

Potential students will be matched with the Canadian educational facility that will best meet their needs. The project's main goals are to increase the pool of well-educated personnel in Asia, to train people and to give them the skills and abilities to help their nations' economies grow. It will also stimulate further co-operation in education and help in the exchange of faculty and students between the region and Canada.

The Centres will be founded on cost recoverable principles and be administered jointly by the Asia-Pacific Foundation of Canada, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Canadian International Development Agency and the Department of Citizenship and Immigration.

The Council of Provincial Ministers of Education have indicated that "...in principle, the ministries and departments responsible for education in Canada are supportive of the concept of the Canadian Education Information Centres and the approach being taken." The Association of Universities and Canadian Colleges has expressed its support for the initiative as well.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the February 1994 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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