

## Maritimes get energy funding

The federal government has introduced a \$4-million project to help industry and private institutions in Atlantic Canada pay for energy-saving projects, Energy Minister Marc Lalonde has announced.

The five-year package, as part of the over-all national energy program will pay half the capital cost of conservation projects through taxable grants. Mr. Lalonde said the program initially applies only to New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. Extra work is needed to arrange a deal with Nova Scotia because the province is already covered by a similar program administered by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, he said.

Operations could be eligible for grants if they upgrade insulation, lighting, ventilation or air-conditioning systems, install energy management devices, modify heating systems or make other improvements.

Mr. Lalonde said the program is particularly important because Atlantic Canada has few alternatives to costly imported oil than other parts of the country. He added that federal spending on energy conservation in Atlantic Canada is several times greater than spending in the rest of the country because of the special situation of the region.

The maximum grant available under the program, called the Atlantic energy conservation investment program, will be \$4 million.

## Dr. MacGuigan in Japan

Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan visited Japan November 12-15 at the invitation of Japanese Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda for the Second Annual Foreign Ministers' Consultations. During the course of his visit Dr. MacGuigan also met with Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki and Minister of International Trade and Industry Roku-suke Tanaka.

The consultations with Foreign Minister Sonoda dealt mainly with international issues including the state of East-West relations, the North-South dialogue after the Cancun Summit and present situations in the Middle East, Southeast Asia, Afghanistan, Namibia and Poland. Although the two foreign ministers had met several times in recent months at various international meetings, including the Ottawa Summit, this was their first

opportunity to discuss the international situation in a detailed and comprehensive manner. Dr. MacGuigan noted afterwards the wide coincidence of views between the two governments.

### Strengthening bilateral ties

In addition, the two ministers reviewed the state of the bilateral relationship between Canada and Japan. In opening remarks both Dr. MacGuigan and Mr. Sonoda stressed the importance of strengthening all aspects of relations, including political, economic, scientific and cultural ties.

In remarks to reporters following the consultations, Dr. MacGuigan said that the bilateral relationship had grown to the point where the two countries have "a long-term co-operative economic arrangement, not just as series of fly-by-night trading deals but a permanent arrangement in which we are engaging in joint ventures and economic co-operation. We have found a coincidence of interests at all levels: government, business, cultural and academic".

On economic relations, Dr. MacGuigan said that Canada "would like to see the bilateral Japanese market more open to Canadian goods, both natural and manufactured and processed, and also...would

like to see more Japanese investment in Canada". Last year, Japan exported \$2.79 billion worth of goods to Canada while importing \$4.37 billion worth of Canadian products, largely natural and semi-processed, such as forest products, coal and non-ferrous metals. Dr. MacGuigan noted that he had stressed to Japanese leaders the importance Canada attached to Japan's prediction regarding automobile exports to Canada for the current fiscal year.

### Increasing investment

Dr. MacGuigan said the recent opening of Canadian banks in Japan and the opening of Japanese banks in Canada would give impetus to increased investment. He noted investment by the Japanese in the Canadian coal industry and said that Canada would be receptive to further minority equity investment in its energy sector, particularly in petroleum and natural gas. He also said that Canada was pleased that studies were still continuing on the Canadian CANDU nuclear reactor system.

In a news conference, Dr. MacGuigan summed up his talks with a phrase used by Mr. Sonoda during the consultations: "The Pacific," he said, "no longer divides us, it unites us."

## Ontario premier makes visit to Australia



Ontario Premier William Davis (second from left) meets with members of the Canadian High Commission and Australian government and press during a recent visit to Canberra. From left to right are: Mrs. Davis, Mr. Davis, Canada's High Commissioner R.C. Anderson, President of the Australian National Press Club John Lombard and Deputy Minister of the Australian Cabinet Dr. E. Stewart. Mr. Davis, who visited Australia as part of an Ontario trade mission, spoke to the National Press Club in Canberra on The Challenges of National Policy Making in Canada.