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MACLAREN ANNOUNCES OPENING OF CANADA'S BUSINESS CENTRE IN MEXICO CITY

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, today announced the opening of the first Canadian Business Centre abroad, to assist Canadian exporters doing business in Mexico. The Minister made the announcement during a speech to Canadian business representatives attending a day-long conference in Toronto celebrating the centenary of Canada's Trade Commissioner Service.

"The Canadian Business Centre in Mexico City will provide Canadian exporters with the business support and facilities they need to successfully develop trade opportunities in this key growth region," Mr. MacLaren said. "We see this first Canadian Business Centre as a pilot project that could be replicated in other emerging world markets."

The Business Centre is a user-pay, multipurpose trade centre designed to provide Canadian firms, particularly small- and medium-sized enterprises, with exhibition space, temporary executive offices and telecommunications services, as well as fully equipped seminar and conference rooms.

The Centre was developed to address the growing demand for trade development support by Canadian businesses interested in the Mexican marketplace. With over 7000 Canadian commercial inquiries registered so far in 1994, the Canadian Embassy in Mexico City is now one of Canada's busiest.

