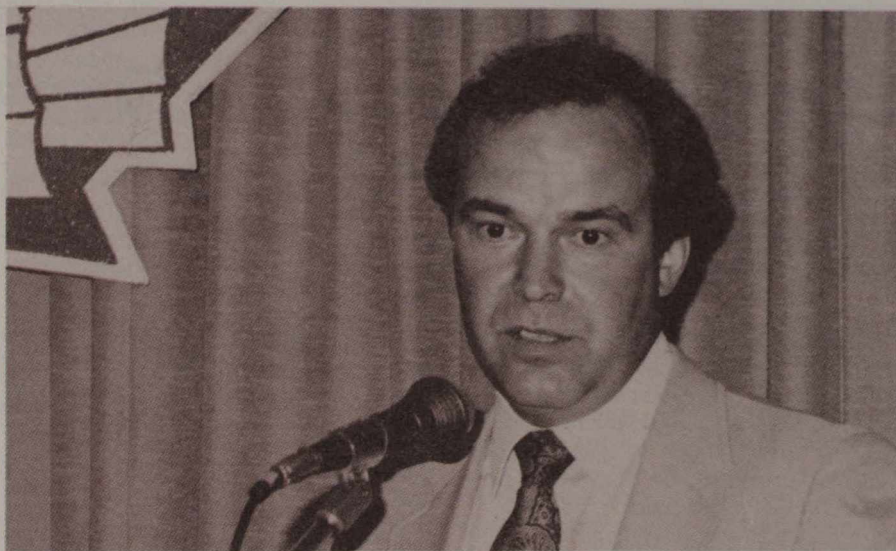


# Saskatchewan Offers Food and Technology



*Grant Devine, the Premier of Saskatchewan.*

**S**askatchewan province in Canada plans to sell more food and technology to Hongkong to improve its trade balance.

This was stated by the Premier of Saskatchewan, Mr. Grant Devine.

Among many items, he expressed keen interest in selling Canadian beef which he described as "high texture and not grass-fed beef."

Canada is suffering from a significant deficit in its trade with Hongkong.

Last year, Hongkong imported HK\$1,120 million worth of products from Canada while total exports from Hongkong to Canada including re-exports totalled \$2,994 million.

Mr. Devine said he was exploring opportunities to expand trade and develop joint ventures with Hongkong, but he declined to disclose details.

He said that there was "considerable interest" in Hongkong to consume more products of Saskatchewan, to invest in Saskatchewan and to develop joint ventures in both areas.

Switching to his China trip, Mr. Devine said he was negotiating twinning arrangements with the Jilin province in North-eastern China.

He added that Saskatchewan was trying to find out the market potential of Jilin and plans to sell technology and machineries.

He hoped officials from Changchun, Jilin's capital city, would visit Saskatchewan early next year and hopefully the twinning arrangement could be formalised by that time.

In addition, he said Saskatchewan's three-year potash agreement with China would come to an end this year and they were negotiating a new contract.

Saskatchewan sold about 700,000 tons of potash to China per year and Mr. Devine said they were aiming for more.

He said some of his delegates were still in China studying areas of possible co-operation with Jilin.

Saskatchewan could help Jilin in the areas of rural electrification, communication, vegetable production, health care technology and possibly heavy oil processing, he said.

In addition, he said he was optimistic about Hongkong's future although he had not discussed the 1997 issue with senior Chinese officials.

He said he saw no reason why foreigners would not invest in Hongkong when they were pumping hundreds of millions of dollars into China.

Grant Devine was elected leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Saskatchewan in 1979 and became Premier of Saskatchewan on April 26, 1982.

Mr. Devine was born in Regina, Saskatchewan in 1944 and attended the Universities of Saskatchewan and Alberta where he studied agricultural science and business administration. In 1976 he obtained a Doctorate in agricultural economics at Ohio State University. He has been actively involved in a family farm and taught agricultural economics at the University of Saskatchewan.

The Province of Saskatchewan is the

middle province of Canada's three prairie provinces. It is bordered by Manitoba on the east and Alberta on the west. Today, Saskatchewan's economic structure is undergoing profound changes. From an agricultural economy, it is changing to one in which non-agricultural industries contribute over 50 percent of the Province's commodity production. Still, agriculture remains the largest single industry.

Changes were brought by the discovery of oil in the post-war era followed by the discovery of potash, (50 percent of known world reserves), helium, uranium and by the production of natural gas. Diversification of Saskatchewan's economy was also enhanced considerably by the service and the manufacturing sectors, particularly in food processing, farm machinery and oil-related manufacturing facilities.

Saskatchewan is Canada's only province where the majority of the population does not have British or French cultural backgrounds. The population of 981,000 in 1982 has a variety of ethnic inheritances — German, Ukrainian, Scandinavian, Native Indian, Dutch, Polish and Russian as well as British and French. ■

## COVER STORY

# Canada's New Trade Policy Highlighted

*By Gerald Regan*

**I**t gives me the greatest pleasure to be able to take this opportunity to address you following my May visit to the colony.

I must say that I find the appearance of this newsletter's first issue to be well-timed indeed, coming, as it does, so soon on the heels of my Governments issuing a master trade policy paper which outlines the

framework which will guide our trade relations through this decade.

Before saying a few words about the policy itself, I would like to say that I think it is one which you will find easy to understand and that it is one with which you would agree.

While it does call for increased ties with