

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Hon.

Mitchell Sharp, announced today in Vancouver that the Government of Canada would provide a grant of money to help defray the capital cost of establishing a Centre of East Asian Studies on the campus of the University of British Columbia. The Japan World Exposition Foundation has agreed to donate the Expo 70 Sanyo Pavillion to the Centre and a substantial sum of \$700,000 for the Centre's construction has been pledged by Japanese sources. Mr. Sharp said that the Canadian Government would be prepared to join with the Government of British Columbia and with private donors in contributing to the capital cost. The Federal contribution would match the contribution by British Colombia up to the amount of \$400,000.

Mr. Sharp noted that such a Centre, by providing facilities for the study of East Asian affairs, languages and cultures would do much to strengthen and further good relations and, particularly, to promote trade and cultural exchanges between Canada and the Pacific Rim countries, especially Japan and China. He expressed his appreciation of the Japan World Exposition Foundation and the Federation of Economic Organization of Japan and of all the other contributors for their generosity and assistance in helping to establish this Centre.