

Coordinating International Education

With the increasing demand from Malaysian students for post-secondary education in Canada, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) funded a study tour of Canadian institutions of higher learning by senior members of the Malaysian Ministry of Education. The visit took place in October.

The purpose of the tour was to familiarize members of the Malaysian delegation with the education systems in the Canadian provinces, and to discuss various issues pertaining to qualification and entrance requirements with a view to securing recognition by the Govern-

ment of Malaysia of Canadian university degrees in a number of fields not previously covered.

The 12-member delegation was headed by Mr Nik Musa bin Nik Abdulla, Deputy Secretary-General of the Ministry of Education, and Datuk Haji Omar bin Mohamad Hashim, Deputy Director-General of the Ministry. The delegation's visit of 25 major universities and colleges in Canada was coordinated by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

Mr Nik Musa (centre) and Datuk Omar (second from right) during their visit to the University of Alberta.



SEMINARS, EXHIBITIONS, CONVENTIONS

Eminent Canadian Physician Gives Talks in Malaysia

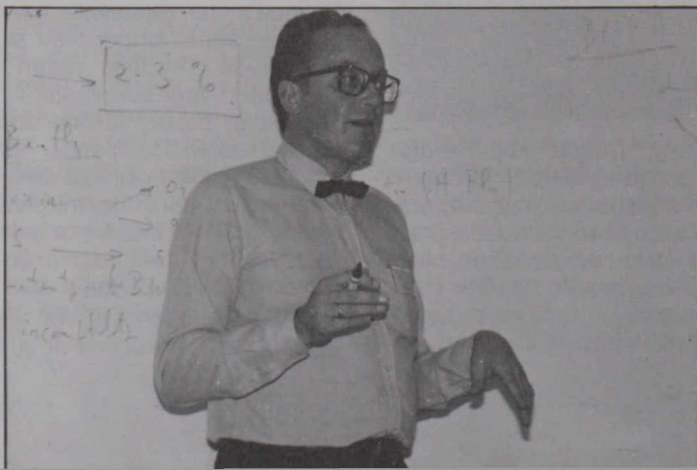
As part of a working visit to Malaysia in October, Dr Philippe Bernard, Otolaryngologist-in-Chief at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Ottawa, delivered a series of talks with medical experts in Kuala Lumpur.

Dr Bernard is a specialist in conditions of the ears, throat and larynx, with particular attention to children. He works extensively on projects dealing with early detection and treatment of deafness in children, and has collaborated in the production of kits and programs on the subject with the Canadian Department of Health and Welfare.

The talks were given at the University Hospital of the University of Malaya. Dr Bernard also conferred with colleagues at the Science University of Malaysia in Penang.

On a number of occasions over the years, the Canadian High Commission has facilitated the exchange of information between Canadian and Malaysian medical practitioners. The most recent exchange took place in late 1987 and early 1988, when Canadian ophthalmologists Professor Donald Morin, Professor Martin Kazdan and Professor Lionel Chisholm participated in a program at the Tun Hussein Onn Eye Hospital in Kuala Lumpur.

Dr Philippe Bernard.



Weaving Cultural Links in Sarawak

Amongst the many and varied events surrounding the celebration of Sarawak's 25th anniversary in joining Malaysia was an exhibition, seminar and workshop on indigenous weaving entitled "Weaving Cultural Links."

The Canadian High Commission, through its Canada Fund, became interested in this project for a number of reasons. Weaving has been an integral part of the life of Iban women for centuries, and has the potential to be expanded as an income generating skill. The development of weaving as a cottage industry could play a significant role in increasing the self-reliance of the Ibans, and in turn raise the living standards of their families. Just as important, the workshop was viewed as a first step in promoting indigenous technology and adapting modern methods while at the same time preserving the rich weaving traditions which are such an important part of Sarawak's cultural heritage.

This two-week event was a first-time effort designed to promote traditional methods of weaving in Sarawak, particularly *Ikat* weaving.