

# News Release



# Communiqué

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## McDOUGALL ANNOUNCES \$2 MILLION CONTRIBUTION TO THE GORBACHEV FOUNDATION AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

External Affairs Minister Barbara McDougall today announced a \$2 million contribution to the International Foundation for Socio-Economic and Political Studies (The Gorbachev Foundation) and the University of Calgary. The funds will be used for technical assistance projects, which will be administered through a joint trust fund of the two institutions.

"This unique alliance between the Gorbachev Foundation and the University of Calgary illustrates the potential for solid working partnerships between people in Canada and in Russia," said Mrs. McDougall.

During the March visit to Canada of former President Gorbachev, a collaborative agreement was signed by the Gorbachev Foundation and the University of Calgary. The Canadian technical assistance program aims to help Russia make the transition to democracy and a market economy.

This Canadian contribution is part of the increased funding for Canada's technical assistance program for Russia, announced by Prime Minister Mulroney at the United States-Russia Summit in early April. In Vancouver, the Prime Minister announced that Canada's funding for technical assistance programs would increase by \$105 million, to reach \$150 million over five years. The program focuses on the following priority sectors: oil and gas, agriculture, democratic development, environment, northern development, support for the Russian private sector, trade and investment.

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