the International Space Station Freedom.

Ltd. and the National Research Council of Canada. This critical piece of equipment is installed on all U.S. Space Shuttle orbiters.

For decades, Canadian and American universities have closely collaborated in science, technology and education. Many distinguished Americans — among them the current Science Advisor to the President, Dr. D. Allan Bromley — were educated in Canadian graduate schools.

Industrial science and technology links are also strong. Boeing, McDonnell Douglas and IBM are three of many American firms which operate plants in Canada. The output of these plants — finished products, components and sub-systems — provides an important source of revenue for the parent firm. These plants also allow U.S. firms to tap into advanced Canadian research and development capabilities.

The new Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA) will undoubtedly enhance industrial cooperation between us. Canadians look to the FTA as a way of stimulating mutually beneficial opportunities for enhanced collaboration in science and technology-based enterprises.

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