

Movement of People

The Office of Tourism of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce stands ready to co-operate with the authorities responsible for tourism in Latin American countries with regard to ways and means of increasing the number of Canadian visitors to these countries. In the reverse direction, the Canadian Government Travel Bureau has plans for increasing the number of Latin Americans coming to Canada as tourists.

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Faced with a choice between letting Canada's relations with Latin America grow at their present rate, undertaking a systematic strengthening of those relations bilaterally and through the agencies of the Inter-American System and the UN, and joining the OAS as a full member now, the Government has decided to follow the middle course. This will permit Canada's relations with the countries of Latin America to develop rapidly and, by improving Canadian knowledge and understanding of those countries and their regional institutions, prepare for a better-informed and more useful Canadian participation as a full member of the OAS should Canada, at some future date, opt for full participation.

To facilitate this process and to enable the Canadian Government to follow developments of interest to it on a systematic basis, it is intended that, if the OAS member countries agree, a formal link between Canada and the OAS countries will be established at a suitable level. The establishment of such a link would also seem justified by the degree of Canadian participation in the work of the OAS bodies which is now contemplated. An appointed representative of the Canadian Government would arrange for Canadian attendance at meetings of inter-American bodies in which Canada has an interest and at which Canadian attendance would be appropriate, and he would generally concern himself with all aspects of inter-American affairs which are of interest to the Canadian Government.