

CANADIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGES LEND A HAND

The transition to democracy and a free-market economy has brought a number of positive and exciting changes to Hungary. But it has also raised the spectre of something previous Hungarian governments had always denied existed: unemployment.

The Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC) has announced plans to help Hungary through that transition, by assisting in the development of education and retraining programs for out-of-work citizens.

ACCC Academic Co-ordinator Ethel Milkovits says the 2-year \$650,000 program will concentrate on the basics of literacy—

and teachers will visit some of the ACCC's 150 member-colleges and institutes in Canada.

The second focus of the program, which is funded through External Affairs' Task Force on Central and Eastern Europe, is the development of Hungary's hospitality and tourism industry. As they open their doors to the world, Central and Eastern European countries will have to cater to a new type of tourist, according to Milkovits: "They have to learn to manage cost-effectively, to manage hotels according to worldwide standards," she says.

Looking to the future, the ACCC is in the process of developing another program to strengthen the training of journalists in Hungary. According to the association, "Assistance in the development of a free media may be one of the most important contributions that Canada can make in Eastern Europe." ■

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Ethel Milkovits, ACCC

including computer literacy—as well as mathematics and science. The courses, to be offered at the 10 or 11 new retraining centres being planned by the Hungarian government, will assist workers to adapt to changing technologies: "The economic upheaval in Hungary has been dramatic in large part because there was no such thing as 'unemployment'. This is a new phenomenon for the new generation. Companies are being revamped to be more cost-efficient in production. A lot of industries are closing down. As a result, some employees are being laid off."

A number of Canadian experts will work in Hungary on curriculum development. In turn, Hungarian educational managers

TEACHING FUTURE ECONOMIC LEADERS

It is still relatively uncommon, in Canada, to see a woman appointed Dean of an educational institution. To see a Canadian woman become Dean of a Hungarian institute devoted entirely to the teaching of business management, Julie Rowney concedes, is really quite unusual.

Rowney, a University of Calgary professor, was chosen from a field of over 70 applicants to head the International Management Centre (IMC), the first private business school in Central and Eastern Europe. For the first time in Hungary, students can complete the initial year of a Masters of Business Administration program. Rowney points out that the "International" in the IMC's name is not to be taken lightly: The teaching staff comes from around the world, while this year's crop of students, for example, comes from Austria, Germany, Romania, Hungary and the USA. The not-for-profit Centre's operational funding comes from British, American, Dutch, Italian and Hungarian sources. Canada, through the Task Force on Central and Eastern Europe, is providing financial support to enable the Centre