

We have supported missions by provincial premiers and ministers, as well as missions by mayors of large cities. For example, Premier Vander Zalm and Mayor Campbell recently completed such visits.

I have been to Japan, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand and Indonesia in efforts to eliminate barriers to our exports and to promote investment in Canada.

We have taken a number of important initiatives for Asia-Pacific trade under our National Trade Strategy. For example:

- We have earmarked \$37.5 million for business development;
- We have opened new trade offices in Auckland, Bombay, Shanghai and Osaka; and
- We have doubled the number of trade officers in Beijing, have added a technology development officer and investment counsellor to our embassy in Tokyo, and an investment specialist in Hong Kong.

But that is not all.

Under the Industrial Co-operation Agreement, which we signed with Japan in 1985, we introduced the Technology Awareness and Acquisition Project. We have co-operated with about 2,000 Canadian companies, trade associations and the provincial governments to support business missions in the areas of advanced industrial materials, space, microelectronics, advanced manufacturing technology and biotechnology.

Later this month, my department will release several surveys on markets in South East Asia for products in which Canadian companies are competitive. We will also carry out a detailed study of new business opportunities in Japan in collaboration with the Canada-Japan Businessmen's Co-operation Committee.

We realize that good personal contacts are essential to business ventures in the Asia-Pacific Region. To that end, we have provided financial backing to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce to develop six bilateral business associations in Asia and to assist the Canadian Committee of the Pacific Basin Economic Council.

We are also supporting initiatives by the Asia Pacific Foundation and the Asia Pacific Initiatives Advisory Committee, both in Vancouver.

Coming soon is Canada Week in Korea from March 14 to 18. And, we will be participating in the World's Fair in Brisbane,