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MACLAREN WELCOMES VISIT OF CHINESE TRADE MINISTER WU YI

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, announced today that Wu Yi, Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Co-operation of the People's Republic of China (PRC), will pay an official visit to Canada November 22 to 29. During the Minister's stay, she will visit Vancouver, Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto.

"The visit of Minister Wu provides an opportunity to explore ways in which Canada and China can increase trade and investment," said Mr. MacLaren. "The evident strength of all Pacific economies demands a dialogue to determine how we can maximize the benefits of growth for both countries."

Minister Wu's official visit to Canada begins after the conclusion of the meeting of the heads of government, foreign ministers and trade ministers of the 15-member Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in Seattle, Washington, November 17 to 20.

Madame Wu will meet Mr. MacLaren in Ottawa on November 23, when they will discuss increased co-operation in such key export sectors as telecommunications, oil and gas, hydro-electric power, transportation, agriculture, environment and financial services.

The Chinese Trade Minister will also meet with the presidents of the Canadian International Development Agency and the Export Development Corporation.

Madame Wu will visit several leading Canadian manufacturers of advanced technological goods in all four cities and meet senior provincial representatives. She will also attend a signing ceremony in Toronto for the first major Sino-Canadian public offering on the Toronto Stock Exchange.