



communiqué

No: 103
No.:

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE: NOVEMBER 16, 1977

EXCHANGE OF INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION OF THE CANADA/JAPAN CULTURAL AGREEMENT

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Don Jamieson and His Excellency Yasuhiko Nara, Japanese Ambassador to Canada exchanged the instruments of ratification of the Canada-Japan Cultural Agreement in a brief ceremony held today in the Commonwealth Room of the Centre Block of the Parliament Buildings. The Agreement was signed in Tokyo on October 26, 1976 in the presence of Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau and Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Miki, during Mr. Trudeau's visit to Japan. Since then the Agreement has been ratified by both countries.

Speaking at this occasion, Mr. Jamieson underlined the importance that Canada attaches to expansion and reinforcement of political, commercial and cultural links which contribute to the mutual understanding between the people of Canada and Japan. Ambassador Nara expressed his full agreement with these sentiments.

The Agreement reflects the growing volume and variety of artistic and academic exchanges, including the performing and visual arts, which have developed steadily over the past few years. It provides a variety of means whereby Japanese and Canadians can come to know and understand each other better. Particular emphasis is placed on the exchange of persons engaged in cultural and educational activities as recommended by recent UNESCO and other international conferences. The Agreement also reflects the development of Canadian studies in Japan and Japanese studies in Canada, a programme agreed to in principle at the time of the visit of the Prime Minister of Japan to Canada in 1974.

