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MONIQUE LANDRY OPENS THE SIXTH PACIFIC RIM

OPPORTUNITIES CONFERENCE (PROC VI)

Montreal: Minister for External Relations and International Development, Monique Landry, today called on Canadian companies to make an "extraordinary effort" to benefit from opportunities resulting from booming economic growth in the Asia Pacific region.

In an address to the Sixth Pacific Rim Opportunities Conference (PROC VI), the Minister identified a strategy to meet the political, commercial, economic, cultural, and technological challenges of what she called "our encounter with Asia".

"What is truly striking is how the potential of the Asia Pacific region, its economic growth, and its dynamic cultures and civilizations are coming alive in Canada", said Minister Landry.

With the Asia Pacific economy expected to account for 50% of global production and 40% of consumption by the year 2000, the region's economic significance for Canada is profound. The Minister noted that the Government is developing a Pacific 2000 strategy, "a comprehensive, multi-program initiative to make Canada a key partner with these dynamic Asia Pacific economies".

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Minister for External Relations and International Development Ministre des Relations extérieures et du développement international