

Canada is attracting a small number of students from Brunei in its post-secondary institutions but is hoping that the linkages being established within the education sector will encourage students from Brunei to pursue studies in Canada. In this context, Brunei education officials visited a number of post-secondary institutions in British Columbia in late 1989 with a view to identifying potential destinations for full scholarship students from Brunei.

As part of ongoing efforts to support education initiatives in Brunei, Canada is currently exploring the possibility of having the private sector and possibly other education and training institutions throughout Canada make contributions of books and educational/training material to Brunei institutions in areas of need. In this regard, a series of Canadian books was presented to the National Library of Brunei in early 1990 and the National Library of Canada has added Brunei to the list of national libraries from around the world with which it maintains ongoing links.

Human Resource Development

External Affairs and International Trade Canada (EAITC) and the Brunei Ministry of Foreign Affairs have entered into an agreement that will enable Brunei foreign ministry officials to be seconded to EAITC as a means to assist Brunei in developing a career foreign service and to help build closer relations between the two countries. One officer joined EAITC in June 1990 for a six-month period.

Canada, through the Canadian Medical Association and the Canadian Nurses' Association, is currently examining the possibility of providing expertise and training to Brunei in the area of health services. This may involve attracting Canadian physicians and other health care professionals to work in Brunei and facilitating further training for Brunei nurses in Canada.

4.3 Provincial Co-operation

Provincial interest and activity in Brunei is very limited. Initiatives pursued by the provinces of British Columbia and Alberta in the area of education represent the only ongoing linkages between the provinces and Brunei. The visit of the Brunei Minister of Industry and Primary Resources to British Columbia for a meeting of trade ministers from Asia-Pacific countries, and to Alberta in September 1990 may generate contacts between the provinces and Brunei, particularly given Brunei's goal to diversify its industrial base away from the oil and gas sector.