

Canada–Dominican Republic Relations

- Diplomatic relations were established between Canada and the Dominican Republic in 1954. Canada maintains an embassy in Santo Domingo and a consulate in Puerto Plata. The Dominican Republic has an embassy in Ottawa and consulates in Montreal and Toronto.
- Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and President Hipólito Mejía have met five times, most recently during the President's visit to Ottawa in November 2002. The two leaders met first in 2000 at the Canada–Central America Summit in Guatemala, and next met at the Summit of the Americas in 2001. In March 2002, they both attended the International Conference on Financing for Development in Monterrey, Mexico, and in September 2002, the two leaders met briefly during a memorial service in New York City following the Sept. 11 attack on the United States.
- Canada and the Dominican Republic co-operate in international forums, including the Organization of American States (through which both participate in the Group of Friends of Haiti), the Inter-American Development Bank, and the World Trade Organization.

Trade and investment

- With a population of 8.9 million people, the Dominican Republic is the fourth largest market in the Caribbean for Canadian exports, and one of the fastest growing importers in that region.
- Two-way trade in 2002 was nearly \$245 million, a 20 per cent increase since 2001.
- Canada's imports from the Dominican Republic totalled nearly \$118 million in 2002 and included electrical equipment, cocoa beans, apparel, electrical medical instruments and appliances, textile articles, and fruit. Canadian exports totalled \$127 million in 2002. These included circuit boards, newsprint, fish, milk and cream (concentrated or as powder), malt, fertilizers, and wheat.
- Attracted by the Dominican Republic's stable political environment and higher-than-average economic growth rate, Canadian companies are increasingly exporting and investing in the areas of mining, banking, tourism, construction, and telecommunications.
- The Dominican Republic is a major tourist destination for Canadians, with over 300,000 visitors in 2002 — up 28 per cent since 2000. This trend is expected to continue in 2003.