

Kong, Manila and Singapore.

Facilities at Xiamen have been improved since the airport was renovated. A Canadian architectural firm, B+H International, designed this award-winning airport. The potential for further regional (i.e. Taiwan) and international air services at Xiamen is significant.

9. Telecommunications

Fujian plans to invest RMB 9.69 billion (Cdn\$ 1.7 bilion) in 1998 to upgrade its telecommunications sector. Approximately RMB 3.4 billion (Cdn\$ 600 million) will be used to increase service to mobile phone users. A substantial amount of the remaining planned investment will go to expanding and improving Fujian's digital, multi-media and internet systems.

CANADA-FUJIAN TRADE LINKS

Canadian investment in Fujian is minimal, with 10 Canadian investors registered in 1996, for a total of Cdn\$ 37 million. Total Canadian investment in the province is estimated at Cdn\$ 141 million, spread amongst 56 companies, in the sectors of light industry, furniture production, textiles, flower growing and real estate. **The largest Canadian investment in Fujian is the Ports International factory in Xiamen, which supplies garments to Ports International stores in over 123 locations in China.**

Fujian's exports to Canada in 1995 totalled Cdn\$ 48.6 million (mainly light industrial goods, including shoes and textiles) while Canadian exports to Fujian were only Cdn\$ 14 million (mainly commodities such as fertilizer). Fujian Enterprises (Canada) Ltd., the Canadian subsidiary of Fujian Enterprises (Holding) Company,

was established in Vancouver in 1988. It is a wholly owned subsidiary which deals in timber, pulp, building materials and real estate projects.

Canada and Fujian have a well-developed network of academic contacts.

Dalhousie University has links to Xiamen University's MBA school, McGill University sends summer students to language courses at Xiamen University and the CGA offers courses at Xiamen University. Nearby Lujiang University has an exchange program with the British Columbia Institute of Technology.

Fuzhou University has a Canadian Studies Centre and its director, a noted Canadianist, has published several volumes on Canada and Canada-Fujian relations. Through support from CIDA, more than 30 other Fujianese academics, business people and professionals have received training in Canada in recent years and have remained in contact with CIDA's Canada-China Support Unit in Beijing.

Zhangzhou is twinned with Prince George, BC, and the two cities are planning a student exchange program. Students from all over Fujian are currently studying in Canada in various different institutions.

Due to the close linguistic, ethnic and family ties between many Taiwanese and Fujianese, the Taiwanese-Canadian community has been particularly active in developing Canada-Fujian relations.

Fujian's most pressing development obstacle is the shortage of electricity. The province possesses considerable hydro-electric potential and could benefit from Canadian technology and expertise.