



The U.S. Connection

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The Prime Minister in North Carolina "Invest in Canada" meeting

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien addressed a group of 25 senior executives from leading companies in North Carolina's Research Triangle (which comprises Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill) at a breakfast meeting at Duke University on December 4. In his remarks, the Prime Minister highlighted the importance of Canada's trade and investment relationship with North Carolina. He stressed the degree to which the Canadian government has created a very positive operating environment for high-tech companies in Canada, especially those involved in research and development (R&D).

The Prime Minister outlined a number of policies that have permitted companies to flourish in Canada, in-

cluding a series of tax modifications and reductions. He encouraged the breakfast participants, all of whom are heavily engaged in R&D activities in Research Triangle, to take greater advantage of the favourable climate by expanding or initiating operations in Canada.

Mr. Chrétien fielded questions on such issues as the need for better harmonization of regulations between Canada and the United States; the possibility of expanding NAFTA to cover greater mobility of workers; the need to encourage innovation by avoiding too much intellectual property protection; restrictions on foreign investment in the telecommunications field; and the impact of the Canadian health-care system on competitiveness.

For more information, contact: Rick McElrea, Consul and Trade Commissioner, Canadian Consulate General, Atlanta, tel.: (404) 532-2013, fax: (404) 532-2050, e-mail: rick.mcelrea@dfait-maeci.gc.ca

For extensive, up-to-date Canadian investment information, visit <http://investincanada.gc.ca> *

NATIONAL HARDWARE SHOW AND BUILDING PRODUCTS EXPOSITION

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS — August 12-15, 2001 — Reserve today to exhibit as part of the Canadian Group Stand at the largest trade fair in the Western hemisphere dedicated to the hardware, do-it-yourself and building products market, showcasing the following product categories: hardware, plumbing, electrical, heating/ventilation/air conditioning, lawn, garden and outdoor living products, building materials, housewares, paint, and home decor.

The National Hardware Show and Building Products Exposition will feature 3,000 exhibitors and over 70,000 manufacturers, retailers, wholesalers, distributors, builders, remodellers and industry professionals from over 100 countries will attend.

For more information, visit www.NationalHardwareShow.com
To reserve a booth, contact Monique Deschamps, Kadoke Exhibition Services, tel.: (613) 241-4088, e-mail: Monique.D@kadoke.com *

Midwest Building Materials Market Report

The Canadian Consulate General in Chicago has just published the first issue of the *Midwest Building Materials Market Report* aimed at providing exporters with the insight and practical information needed to develop business and foster alliances in the United States. Produced in a question and answer newsletter format, each issue will focus on a key market for building materials in the Midwest, and will feature interviews with leading builders, distributors and associations to help identify trends

and critical market and regulatory issues for Canadian firms. Lists of key Web sites and upcoming events are provided, as well as contact names for building materials in other Canadian Consulates across the U.S.

For more information, you can access the report at www.canada.chicago.net or contact Dustchin Rock, Business Development Officer, Canadian Consulate General, Chicago, tel.: (312) 616-1860, fax: (312) 616-1878, e-mail: dustchin.rock@dfait-maeci.gc.ca *