

importance to us. But let me make it perfectly clear — if it isn't already clear — that nothing we do with our neighbour to the south will in any way affect our trading efforts, or our trading relationships, in any other part of the world. We have launched a major initiative to expand our trade around the Pacific Rim, and the Pacific starts with Japan.

Here are some of the things we have in mind. The federal government, working with the business community and provincial governments, will undertake several new initiatives this year to encourage and assist cooperation, particularly in the manufacturing sector, between Canadian and Japanese companies. These initiatives include new trade promotion activities to create joint Canadian and Japanese marketing activities in the North American, Japanese and third country markets.

We have also made several specific decisions aimed at strengthening the trade and economic relationships between our two countries. Two weeks ago, I announced the opening of a consulate general in Osaka. This office will be in operation before the end of the year. The Osaka opening can be seen not simply in the context of our

bilateral relations with Japan. It is also part of the implementation of our national trade strategy — with its particular focus on Asia, the Pacific and the United States.

During the month of November alone, missions to Japan, jointly sponsored by my Department and the Department of Regional Industrial Expansion, will include 40 Canadian auto parts companies, 16 manufacturers of industrial materials and 10 large scale users of robotic manufacturing systems. Later this year and early in 1986, missions in other sectors, including biotechnology, micro-electronics and space industries, will take place with the full cooperation of Japanese government authorities.

We are, I believe, moving firmly in the right direction.

May I once again congratulate the organizers of today's Dialogue and wish them as much success in future years as they have had today. May I also wish you, the participants, well in your efforts to achieve a goal that is common to the private and public sectors in both Canada and Japan. That goal is the theme of this Dialogue: "Opening Canadian and Japanese Markets.

Thank you.