

SINGAPORE

Negotiations Begin On Air Services Agreement

The Chief Air Negotiator for Canada, Mr. Geoffrey Elliot, led a delegation to Singapore in January to take part in negotiations to conclude an air services agreement between Canada and Singapore.

The first round of the negotiations took place 24-27 January with officials of the Singapore government at the Department of Civil Aviation.

Singapore Airlines, which was represented at the negotiations, has had a longstanding interest in flying to Canada as part of its air service to North America. For their part, Canadian airlines have shown increasing interest in expanding their services in Asia and the Pacific.

The Canadian delegation was composed of officials from the Department of External Affairs, Ministry of Transport and Canadian Transport Commission as well as representatives of Canada's two major airlines CP Air and Air Canada.

CP Air is already serving Asia with its twice weekly flights between Vancouver and Hong Kong. CP Air has maintained an office in Singapore since 1963 and has recently expanded its operations to assume greater regional responsibilities.

Air Canada opened an office in Singapore in 1983 and is interested in taking part in the steady expansion of travel and transportation activity in Southeast Asia.

CIBC Signs EDC Line of Credit for US\$10 million

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (Asia) Ltd. of Singapore has signed a US dollars 10 million line of credit with the Export Development Corporation (EDC) of Canada to support purchases of Canadian capital goods and services from 11 countries in the Asia and Pacific region as well as from Australia and New Zealand.

The line of credit will assist purchasers of Canadian capital goods and services in these countries by providing them with a simple and easily accessible credit facility through the bank.

It is expected that the main application of the line of credit will be to support contracts for small- and medium-sized purchases of Canadian capital goods and services.

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (Asia) Ltd. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. It was incorporated in Singapore in 1980 as a merchant bank and provides a wide range of financial services in the Asia and Pacific region.



Mrs. Marie-Claire Seymour, wife of the Canadian High Commissioner, presented four Canada geese to the Jurong Bird Park on behalf of Mrs. Kathleen Davis, wife of the Premier of Ontario. Mrs. Davis visited the Bird Park in October during the visit of the Premier and his officials to Singapore.

Defence College Visit

Members of the National Defence College of Canada visited Singapore 16-19 January as part of a four-nation tour in the Asia-Pacific region.

The NDC group, made up of 50 participants from both the military and civilian sectors in Canada, received briefings from senior personnel of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defence.

The National Defence College is Canada's premier governmental institution for learning and development for senior Canadian Forces officers and civilian executives of the public and private sector. Course members hold the rank of Colonel or its civilian equivalent.

The NDC course is 10 months in duration involving class work and travel, both within Canada and to selected countries in the major regions of the world. The Asia-Pacific program in 1983-84 includes Japan, Singapore, Indonesia, and Australia.

Review of Technician Training

Professor Karel Puffer of the Department of Industrial and Vocational Education, University of Alberta is one of five members of an international team conducting a review of the objectives, functions, and performance of the Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education (CPSC).

Dr Puffer has been involved with technician training in Canada for most of his professional career. Since 1975 he has been involved with the education and training of technical instructors, specialising in developing expertise among post-secondary technical and occupational teachers.

Curriculum Development Team assists VITB

The Vocational and Industrial Training Board (VITB) has acquired Canadian expertise to improve the curriculum and teaching materials used in the Board's "BEST" program: Basic Education For Skills Training.

Mrs Jill Bell and Mrs Madeline Needham have been selected to lead curriculum development teams in Basic English and Basic Mathematics respectively. The teams comprise officers from the VITB and Curriculum Development Institute of Singapore.

The Canadian consultants have extensive experience in adult teaching, curriculum development and teacher training.

Mrs Jill Bell, leader of the Basic English project team, holds a BA (Hons) in English, MA in English and Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language. Prior to her appointment with the Board, Mrs Bell was a Research Officer at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. She is the author of several books on English as a Second Language.

The leader of the Mathematics team is Mrs Madeline Needham, a Senior Instructor in Basic Mathematics at the Alberta Vocational Centre in Edmonton. Mrs Needham, whose teaching experience includes computer-aided instruction, holds the B Sc (Hons) in Mathematics and the B Ed.

The consultants will lead their respective teams to develop, evaluate and validate the English Language and Mathematics courses of the BEST Programme. They will be with the Board for one year in the first instance.