

Stand-in for Santa's reindeer waits in the wings for Christmas début



A reindeer that barks? Toko, a nine-year-old golden retriever owned by Judy Hoadley of Vancouver, British Columbia, uncovered this set of antlers and Santa's cap lost in the Christmas rush and is ready to leap into action next December.

Canapress

Kenneth Williamson has been appointed Canadian Ambassador to Cuba. Since joining the Department of External Affairs in 1947, Mr. Williamson has served in Rome, Prague, Santiago, Berlin and Washington. In 1974 he was named Ambassador to Turkey and in 1977 was co-ordinator for the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament. In 1980, Mr. Williamson was named to his present post as Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States in Washington.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has signed a \$10-million (US) line of credit agreement with Petroleos Mexicanos (PEMEX) of Mexico. The line of credit will assist Canadian exporters competing for sales to PEMEX by providing it with a simple and easily accessible credit facility. It is expected that the main beneficiaries of the line of credit will be small- and medium-sized Canadian manufacturing companies.

The University of Alberta has established a non-profit company to do research on materials, design and construction of equipment for Arctic and offshore development. Peter Adams, university dean of engineering since 1978, has been named president of the Centre for Frontier Engineering Research. The centre will be financed by the government of Alberta, the Devonian Group of Charitable Foundations and several private companies.

Canadian ski-jumper Horst Bulau placed second in the World Cup championships in Cortina, Italy, recording his best result since he placed first in the season's opener in December in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Three other Canadian skiers placed in the top 14: Steve Collins and David Brown of Thunder Bay, and Ron Richards of Oshawa, Ontario.

Canada Weekly is published by the Public Affairs Branch, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa K1A 0G2.

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Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.

Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiario de Canadá.

Alguns artigos desta publicação são também editados em português sob o título Notícias do Canadá.

Canada 

ISSN 0384-2312

News briefs

A minor shuffle in the federal Cabinet was announced recently by Prime Minister Trudeau. Céline Hervieux-Payette became Canada's first Minister of State for Youth while backbencher Jacques Olivier took over her portfolio as Minister for Fitness and Amateur Sport. Newfoundland Member of Parliament Bill Rompkey assumes the position of Minister of State for Mines.

Nelma Data Corp. of Mississauga, Ontario, has signed a two-year, \$4.6-million marketing agreement with Ayyash Enterprises Inc. of Toronto for the sale and distribution of Nelma's Persona business computer. The machine will be sold to more than 12 Middle East countries.

The Soviet Union will participate in Expo 86, bringing the number of foreign governments and organizations taking part in the fair to 26, British Columbia Tourism Minister Claude Richmond has announced. "The Soviet Union is among the world's most advanced nations in the area of transportation and communications and their participation will be of

immense benefit to the exposition," Mr. Richmond said. The world transportation fair will be held in Vancouver from May 2 to October 13, 1986.

Robert W. McLaren, Canadian High Commissioner in Zimbabwe, has been named managing director of the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) and Assistant Commonwealth Secretary-General. The appointment was made recently by the Commonwealth Secretary-General Shridath S. Ramphal.

One of the world's largest earth-built dikes has been completed after ten years by Suncor Inc. at its giant oil sands plant near Fort McMurray, Alberta. Called the "East-West Dike", the giant wall stretches nearly three kilometres, is 550 metres thick at the base and towers some 79 metres.

J. Tuzo Wilson, the internationally known geophysicist, has been appointed chancellor of York University, Toronto. Dr. Wilson, director-general of the Ontario Science Centre, is widely recognized for his modification and advancement of the theory of continental drift.