

Media Advisory

March 26, 2007
No. A/19

MINISTER EMERSON AND RUSSIAN AGRICULTURE MINISTER GORDEYEV TO DISCUSS ENHANCING TRADE AND INVESTMENT

The Honourable David Emerson, Minister of International Trade, and Alexei Gordeyev, Minister of Agriculture of the Russian Federation, will co-chair the Sixth Session of the Canada-Russia Intergovernmental Economic Commission (IEC) in Ottawa on March 27, 2007.

For the first time, the session of the IEC will be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Canada-Russia Business Council under the theme "Partners, Progress and Prospects." The combined meetings, designated as the Canada-Russia Business Summit, will provide an opportunity for business communities from both countries to discuss ways to boost bilateral commercial relations. Participants in the meetings will include senior government officials and leading representatives of both countries' business communities.

Vladislav Tretiak, Russian chair of the Canada-Russia Parliamentary Friendship Group and famed hockey goaltender, will be a key participant in the Canada-Russia Business Summit.

Two-way trade between Canada and Russia exceeded \$2.25 billion in 2006, and Canadian exports to Russia increased 54 percent to \$870 million. Canada's top exports to Russia include machinery, meats and vehicles.

Media representatives are invited to the opening remarks of the IEC meeting by Ministers Emerson and Gordeyev. The ministers will hold a media availability session following the IEC meeting.

Event: Opening remarks from Ministers Emerson and Gordeyev
Date: Tuesday, March 27, 2007
Time: 9:30 a.m. EDT
Location: Robertson Room
Main Floor, Lester B. Pearson Building
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario

