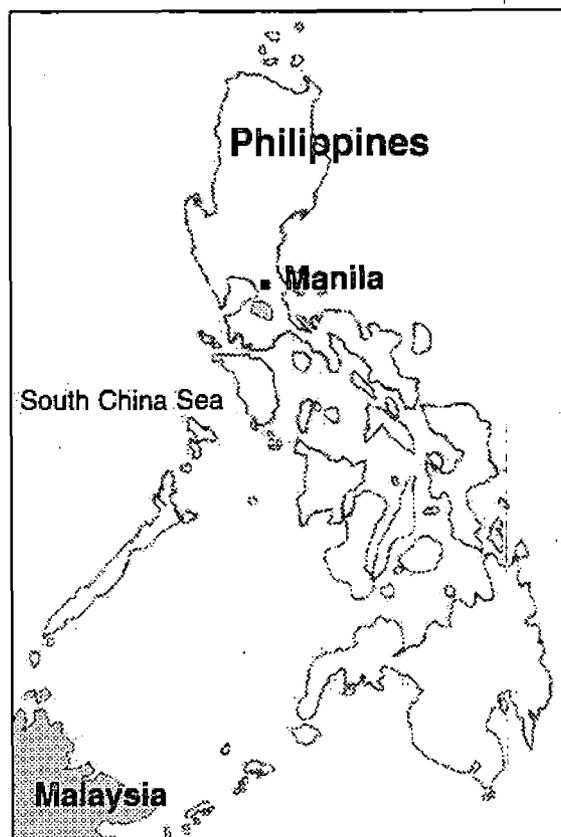




CANADA-PHILIPPINES RELATIONS

Bilateral

- Bilateral relations are strong and friendly. One of the first countries to recognize the Aquino government, and the first to extend export credits, Canada has been very supportive of President Ramos' efforts to bring about economic growth and political stability.
- Canada and the Philippines work closely together in a number of multilateral fora including the United Nations, its specialized agencies and the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC).
- Canada has targeted the Philippines as a priority country for development assistance, approving in 1986 an allocation of \$100 million over five years, and repeating that commitment in 1989. On average, yearly disbursements totalled \$24 million over the past few years, for projects designed to strengthen key public and private institutions.
- Immigration remains an important part of bilateral relations; in 1993, the Philippines moved to third place globally as a source of immigrants to Canada. It has also been significant to Canadian immigration as a country of first asylum for Indochinese boat people.



Trade and Investment

- Trade between Canada and the Philippines has almost tripled since 1985, reaching \$578.3 million in 1993. Canadian exports rose from \$45 million in 1985 to \$192.7 million in 1993. Imports during the same period increased from \$109 million to \$385.6 million.
- Canadian exports have traditionally been dominated by agricultural and resource commodities. Telecommunications, transportation, environmental management, education, mining and power now constitute the major areas of commercial interest for Canada.
- Half of Canada's imports consist of textiles and clothing, and of agricultural and fish products. Imports have recently diversified to include electronics.
- With Canadian investment in the Philippines at about \$90 million, Canada ranks 15th as a source of foreign investment in the Philippines. Major investors include Sun Life, the Bank of Nova Scotia, Placer Dome and BC Packers.

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