

## STUDENT COUNSEL- LING IN SINGAPORE

With over 65 universities and colleges, the choice facing students who wish to study in Canada can be daunting. To assist students in Singapore who wish to pursue educational opportunities in Canada, the High Commission has expanded its student counselling services. On the first and third Wednesday afternoon of each month, over 50 students, often accompanied by their parents, participate in education seminars held at the High Commission's offices.

The sessions, conducted by a Canadian Social Affairs officer, give an overview of Canada's education system, and provide a forum for students to discuss proposed courses of study, the facilities available at the various institutions, student life in Canada and the costs involved. Resource material such as university calendars are also available for consultation.

Visits by Canadian academics have given the counselling sessions a new dimension. In July, Dr David

## \$14M Textbook Paper Grant for the Philippines

Canada recently became the first donor to respond to the needs of the Philippines' new four-year Secondary Education Development Program (SEDP), scheduled to be implemented in 1989.

Under the Commodity Assistance Program of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Canada will provide \$14 million worth of textbook paper which is expected to cover the SEDP's requirements for the first two years.

In presenting the first shipment of the Canadian textbook paper at a ceremony with Secretary Lourdes Quisumbing of the Philippines' Department of Education, Culture and Sports, Canadian Ambassador Russell Davidson expressed Canada's pride "in being associated with this program which should be an important factor in meeting the development goals of the Philippines."

*Mr Davidson turns over the first instalment of textbook paper to Secretary Quisumbing.*



*Social Affairs Officer Thomas de Wolfe leads a student counselling seminar at the Canadian High Commission in Singapore.*

Strangway, President of the University of British Columbia, addressed over 90 students. His encouraging words about Canada and the University of British Columbia left the participants with a very positive impression.

Another popular speaker was

James Daly, Director of Private Funding at the University of Manitoba. While dispelling myths about Manitoba's cold winter took some doing, Mr Daly succeeded in convincing those present that the University warmly welcomed and appreciated foreign students.

The Canadian Alumni Association is also contributing to this successful initiative. Singaporean graduates from Canadian universities have volunteered to give a first-hand account of their experiences in Canada, and to answer questions from the audience.

More than 1,600 Singaporean students are taking advantage of Canada's comparatively low education costs to further their studies in Canada. On their return, they have been very successful in their careers in public service and the private sector. The friendships they made and the business links they established have contributed immeasurably to the warm relations between the two countries. The Government of Canada continues its vigorous support of the foreign student program.