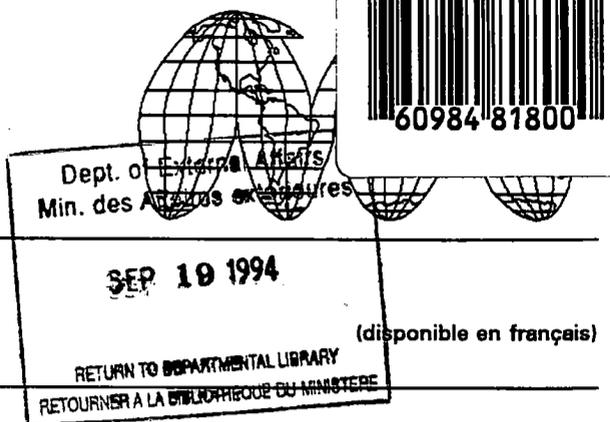


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**Le commerce et
la politique étrangère
cette semaine**

September 8-14, 1994



Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
Foreign Policy Communications Division (BCF)

**FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE:
PRESS RELEASES:**

MacLaren Promotes Canadian Business Ties With Michigan

September 14, 1994, no. 177

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, will visit Detroit, September 15-16, to promote Canadian trade and investment interests in Michigan and offer his support to new Canadian exporters. Mr. MacLaren will hold discussions with U.S. business leaders, including executives from the Big Three auto manufacturers, retailers, bankers and customs brokers. "Canadian companies, particularly small and medium-sized companies located along the U.S. border, must continue to make efforts to enlarge their presence in the U.S. market," Mr. MacLaren said. "There is no better time than the present, with trade between Canada and the United States at record levels, to raise the profile of Canadian goods and services and find new customers." With total two-way trade between Canada and Michigan at nearly \$61 billion, mainly in automotive products, the state is a larger market for Canadian goods than Japan.

Ouellet Announces Canada-Poland Entrepreneurs Fund

September 12, 1994, no. 176

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced Canada's intention to establish a \$32-million Canada-Poland Entrepreneurs Fund to support the development and growth of small and medium-sized business enterprises in Poland. "Small and medium-sized companies are at the forefront of Poland's economic turnaround and are critical to the success of the Polish government's efforts to foster a vibrant free market economy. This innovative fund will provide direct assistance to the grass-roots entrepreneurs and managers who are a major source of new employment and the driving force behind Poland's rapidly growing private sector," said Mr. Ouellet. The Canada-Poland Entrepreneurs Fund will provide financial assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises in a selected region of Poland through the provision of short-term credit, long-term equity and a loan guarantee program. Supporting business advisory services and training will also be provided under the project.

Ouellet Announces Assistance Package for Poland

September 12, 1994, no. 175

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced a series of new Canadian technical assistance initiatives totalling \$3.85 million designed to support political and economic reform in Poland. The projects focus on entrepreneurial training, support for enhanced inter-country agricultural trade and a volunteer youth service program. "These new initiatives provide practical, immediate assistance in areas of primary importance to Poland and underline Canada's commitment to support Poland during this period of democratic and economic transformation. Drawing upon the historic ties between our countries, the projects will establish direct, one-to-one links between Canadian and Polish individuals and organizations." One project will provide entrepreneurial and small business start-up training to close to 1500 Polish entrepreneurs to support the growth of private enterprise at the grass-roots level in Poland. The second project will work to upgrade dairy and related agricultural industries in both Poland and Ukraine and to encourage agricultural trade between the two countries. The third initiative will introduce an international youth service program to engage young volunteers from Poland, Hungary and Canada in community development projects.

Canada and Poland Sign Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty

September 12, 1994, no. 174

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced that Canada and Poland have signed a Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters. The Treaty was signed by Mr. Ouellet and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, Andrzej Olechowski, at a ceremony this morning on Parliament Hill. "The signing of this Treaty is important for both Canada and Poland as it seeks to ensure that evidence gathered in either country is in a form that will be admissible in the courts of both countries," said Mr. Ouellet. The agreement provides for co-operation between police and prosecutors in Canada and Poland in the areas of crime prevention, investigation and prosecution. More specifically, it includes sharing information, gathering and delivering evidence, obtaining statements, locating persons and objects, carrying out search and seizure, and making available detained persons to give evidence or to assist with investigations.

Ouellet Announces Creation of APEC Study Centre

September 8, 1994, no. 173

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced that the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APFC) has been designated as the site of a new Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) Study Centre in Canada. The Centre will serve as a clearing house for a wide range of information on the Asia-Pacific region, including studies by international organizations and think tanks, research abstracts, government and private sector market studies, academic works in progress and articles in publications and on electronic networks. It is part of the APEC Leaders Education Initiative launched at the Seattle Summit of APEC leaders last November. Mr. Ouellet said that the APFC was chosen as the site of the APEC Study Centre because of the independent non-profit organization's ongoing efforts to promote awareness and understanding of the Asia-Pacific in Canada, as well as knowledge about Canada in the region. Established in 1984, the APFC works to increase Canada's competitiveness in the Asia-Pacific region and to develop institutional and personal networks between Canada and Asia.