
BACKGROUND/ASSESSMENT - ÉVALUATION

The Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) was established in 1973. Since then, membership has grown to include non-Commonwealth countries. CARICOM leads and co-ordinates political and economic initiatives.

Current CARICOM members are 13. Haiti's membership is close to being ratified.

Canadian ministers also meet regularly with their CARICOM counterparts, either individually or in a group.

Nearly 100,000 people from the Caribbean have emigrated to Canada over the past decade.

CARICOM is Canada's fourth largest trading partner in the hemisphere.

CARICOM benefits from an economic and trade development assistance program with Canada known as CARIBCAN. The program extends preferential, one-way, duty-free entry to over 95 per cent of the region's exports to Canada.

Canadian direct investment in the Caribbean totals close to \$25 billion. Canada's investment in CARICOM countries exceeds investment in all other countries except the United States and the United Kingdom.

CONSULTATION:

PREP. BY/PRÉP. PAR	Tel./Tél.	APPROVAL/APPROBATION	Tel./Tél.	DATE
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