

both through departmental resources and resources available through CIDA's Management for Change Program. Technical assistance was provided in 1984 in the area of indirect tax administration methods and procedures within the context of the Canada-ASEAN Co-operation Agreement. Subsequently, Revenue Canada provided technical expertise to the Thai Department of Excise in the areas of operation and administration and laboratory services.

In addition to strongly promoting gender and environmental issues, the framework for co-operation will involve good governance and human rights issues. Seminars on these topics will be held in collaboration with the Canadian Institute on Governance.

5.3 Provincial Co-operation

Provincial initiatives in Thailand have mostly taken the form of trade missions, often with the participation of ministers.

British Columbia's interest has so far focused on housing and agri-business and more recently, efforts have been directed at establishing educational links between Thailand and the province. The B.C. Ministry of Education has developed in conjunction with officials at St. John's College in Bangkok, a program whereby four B.C. Secondary school students study at the school for 3 months. In 1991, a 4 week summer school program was established at Chulalongkorn University. Thailand participated as feature country in the Pacific National Exhibition held in August and September 1990 in Vancouver.

Alberta has been one of the more active provinces in Thailand with regular ministerial visits and trade missions. Education co-operation at the post-secondary level between Alberta and Thailand also dates back more than 20 years. The Alberta Government has made technical expertise available to Thailand in the area of telecommunications through Alberta Telecommunications International, and in the oil and gas sector. In particular, the Ministry of Economic Development in collaboration with PCIAC has funded sessions for Thai professionals at the Alberta Summer Institute for Petroleum Industry Development. A total of 22 professionals have participated in this program since 1983. The Alberta government has also provided funding to Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok for its Canadian Studies Program. A number of colleges and universities in the province are also involved in collaborative projects with

institutions in Thailand and provide technical expertise and training. In the area of development assistance, the Alberta government has provided grants totalling approximately \$0.6 million since 1982 to fund rural development projects in Thailand through matching grants from non-governmental organizations.

The province of Saskatchewan has undertaken various activities in Thailand through their Hong Kong office. Minister of Trade and Investment Robert Andrew visited Thailand in February 1989. The province intends to increase attention in the short-term to trade opportunities in Thailand, initially in the area of potash. The Saskatchewan Research Council and the University of Saskatchewan are associated with the Thai Department of Industrial Promotion and a local firm in a project involving the transfer of technology and expertise to small and medium-sized enterprises in Thailand.

Ontario has undertaken general agricultural trade missions to Thailand as well as sponsoring incoming missions in specialized fields (i.e. live-stock). Hydro Ontario has an active co-operation agreement with the Electrical Generating Authority of Thailand. The agreement provides for the transfer of technology and technical expertise and other commercial endeavours. Ontario's interests in Thailand are covered by an Ontario trade and investment advisor located in Bangkok. Several major projects are underway in Thailand developed by Ontario architectural firms. Canada's foremost national exhibition, the CNE, featured Thailand as its guest nation in August 1989.

The province of Québec has also been very active in Thailand, sponsoring on average two trade missions each year and providing financial assistance to a number of companies interested in marketing their products and expertise in Thailand. The Institut de recherche en électricité du Québec has a co-operation agreement in place with the Electrical Generating Authority of Thailand similar to that of Hydro-Ontario. The Québec government is also offering a few merit scholarships to Thai students in areas of scientific or economic co-operation. In addition, an exemption on differential fees to be granted to 10 Thai students attending Québec universities has been arranged. Finally, a number of co-operative research projects are under way between universities in Québec and Thailand in the areas of humanities, medical sciences and nutrition.