

Canada–Australia Relations

- The first of Canada's network of overseas trade offices opened in Sydney in 1895. Over the last few years several high-level visits have strengthened the Canada and Australia relationship, notably the Prime Minister's visit to Australia in 1995.
- As parliamentary democracies within the Commonwealth, Canada and Australia share many common values and perspectives. They work closely together as members of the United Nations, the Commonwealth, and the World Trade Organization; and as participants in the Association of South East Asian Nations Regional Forum, which deals with security issues.
- There is a well-established tradition of exchanging officials and views and of mutual assistance in consular and immigration matters. The two governments have co-located their diplomatic missions in Barbados and in Cambodia.
- Canada is represented in Canberra and Sydney and has honorary consuls in Melbourne and Perth. A Canadian education centre opened in Canberra in 1997 to promote Canadian educational and training institutions.

Trade and Investment

- Australia is politically, economically and socially stable. It shares a common language with Canada, and they have similar cultures, legal and regulatory systems, and business practices. Australia's long tradition of friendship and co-operation makes it ideal for Canadian companies, particularly small and medium enterprises, looking to increase exports to Asia-Pacific.
- Australia is Canada's 15th largest export market, with exports valued at \$969 million in 1997, down slightly from \$1 billion in 1996.
- Australia is a particularly important market for Canadian manufacturers of high-technology products, including telecommunications and defence products, mining equipment, and industrial machinery. Canada's exports also include softwood lumber, paper, potash, newsprint and aircraft engines.
- Canadian imports from Australia were valued at \$1.17 billion in 1997, down from \$1.29 billion in 1996. Principal imports include sugar, aluminum, nickel mattes and powder, beef, medicines and wine.