

Banking in southern China

Bank of Montreal has announced that its new representative office in Guangzhou is now open for business. The new office will allow Bank of Montreal to provide support to customers conducting business in southern China.

The bank's senior representative for Guangzhou is Roger Heng, and the assistant to the representative is Qu Liang.

"We see this as an important step in meeting our commitment to serve our customers' needs in this rapidly growing economy," said Matthew Barrett, the bank's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. "Having a Bank of Montreal presence in Guangdong province will allow us to respond quickly to these needs whenever they arise."

Bank of Montreal now has seven offices in the Asia-Pacific region.

Canadian-based law firm sets up office in Shanghai

Chamber member Boughton Peterson Yang Anderson is the only Canadian-based law firm to receive permission to establish an office in the People's Republic of China. The firm, which is based in Vancouver and is affiliated with Aird & Berlis of Toronto, is one of only 41 foreign firms now approved by the Chinese authorities.

Senator Jack Austin, P.C., Q.C. from the firm's Vancouver office, and Victor Yang, from the firm's Hong Kong office, recently attended a ceremony in Beijing where they accepted the approval certificate from the Chinese Minister of Justice on behalf of Boughton Peterson Yang Anderson.

Senator Austin, recently appointed as president of the Canada-China Trade Council, said he has had a long-standing interest in international trade relations between Canada and Asia. "China is creating a positive climate for companies to do business, including offering attractive tax incentives," he said. "And the licensing of a Canadian law firm shows their commitment to strengthening Canada-China trade relations."

"There's tremendous potential for Canada and China to work together for each country's mutual benefit and we're pleased for the opportunity to be in a position to help make that happen," added Austin.

The firm has selected Shanghai as the location for its China office.

Manulife chief resigns



Mr. Thomas Di Giacomo

Thomas Di Giacomo has resigned as the Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Manulife Financial. Di Giacomo, 51, will pursue other interests in the international finance community.

On an interim basis, two board members will carry out the duties vacated by Di Giacomo, who worked for Manulife for 25 years.

Manulife Financial is the 39th largest life insurance company in the world. It has extensive operations in North America, United Kingdom and Asia Pacific, where it began operations in Hong Kong 97 years ago.

Lam joins AT Kearney

A T Kearney has announced the election of Lee G Lam as Vice President for China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Lam will be based in Hong Kong where the firm's regional headquarters for greater China and Asia are located. AT Kearney is one of the world's oldest and largest international management consulting firms.

Lam has taken over responsibility for developing A T Kearney's rapidly growing

business in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, with particular reference to the telecommunications and hi-tech industries. Lam is the youngest partner in A T Kearney's worldwide operations.

Before joining A T Kearney, Lam was Hongkong Telecom's General Manager of Business Sales. Lam, an overseas Chinese born in Vietnam, is a Canadian citizen who started his career with Bell Canada.

Bonus programme between Santa Fe and Canadian Airlines

A new offer by AMJ Campbell International (the Canadian affiliate of Santa Fe Transport International) can earn you additional Canadian Plus points when you move to Canada with Santa Fe and fly with Canadian Airlines.

Anyone who chooses to take advantage of this "Move and Fly" programme will automatically be accepted into the Canadian Plus Frequent Flyer Programme. Any points earned will be in addition to those customers would normally earn by flying with Canadian Airlines.

For more information please call the Santa Fe office at 574-6204.



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Dubbed CallFax, there are two ways customers can use the service.