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CANADA AND NEW ZEALAND ANNOUNCE JOINT PARTICIPATION IN WORKING HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan, on behalf of Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet, today launched a Working Holiday Program between Canada and New Zealand. Mr. Chan is in New Zealand on an official visit. Under the program, 200 young Canadians will be given the opportunity to work in New Zealand while vacationing there and 200 of their New Zealand counterparts will be able to benefit from the same program in Canada.

"The program is designed to promote interchange and understanding between Canada and New Zealand by giving young people a first-hand look at the values and culture of the host country, thereby strengthening ties between the two countries," said Mr. Chan.

This type of international exchange program for young workers and students is already in existence with about 20 European and Asian countries, enabling nearly 13 000 young Canadians to enjoy a cultural experience and to work abroad in 1994.

Conditions for admission to the Canada-New Zealand program are available from the New Zealand High Commission in Ottawa for Canadians, or from the Canadian High Commission in Wellington for New Zealanders.

The initiative is part of the International Cultural Relations Program of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

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