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AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, and the Honourable Benoît Bouchard, Minister of Transport, announced today that the Honourable Don Mazankowski, Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, has signed a new air services agreement between Canada and Australia.

Mr. Mazankowski signed the agreement today in Canberra in a ceremony with Senator Gareth Evans, Minister for Transport and Communications, who signed on behalf of the Government of Australia.

The agreement is the eighth new or expanded air agreement that Canada has negotiated with Asia Pacific Governments during the past two years: the others being Thailand, Singapore, Korea, India, Pakistan, China and Hong Kong.

"This agreement enhances prospects for substantial growth in direct air services between Canada and Australia", Mr. Mazankowski said. "Air services will continue to make an important contribution to trade and tourism for both countries as a result of the anticipated growth in the number of flights and available destinations".

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