those ready to commit the necessary time and resources, the opportunities are outstanding.

## WHERE TO GET HELP

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) is the Canadian federal government department most directly responsible for trade development. The InfoCentre is the first contact point for advice on how to start exporting; it provides information on export-related programs and services; helps find fast answers to export problems; acts as the entry point to DFAIT's trade information network; and can provide companies with copies of specialized export publications.

#### **InfoCentre**

Tel.: 1-800-267-8376 or

(613) 944-4000

Fax: (613) 996-9709

FaxLink: (613) 944-4500

The Commercial Division of the **Embassy of Canada** in Mexico City promotes trade with Mexico. There are several trade commissioners at the Embassy, and there is a satellite office in Monterrey. Trade Commissioners can provide a range of services including introducing Canadian companies to potential customers in Mexico, advising on marketing channels, assisting those wishing to participate in trade fairs, helping identify suitable Mexican firms to act as agents, and compiling credit and business information on potential foreign customers.

Note: To telephone Mexico City, dial: 011-52-5 before the number shown below. For contacts in other cities in Mexico, consult the international code listing at the front of your local telephone directory for the appropriate regional codes or contact the international operator.

## Commercial Division The Embassy of Canada in Mexico

Schiller No. 529 Col. Polanco Apartado Postal 105-05 11560 México, D.F. México

Tel.: 724-7900 Fax: 724-7982

#### **Canadian Business Centre**

Centro Canadiense de Negocios Av. Ejército Nacional No. 926 Col. Polanco 11540 México, D.F.

México Tel.: 580-1176 Fax: 580-4494

### **Canadian Consulate**

Edificio Kalos, Piso C-1 Local 108 A Zaragoza y Constitución 64000 Monterrey, Nuevo León México

Tel.: 344-3200 Fax: 344-3048

**International Trade Centres** have been established across the country as a convenient point of contact to support the exporting efforts of Canadian firms. Co-located with the regional offices of Industry Canada (IC), the centres operate under the guidance of DFAIT and all have resident Trade Commissioners. They help companies determine whether or not they are ready to export; assist firms with marketing research and market planning; provide access to government programs designed to promote exports; and arrange for assistance from the Trade Development Division in Ottawa and trade officers abroad. Contact the International Trade Centre nearest you.

The World Information Network for Exports (WIN Exports) is a computer-based information system designed by DFAIT to help Canada's trade development officers abroad match foreign needs to the capabilities, experience and interests of more than 30,000 Canadian exporters. To register on WIN Exports, call: (613) 996-5701.

The Market Intelligence Service provides Canadian business with detailed market information on a product-specific basis. The service assists Canadian companies in the exploitation of domestic, export, technology transfer, and new manufacturing investment opportunities. The intelligence is used by Canadian business in decisions regarding manufacturing, product development, marketing, and market expansion. The information includes values, volume and unit price of imports, characteristics of specific imports (e.g. material, grade, price, range, etc.), names of importers, major countries of export, identification of foreign exporters to Canada, Canadian production, Canadian exports, and U.S. imports. Two-thirds of the clientele for this service are small businesses. Call: (613) 954-4970.

# Canadian International Development Agency

An important possible source of financing for Canadian ventures in Mexico is the special fund available through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) under the Industrial Cooperation Program or CIDA/INC. CIDA's Industrial Cooperation Program provides financial contributions to stimulate Canadian private-sector involvement in developing countries by supporting long-term business relationships such as joint ventures and licencing arrangements. INC supports the development of linkages with the private sector in Mexico encouraging Canadian enterprises to share their skills and experiences with partners in Mexico, and other countries. A series of INC mechanisms help enterprises to establish mutually beneficial collaborative arrangements for the transfer of technology and the creation of employment.