

Minister for
International
Trade



Ministre du
Commerce
extérieur

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE "THINK-IN" TO BE HELD IN ST. JOHN'S

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie, senior officials from his department, eight ambassadors and private sector representatives will gather in St. John's September 29-30 to assess the major challenges which Canadian exporters will face in the 1990s. They will also focus on how External Affairs and International Trade Canada can best help Canadians to compete in global markets.

"Trade is vital to the Government's economic policy agenda. The St. John's meeting will help the Government in planning trade policies to ensure that Canada competes successfully in the changing global economy." said the Minister.

Among the principal topics to be addressed will be the trade and economic environment in the 1990s, the major challenges Canadians must overcome to gain access to world markets, the impact of technology on the international trade and payments system, and how the private sector views the challenges of the 1990s.

Although the focus of the meeting will be on long-term prospects, current issues such as the multilateral trade negotiations under the GATT and the implementation of the Free Trade Agreement will also be reviewed.

The Minister said that an important component of the two-day meeting will be the participation of private sector representatives, including members of the International Trade Advisory Committee. "We have to know how the private sector sees the future and what it expects of our programs and services. After all, it is the private sector, not the Government, that sells Canadian goods and services in foreign markets." said Mr. Crosbie.

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