

## News briefs

Canada will offer two grants totalling \$140 000 to the League of Red Cross Societies to support their efforts on behalf of displaced persons and refugees in Uganda and Sudan. The funds will be provided through the Canadian International Development Agency. In Uganda, as many as 100 000 persons have left their homes following recent violent disturbances in the Luwero region and now live in 16 temporary camps with little food or water. There is also need for an assistance program for returnees and displaced persons in the west-Nile region and along the Uganda-Rwanda border. In Sudan, between 40 000-50 000 refugees are settled in camps near the eastern town of Kassala, and more than 40 000 refugees have entered southern Sudan during the second half of 1982.

The Ontario government is establishing an Export Success Fund, initially set at \$1 million, and hopes to raise the level of exports by \$20 million. The fund will subsidize the efforts of Ontario companies to open new markets abroad. Also, three new offices will be opened in the United States — in Boston, Philadelphia and San Francisco — devoted to trade development and attracting new investment.

Three companies have announced a joint investment of \$300 million over the next five years to explore for gas and oil off Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. Aberford Resources Ltd. of Calgary, Alberta, Denison Mines Ltd. of Toronto and the Quebec crown corporation Soquip Ltée. have each committed \$100 million. The joint venture is to be called PAREX (Partners in Atlantic Exploration).

Canada will be among some 80 countries participating in the world's largest food exhibition, *Anuga*. The show is being held in Cologne, West Germany, October 15-20. More than half-a-million visitors are expected to attend.

Marion Macpherson, formerly Ambassador to Denmark, has been appointed deputy commandant of the National Defence College at Kingston. She is the first woman to hold the post. Miss Macpherson, who joined the Department of External Affairs in 1948, has served in Washington, Indochina, Accra and New York. In 1973, she was named High Commissioner to Sri Lanka and in 1976 became Consul General in Boston. She took up her post as Ambassador to Denmark in 1979.



Flower power: This young girl is dwarfed by a giant sunflower growing beside her home in Ottawa, Ontario.

Canada has been chosen as one of 21 vice-presidents of the current session of the United Nations General Assembly. Canada and Belgium were elected unopposed as vice-presidents representing Western nations and will sit on a 29-member steering committee which will debate the scheduling of the 142 items on the agenda for the current session.

Miller Communications Systems of Kanata, Ontario, in conjunction with Decca Electronics Ltd. of Britain, has been awarded a \$215 000 (US) contract by the International Maritime Satellite Organization. The work is aimed at studying certain technical aspects of providing aeronautical communications via the Inmarsat system. Inmarsat, a London-based organization of 39 countries, provides satellite communications to the worldwide shipping and offshore industries.

Bow Valley Industries and two subsidiaries have developed a movable, all-year drilling facility to explore for oil and gas in the Beaufort Sea and elsewhere. The parent company and subsidiaries, Bow Valley Resource Services and Canarctic Ventures Ltd., have formed a joint venture, Bow Arctic Resources, to market what is called a "mobile Arctic island". Using reinforced surplus super-tankers as the basic building blocks, the platforms could be used in any shallow offshore area. The mobile islands will cost about \$100 million, or about half the cost of an artificial island. The super-tanker storage capacity would allow sustained testing of oil wells and even more production from smaller wells.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has renewed a line of credit agreement now valued at \$3 million (US) with Banco de Bogotá, Colombia to assist Canadian exporters competing for sales in Colombia by providing their buyers with an easily accessible credit facility through the bank. The original line of credit, signed in 1982, resulted in approved allocations totalling \$1.1 million (US).

An idea for breeding new strains of seed barley has won crop scientist Kenneth Kasha the Ernest C. Manning Foundation's 1983 award for Canadian innovators. Mr. Kasha, 50, a Lacombe, Alberta native, now with the crop science department at the University of Guelph, wins a \$75 000 cash award for his technique of cross-breeding domestic and wild barley species so new strains can be developed in half the time previously required. The Manning foundation was established in 1980 to promote the recognition and encouragement of innovative people in Canada. The national, non-profit foundation is funded by contributions from individuals and corporations from across Canada.

*Canada Weekly* is published by the Public Affairs Branch, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa K1A 0G2.

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*Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.*

*Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiero de Canadá.*

*Alguns artigos desta publicação são também editados em português sob o título Notícias do Canadá.*

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