

Latin America and the Caribbean

Canada works in close co-operation with a number of Latin American Countries to ensure mutually beneficial economic development in the Western Hemisphere. Canada participates fully in some seven inter-American organizations including the Inter-American Development Bank, and has established development programs in several countries in the region.

Venezuela is Canada's most important trading partner in Latin America and its principal foreign supplier of petroleum. Canada has extensive investments in Brazil and has co-operated with Argentina in the field of nuclear energy. Relations with Mexico are the most wide-ranging of any in the region; besides being of great commercial importance, Mexico is a popular destination for Canadian tourists.

Commercial links with the Caribbean go back hundreds of years. Since the independence of the island nations the relationship has broadened to include frequent political and economic consulta-

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Almost 31.5 million tourists visited Canada during the first 11 months of 1979.