



## NEWS FROM THE COMMISSION FOR CANADA

IN THE LAST ISSUE OF CANADA HONG KONG BUSINESS, WE OUTLINED SOME OF THE SERVICES OFFERED BY THE COMMISSION IN A NEW FEATURE ON WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE COMMISSION FOR CANADA. IN THIS ISSUE, WE HAVE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION AND HIGHLIGHT SOME OTHER EVENTS AND CHANGES AT THE COMMISSION.

### Public Affairs

The Public Affairs section organizes various cultural and public affairs activities throughout the year involving Canadian artists and the Canadian community in Hong Kong.

The Commission's press spokesperson, Neil Reeder, deals with local and international press on questions relating to Canadian Government policy and activities in Hong Kong and the region.

A small library of Canadian fiction and reference material can be used by the public on an appointments-only basis. Anyone interested should consult Tammy Lo at 847-7468 to make an appointment.

### Upcoming Trade and Investment Activities

#### Environment China '94 Exhibition, Guangzhou, June 4-8

- The Trade Section is looking to promote Canadian environmental products and expertise at one of the first sector-specific trade shows in Guangdong province. For more information, contact

Commercial Officers Endy Chung or Zita Yau (847-7414).

#### Securitex '94, June 8-11, Hong Kong

- Canadian companies will be coming to Hong Kong for this security products trade show. For more information, contact Commercial Officer Brian Wong (847-7414).

#### IBEX '94 (International Building and Exhibition Show), June 22-25, Hong Kong Convention Centre

- The Trade Section is organizing a Canadian Pavilion with more than 20 participating Canadian companies which will showcase Canadian building products, equipment, technology and services. For more information, contact Commercial Officer Chris Li (847-7414).

### Business Immigration

#### Priority Processing

- Backlogs in the business section have virtually been eliminated and applicants will receive an interview within about three months after applying. However, if applicants have the required documentation and request an earlier interview, this can be arranged, normally within three weeks.

#### Counselling Service to Prospective Applicants

- The Business Immigration Unit is now providing a free information and counselling phone and walk-in service for prospective applicants who require information about the entrepreneur, investor, and self-employed categories before making a decision to apply. To speak to a Business Immigration Officer, call 847-7304 or come to the

Business Immigration section on the 13th Floor, Tower One, Exchange Square during the following hours: Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday: 1:30-4:00 p.m.; Wednesday: 8:30-10:30 a.m., or Friday: 1:30-3:00 p.m. For more information, call 847-7304.

#### Applicants from China

- Applications from China are increasing and are accepted, provided applicants have a mailing address in Hong Kong, Macau, or Taiwan. Due to problems with supporting documents from China, the business unit indicates that it is prepared to be flexible. However, they stress that the onus is on applicants to prove that they meet immigration requirements.

### 1993 Trade Statistics

Initial 1993 figures from Statistics Canada show Canadian exports to Hong Kong increased in 1993, with the exception of gold.

Canada's overall exports to Hong Kong were worth some C\$760 million in 1993, compared with C\$820 million in 1992. The seven per cent drop in total exports for 1993 includes an estimated 70 per cent drop in gold exports. In 1992, gold exports were nearly 40 per cent of Canadian exports to Hong Kong, so the decrease in gold exports had a significant impact on total trade figures.

Based on an analysis of the detailed figures for the first nine months of 1993, Canadian food exports to Hong Kong increased 20 per cent, manufactured goods increased 40 per cent, and raw materials increased by 65 per cent.

According to Statistics Canada, Hong Kong exports to Canada in 1993 were up five per cent to C\$1.12 billion, meaning two-way trade totaled some C\$1.9 billion. ♦