

Canada–Mexico Relations

- Canada established diplomatic relations with Mexico in 1944. Since that time, the relationship has matured and has branched into a wide range of areas.
- The relationship between Canada and Mexico has grown significantly since the implementation in 1994 of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).
- While NAFTA is a Canadian priority, it is only one aspect of the expanding relationship. Canada and Mexico have developed closer political and social relations and they co-operate increasingly in multilateral forums. Strengthening the partnership with Mexico is an important Canadian objective.
- Prime Minister Jean Chrétien last visited Mexico in 1999. During his visit, the Prime Minister and the President of Mexico endorsed *New Directions: 1999 Declaration of Objectives and Action Plan*. This agreement reflects the enhanced state of political and economic relations between the two countries and makes a joint commitment to even broader co-operation, most notably in social and cultural areas.
- The relationship continues to grow under Mexican President Vicente Fox, who was elected on July 2, 2000, and took office on Dec. 1, 2000. As president-elect, Mr. Fox visited Canada on Aug. 22–23, 2000, when he met with Prime Minister Chrétien. His senior advisers met with the Canadian ministers of Industry, Finance, Justice and Attorney General, Human Resources Development, and International Trade, as well as with the Governor of the Bank of Canada.
- President Fox is making a state visit to Canada from April 18–22, 2001, with stops in Ottawa, Montreal, and Quebec City for the Summit of the Americas.
- Canadian and Mexican ministers meet frequently. The Minister of Foreign Affairs travelled to Mexico City to attend the inauguration of President Fox on Dec. 1, 2000. He travelled to Mexico again in January 2001, when he met with President Fox, the Secretary of Foreign Relations and other key ministers.