CONTEXT

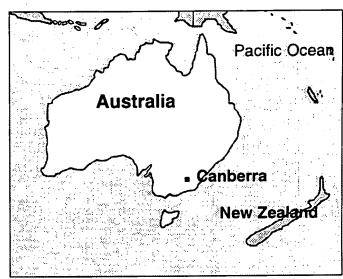


CONTEXTE

CANADA-AUSTRALIA RELATIONS

Bilateral

- As parliamentary democracies within the Commonwealth, Australia and Canada share many common values and perspectives. Current domestic preoccupations include economic reform, aboriginal land claims, immigration and multiculturalism, and the environment.
- Canada and Australia work closely together in the United Nations (UN), the Commonwealth, in the Multilateral Trade Negotiations and in the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC).
- Canada's first overseas trade office was opened in Sydney in 1895.
- There is a well-entrenched tradition of both exchanges of officials and views and of mutual assistance in consular and immigration matters. The two governments also co-locate Australian and Canadian diplomatic missions in Barbados and Cambodia.



Trade and Investment

- Australia is Canada's 14th largest market and is among its most important markets for manufactured goods. In fact, more than three quarters of Canada's exports are manufactured goods and end products, often exported by small- and medium-sized companies. After two consecutive years of major decline, Canada's exports rebounded slightly in 1992, and continued to increase in 1993, exceeding \$800 million.
- Australia is an important market for Canadian manufactured goods, notably high technology products, particularly in telecommunications and defence, in forest harvesting and sawmilling equipment, and in environmental goods and services.
- Mining is a mainstay of the Australian economy and Canadian replacement equipment is being sold in Australia. Equipment ranges from drill bits to hard rock crushing and processing equipment to associated mining services.
- Many Canadian companies have established a direct presence in the Australian market through investment, joint ventures, sales offices, or licencing arrangements. In 1992, Canadian direct investment into Australia was \$2.6 billion; Australian direct investment into Canada was \$749 million the same year.
- Canadian firms with local operations in Australia include all five of the chartered banks, Alcan (aluminum smelting and manufacturing), Moore Corp. (business forms), McCains (food processing), Northern Telecom, various mining companies with interests in local mines (Denison, Placer), and oil and gas companies that hold petroleum exploration permits in Australia (Home, Norcen, Westburne).

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