

Tom Hockin to Present Canada Export Awards

October 1, 1993, No. 187

The Honourable Tom Hockin, Minister for International Trade, will present the 1993 Canada Export Awards to 10 top Canadian exporting companies on October 4, 1993. "The employees who have devoted their talents and skills to the success of these companies deserve the grateful recognition of their fellow Canadians. It is through their efforts that Canada will maintain its stature as one of the world's most competitive exporting nations," Mr. Hockin said. He added, "The intensely competitive nature of today's global economy has forced Canadian firms to strengthen their efforts to gain access to new markets and to increase the productivity and quality of their operations and products. These 10 companies are doubly deserving of our respect under these difficult circumstances, having demonstrated to all Canadians that we can successfully compete with the rest of the world.

Beatty Extends Condolences to Families and Friends of Indian Earthquake Victims

September 30, 1993, No. 186

External Affairs Minister Perrin Beatty extended Canada's deepest sympathies to the families and friends of those who perished in the earthquake in India's Maharashtra State. "Canadians mourn with the people of India the tragic loss of life. It is an enormous disaster, which has brought much pain and suffering. Canada will provide emergency relief if such assistance is requested," Mr. Beatty said.

STATEMENTS:

Tonight I find myself at another high point in this [International Trade] portfolio, because in a few moments, I will have the honour of saluting some people [Export Award winners] who have earned special recognition for their creative efforts in selling Canadian goods, technology and services in foreign lands over the past year. I feel I am presenting these Export Awards on behalf of all Canadians, because we all have a stake in your success. When you consider that a quarter or more of Canadian jobs are directly related to exports, when you figure that each new billion dollars of exports generates around 15 000 jobs, it's clear why all Canadians have a stake in your export success. And your success is a matter of record. Trade figures for the first six months of 1993 show our merchandise exports at \$87 billion -- up 15 percent from the same period in 1992; up 21 percent for our exports to the United States. While we have done well, you and I know that as a nation, we haven't always been as bold and aggressive about exports as we could be -- as we need to be. The fact is, fewer than 100 large Canadian companies account for 70 percent of our exports. We've got to do more to encourage small- and medium-sized businesses to look beyond our borders for new growth markets. Now, government by itself can't put those potential new exporters into foreign markets, but what we can do is open doors and help them through. We can help them see the opportunities that exist for trade, not only in goods, but also in services, technology and investment. In particular, we are trying to encourage Canadian business to focus on the fast-growing markets of Asia and Latin America.

An Address by the Honourable Tom Hockin, Minister for International Trade, at the Presentation of the Canada Export Awards, (Vancouver, British Columbia, October 4, 1993, No. 93/57).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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| September 21-
December, 1993: | 48th United Nations General Assembly |
| October 16-18, 1993: | La Francophonie Summit (Mauritius) |
| October 21-25, 1993: | Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (Cyprus) |
| November 18-19, 1993: | 5th Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Ministerial Meeting (Seattle) |
| November 30-
December 1, 1993: | Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe
Council of Ministers Meeting (Rome) |
| December 2-3, 1993: | NATO North Atlantic Council and
North Atlantic Co-operation Council Meetings (Brussels) |

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