

Emphasizing the importance of Hong Kong as a market for Canadian products and services and as an entrepôt to the expanding China market, Miss Carney noted that Canadian exports have increased eightfold over the last decade.

"We are especially pleased that exports of high technology products - particularly telecommunications equipment - represent one of our largest and fastest growing markets," said the Minister, "but in spite of these impressive successes, Canada's total exports still represent only one per cent of the Hong Kong import market. We intend to do better."

Just as Hong Kong is recognized as a gateway to China and the regional Asian market, Miss Carney encouraged Hong Kong investors to consider Vancouver as a gateway to North America.

Miss Carney also participated in a roundtable discussion with senior Canadian business persons resident in Hong Kong. During this meeting, the Minister engaged in a forthright and lively two-way dialogue on Canadian business interests in Hong Kong and the Asia Pacific Region.