

TWO MILLION NAMES FROM INFO GLOBE

Over two million important business names, from four data bases, are now available through Info Globe, the online information division of Toronto's *The Globa and Mail*. The data bases maintained by Canada Systems Group, are: Corporate names, with summary information on over 2 million federal and provincial incorporations and business names; Canadian Federal Corporations and Directors, with information on 125,000 federally incorporated companies; Inter-Corporate Ownership; and Trade Marks, with information on over 200,000 registered and pending trade marks.

TWINNING OF TWO PROVINCES

A formal agreement establishing direct cultural, economic and technological exchange links between Saskatchewan and the Chinese province of Jilin will be signed next June in Regina. The decision on a time frame for the "twinning" of the two provinces came following a meeting between Premier Grant Devine and Jilin governor Zhao Xiu. The actual twinning agreement will be completed when a Jilin delegation headed by the governor travels to Saskatchewan next June. When the arrangement is finally struck it will end a process that started four years ago under the former NDP government which pursued close ties with the Chinese specifically in the realm of potash research. The arrangements will make Saskatchewan the second Canadian province to have a formal twinning agreement with a Chinese province. The other is Alberta, which has already twinned with Heilongjiang a province directly north-east of Jilin.

REPUTATION ENHANCED

Canadian companies enhanced their reputation as leaders in the communications field at the fourth World Telecommunications Exhibition — Telecom 83 — held in Geneva, Switzerland from October 26 to November 1, 1983. The show, held every four years, is the most prestigious international exhibition in telecommunications and electronics. Canadian capabilities, products and services, which have already earned international recognition for excellence, were exhibited by some 25 companies offering a wide range of goods and services.

BRIEFS

MONTREAL MOST EXPENSIVE CITY

Montreal has edged out Vancouver for the dubious distinction of being the most expensive major city for an upper-middle-class family to live in. "It now costs about 1 per cent less to live in Vancouver than in Montreal," says Lynne Threlfall, a Conference Board of Canada researcher. "In 1981 it cost a family of four 17 per cent more to live in Vancouver than in Montreal." Much of the reason for the change is the decline in housing costs as a portion of the budget of a middle-class family and a comparative increase in the impact of income taxes, she says in *The Canadian Business Review*. A comparison of six cities shows that for a family of four with one salary of \$45,000 a year, total family expenses range from \$43,655 in Montreal to \$41,643 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Living costs in the other cities were: Toronto, Ontario \$43,648; Vancouver, British Columbia \$43,266; St. John's, Newfoundland \$43,014 and Calgary, Alberta \$42,065.

TOP QUEBEC MEN VISIT

Montreal's Commissioner for Industrial Development, Claude Piche, visited Hong Kong for 13 days in January to help promote two-way trade between the city and the territory. The first official visit of a Montreal Government official to Hong Kong was part of Quebec's program to attract foreign investment. The province's Immigration Minister, Gerald Godin has visited Hong Kong in mid-February to discuss immigration through investment with local people.

HI-TECH DEAL WITH CHINA

Spar Aerospace of Canada has reached agreements worth more than \$20 million for the sale of 26 satellite earth stations and the transfer of related technology to China. The earth stations will form a major part of China's planned satellite communications system. The technology transfer is a key element in a joint-venture agreement with China's Ministry of Electronic Industry for development and follow-on sales of the equipment. The agreements were signed at a ceremony during the official state visits to Canada by a delegation headed by Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang.

CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS

Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, one of Canada's most outstanding ballet companies, are to appear in Hong Kong as part of an Asian tour. Of particular interest will be "Tam T. Delam", a ballet set to familiar French Canadian folk music. This will be included in the numbers to be performed on May 29 and 31. On May 30, the program will include "In Paradisum", a new ballet by Canadian choreographer James Kudelka. Another cultural attraction will be on April 10 when Yuri Mazurkevich, a new Canadian of Russian extraction and one of the world's leading violinists, will give a concert at the city hall.

YEAR OF TOURISM

The proclamation by the Tourist Industry Association of Canada of 1984 as the "The Year of Tourism in Canada" will be fully supported by Tourism Canada, the federal agency responsible for tourism. There are about 30 special dates to be observed in 1984, including the 450th anniversary of the arrival in Canada of Jacques Cartier, the 200th anniversary of loyalist settlement in Ontario, the Bicentenary of New Brunswick and milestone birthdays for Toronto (150th), Stratford, Ontario (125th) and Calgary (100th). 1984 is also special in that it marks the first ever visit of a Pope to Canada.

CANADA PLACE FOR EXPO 86

Canada Place, the \$137 million Vancouver waterfront development that will include the Canadian pavilion at Expo 86, is expected to draw visitors from all over the world. Canada Place is to be opened as part of two major celebrations — Expo 86 and Vancouver's centenary. However the impact of the federally funded project will reach far beyond 1986. The development, to be constructed between 1983 and 1986, will include in addition to the Canadian pavilion, a cruise ship terminal, a hotel and an international trade centre (both to be financed by the private sector) a public plaza and other amenities. The Canadian pavilion, following Expo 86, will become Vancouver's trade and convention centre. In addition, Canada Place will open the waterfront areas to the public for the first time in decades with a large plaza, two promenade levels with view areas, a series of restaurants and shops, an outdoor entertainment area and max theatre. It is expected to become as active and colourful as San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf.