



NEWS FROM THE COMMISSION FOR CANADA

by Joanne Pawluk

Trade and Investment...

Asian IT Expo '94, September 28 - October 1, Hong Kong Convention Centre

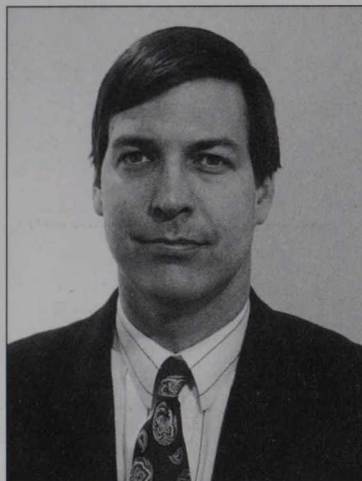
- Canadian computer products will be showcased at this international information technology trade fair. For more information, contact commercial officer Brian Wong at 847-7417.

Canadian Trade Office in Guangzhou

- Planning is underway for the establishment of Canada's recently announced trade office in Guangzhou.

Staff Changes

- Steven Gawreletz, Trade Commissioner at the Commission for Canada since 1990, will be leaving Hong Kong in late July for his new assignment in Tokyo. His replacement, Peter MacArthur, will be arriving in August from Canberra where he has been on an executive exchange assignment with the economic and trade analysis section of the Australian foreign service. Peter, who was born and educated in Quebec, has previously served in Bombay, New Delhi, and Moscow.



New Trade Commissioner Peter MacArthur

Public Affairs...

July 23-26

- Canada's newest Patrol Frigate, the HMCS Vancouver, will be visiting Hong Kong. For information on events associated with this visit, contact the Public Affairs section at 847-7468.

Immigration and Citizenship...

New Citizenship Act

- What are the principles, rights, and responsibilities of a Canadian citizen? A Parliamentary Committee has recently concluded a review of Canada's 17-year old Citizenship Act. Sergio Marchi,

Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, plans to introduce new Citizenship legislation in the House of Commons this fall.

Immigrant and Visitor Application Fees

- Increased fees for immigration and visitor applications came into effect on June 1, 1994. A significant change has also occurred in the collection of processing fees for visitor visas. In the past, only successful visitor visa applicants had to pay a fee upon collection of their visa. Now, all persons who submit an application for a visitor visa must pay a fee in advance. For more detailed information about the new fee structure, call the Immigration section at 810-4321, or check with the cashiers on the 12th floor, Tower 1, Exchange Square.

Foreign Student Applications

- Processing times for student authorizations are on average, six to eight weeks for a first-time student and one week for a returning student. The student authorization itself is no longer issued overseas. Instead, successful student applicants are issued a letter indicating that they have completed all immigration requirements and that they may now proceed to the port of entry. Upon presentation of this letter at the port of entry, the student will be issued a student authorization. Students holding Certificates of Identity or other passports or travel documents subject to Canadian visitor visa requirements, still require a visitor visa to enable them to board a flight to Canada. ♦