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## Rendez-vous Canada tops goal

Rendez-vous Canada surpassed its 1980 goal of \$50 million in sales transactions during five days of intensive buying and selling at the Winnipeg Convention Centre May 18-22, according to preliminary estimates of the Canadian Government Office of Tourism.

Rendez-vous Canada is an international marketplace held annually, at which international "buyers" (those who market tours and travel in foreign countries) meet Canadian "sellers" (including accommodation, transportation and tour operators, as well as resort and attraction operators) in 15-minute computerized business sessions.

Among the participants at the fourth annual Rendez-vous Canada were 24 delegates from Montreal, led by Commissioner of Tourism Pierre Labrie.

Mr. Labrie announced at the completion of the event that the city had booked in excess of 160,000 room-nights for a total of \$12 million, with an anticipated direct spending of \$32 million during the next 18 months.

Among the 24 Montreal delegates to Rendez-vous were representatives of airlines, hotels, tour operators, tourist attractions, restaurant, and entertainment facilities.

A total of 208 international buyers from more than 20 countries met at Rendez-vous Canada with 496 Canadian sellers. In all, the four-day marketplace was attended by 808 delegates.

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## Hurricane victims get aid

The Canadian government has contributed \$305,000 in aid to St. Lucia following the destruction caused by Hurricane Allen, August 4.

Initially, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) provided a stop-gap contribution of \$5,000 to the government of St. Lucia and followed up with \$50,000 in emergency relief. Both contributions were applied through the League of Red Cross Societies. Another \$250,000 contribution was announced recently and will be used to reconstruct schools damaged by the hurricane. The reconstruction grant will be used to rebuild three junior secondary schools at Vieux Fort, Micoud and Soufrière, which were originally built with CIDA funds.

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## Canadians attend crime conference

Solicitor-General Robert Kaplan lead the Canadian delegation to the sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders held in Caracas, Venezuela, August 25 to September 5.

The congress, held every five years, is the major international forum for examining a wide range of criminal justice issues. The sixth Congress considered a six-item agenda, covering the following topics:

- crime trends and crime prevention strategies;
- juvenile justice: before and after the onset of delinquency;
- crime and the abuse of power: offences and offenders beyond the reach of the law;
- de-institutionalization of corrections and its implications for the residual prisoner;
- United Nations norms and guidelines in criminal justice: standard-setting to implementation; and
- new perspectives in crime prevention and criminal justice and development: the role of international co-operation.

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## Employment program unveiled

The federal government has allocated \$103.5 million under a new federal program to create jobs in areas of high unemployment.

Canada's Atlantic provinces, Quebec and British Columbia receive the largest allocations but all federal constituencies will participate in the Canada Community Development Projects program. A basic amount of \$100,000 goes to each of the 282 constituencies, with those having a labour surplus rate in excess of 8 per cent receiving additional funds through a formula based on labour force and unemployment insurance beneficiary data. In addition, a separate native allocation has been made to constituencies with a significant native labour surplus.

The \$7 million allocated to create employment for native people under the Canada Community Development Projects is in addition to some \$32.6 million already allocated to native employment under the Local Employment Assistance Program (LEAP), as well as to an additional \$10 million in this fiscal year to

provide training for new employment opportunities in urban areas or associated with major resource development projects.

Projects would normally operate for up to 52 weeks at a maximum funding level of \$240,000, except for some construction or construction-related projects which may require up to 26 weeks more. A minimum-size project would employ at least three persons and operate for eight weeks. The federal contribution towards wages for workers will be based on an average of 20 per cent above the provincial minimum wage, although a project manager could be supported for up to 50 per cent above the provincial minimum wage.

Employment Minister Lloyd Axworthy has designated the Canada Community Development Projects as a program whereby employment disadvantages that are suffered by women, youth, native people or persons with physical disabilities can be reduced.

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## Terminals supplied for trial

The Department of Communications recently supplied about 40 Telidon terminals to the Manitoba Telephone System Project Ida in South Headingley, Manitoba, outside of Winnipeg.

Under Project Ida, 100 homes have been provided with advanced communications services such as videotex (the generic term for two-way TV), fire and burglar alarm services, remote metering and medic alert services.

The information, to which field trial users of Telidon will have access, is to be provided by Informart of Toronto, Cybershare Limited of Winnipeg, the *Winnipeg Tribune*, the University of Manitoba and others. The *Winnipeg Tribune* is putting news, weather and sports information into the Infomart data base, which already has about 3,000 "pages" of information prepared for this trial and which expects to have about 10,000 by the end of the trial. Cybershare will provide the data base for educational material and calculation tables for users who want to calculate mortgage rates, income tax rates, etc.

The Telidon terminals, provided by the Department of Communications, are manufactured by Norpak Limited of Pakenham, Ontario. The terminals are on a one-year loan.