

News Release

Communiqué

Department of
External
Affairs



Ministère des
Affaires
extérieures

No. 108

May 17, 1988.

CANADA WELCOMES HIS EXCELLENCY TIAN JIYUN
VICE PREMIER OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

MAY 17-22, 1988

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today announced that His Excellency Tian Jiyun, Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China will visit Canada May 17-22, 1988.

"The visit of Vice Premier Tian comes at an opportune time," Mr. Clark said, "as it follows successive major Party and National People's Congress sessions where far-reaching decisions were taken on expanding China's modernization and 'open door' programs. Canada has taken important steps to build stronger economic relations with China. During a visit to China in 1986, the Prime Minister announced the establishment of a concessional line of credit and a doubling of the bilateral development assistance programme. Last year, two-way trade, increasingly diversified, grew by 32% to a record level of \$2.2 billion.

Mr. Tian is one of three Vice Premiers of the People's Republic of China with responsibilities for trade, commerce and agriculture. His visit to Canada provides an opportunity to lay the basis for expanded bilateral trade through meetings with senior Canadian industrial, commercial and government leaders.

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures

Canada