

Mr. MacLaren will meet Australian Trade Minister Bob McMullan, Defence Minister Robert Ray and Canadian and Australian business people. He will also speak to business and general audiences in Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra.

Mr. MacLaren will be pursuing similar objectives in New Zealand where he will meet with Prime Minister Jim Bolger, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister Don McKinnon, Minister of Trade Negotiations Philip Burdon and Business Development Minister Roger Maxwell.

"Canada and New Zealand have a healthy, long-standing economic relationship. We wish to build on its strengths," Mr. MacLaren said. "In addition to existing trade in agricultural and manufactured goods, we can enhance trade and investment flows in such areas as telecommunications, informatics and environmental services."

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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