

Canada – Finland Trade

Canadian-Finnish economic relations have been steadily expanding and total trade has been increasing. Canadian exports to Finland increased by 35% in 1989 to \$255 million. Canada's main exports are zinc ore, wood pulp, and a growing variety of manufactured and food products. Export promotion activities centre on communications and informatics, sea products, agricultural and food products, consumer products and defence products.

Finnish exports to Canada increased by 22% in 1989 and totalled \$375 million. These included paper, wood and paper machinery, stainless steel and many manufactured products. Finland is putting increasing emphasis on exports to North America.

The greater volume of trade between Canada and Finland is a relatively recent development: in 1975 Canadian sales to Finland totalled only \$20.7 million while Finnish exports to Canada were \$28.9 million.

Trade relations between Canada and Finland are governed by a November 17, 1948 exchange of notes and by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) of May 25, 1950.

Canada and Finland accord each other the Most-Favoured Nation (MFN) tariff treatment. The opportunities for Canadian exporters to work with Finnish firms for sales to the Soviet Union are good and a number of successful transactions have been noted.

As a highly innovative OECD country with world class technology in forestry, shipbuilding, metals, telecommunications, electronics, informatics, consumer goods and construction, Finland's economic well-being depends on keeping up with new developments. Both Canada and Finland have a keen interest in substantially expanding co-operation.