

Grant to Fiji university

Canada will finance a \$5.5-million building for a School of Natural Resources at the University of the South Pacific (USP), Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, announced recently.

The grant, from the Canadian International Development Agency, will cover the planning, design, construction and equipping of the new building, located in Suva, Fiji. Planning will begin almost immediately, and by 1978 completed facilities should be available to accommodate the full range of science courses offered at the USP, and to handle any likely expansion in the foreseeable future.

Since the university opened in 1968, the School of Natural Resources has occupied temporary buildings, many of which are unsuitable for science teaching.

The School of Natural Resources will substantially increase the university's facility to meet the needs of the people of the South Pacific region for more highly trained manpower.

Alberta industry mission to Sweden

At the invitation of the Swedish Minister of Industry and Commerce, a team of specialists from the province of Alberta took part in a seminar and tour of industry in southwest Sweden last month.

Premier Olaf Palme of Sweden, during his visit to Canada last autumn, approved the idea of a seminar in Stockholm early in 1975 to inform Swedish industry and Government officials of recent developments in Alberta.

The mission consisted of leading officials from the Alberta Departments

of Highways and Transport, Industry and Commerce, and Mines and Minerals, Alberta Gas Trunk Lines Co. Ltd., the Alberta Steel Industry and *Oilweek* magazine.

At the express invitation of Dr. John Edstrom, President of Norrbottens Jarhverk, A.B., the group was taken on a tour of Steel Works, 80, at Lulea, 60 miles from the Arctic Circle; it is Sweden's largest industrial expansion project. The northerly position of this major project is of particular interest since the location is subject to conditions even more demanding than Alberta's North. The wide-ranging socio-economic effects of this development on the area of Lulea was of much interest to the visitors.

Following the Lulea tour, the Canadians took part in a seminar in Stockholm on January 15 to inform Swedish businessmen, government representatives and investment officials of current and expected developments in Alberta, with emphasis on industrial opportunities and the general economic climate.

The province hopes that Swedish companies will organize a similar mission to Alberta during the year to examine opportunities for future investment and trade, particularly joint ventures, licensing agreements, exchange of technology and co-participation in market development.

Multilingualism over bilingualism

Federal funds should be made available to teach languages other than French and English from the pre-school level through university, the Canadian Consultative Council on Multiculturalism recommends.

The Council's recommendations — based on an interim report after an initial period of study and operation — were released by Council Chairman, Julius Koteles, after the summary report had been authorized for release by John Munro, Minister responsible for Multiculturalism.

In a broad range of recommendations the Council pressed for language training as part of a major program aimed at retention of languages other than English and French and the development of cultures by Canada's non-official language groups.

But the Council confirmed strong support for bilingualism as defined in the Official Languages Act. It regards bilingualism and multiculturalism as entirely complementary policies.

Other recommendations

Programs to overcome inequities of opportunity for ethno-cultural groups and to preserve and develop Canada's multicultural heritage were among other recommendations for the future.

Included in short-term priorities cited by the Council in its recommendations were: establishment of community cultural centres assisted by low-interest, Central Mortgage and Housing financing where a definite need has been demonstrated; support for the ethnic press; reduced postal rates for all community newspapers, especially ethnic publications.

The Council also recommended that the CBC expand its programming into languages other than English and French.

Canada/United States relations

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ing a satisfactory solution to this problem.

"You will be aware that amendments to the Combines Investigation Act are currently before the House of Commons. When passed, these amendments will enable the Restrictive Business Practices Commission to issue directives prohibiting Canadian companies from obeying foreign laws and orders.

"It is our hope that this will solve a large part of the problem. What is needed, in addition, is a change in U.S. law and practice so that Canadian companies will be able to pursue normal export business in a manner consistent with Canadian law and policy.

"To sum up, we are in a new stage in our relations with the U.S. These relations are fundamentally sound but there can be no doubt that this new phase will be more difficult and complex. Hence the need for careful management of our relations by both parties is greater than ever. It is for this reason that I want to conclude with a strong plea for the merits of the consultative approach. For Canada, it is, after all, the only sensible way to conduct business with the U.S., the first among all our partners.

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