

## **Canada-Hong Kong Relations**

### **Bilateral**

- In July 1997, the territory of Hong Kong will revert to Chinese sovereignty and is expected to maintain its role as the business centre for all of South China. Canada is committed to supporting Hong Kong during the period of transition leading up to 1997 and to helping ensure its long-term stability and prosperity.
- A number of high-level visits to Hong Kong have taken place over the last year, including visits by: Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan in December 1993, Governor General Ramon Hnatyshyn in April and May 1994, Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet in August 1994, and, currently, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien in November 1994.
- Canada and Hong Kong enjoy close relations. Historical, trade and family ties are building bridges and contributing to prosperity in both Canada and Hong Kong.
- Hong Kong is a major source of immigration and investment for Canada. More than 30,000 immigrant visas were issued in Hong Kong in 1993.
- Hong Kong students are the largest portion of the international student population in Canada.
- Some 35,000 to 50,000 Canadians live in the territory, most of them of Hong Kong origin.

### **Trade and Investment**

- Trade relations between Canada and Hong Kong are healthy. Extensive commercial links include the presence of more than 75 Canadian corporations, all major Canadian chartered banks, and several insurance companies. Bilateral trade peaked at \$1.9 billion in 1993.
- In 1993, Canadian exports to Hong Kong totalled \$760 million. Imports to Canada from Hong Kong totalled \$1.2 billion.
- Cumulative Canadian direct investment in Hong Kong was valued at \$805 million at the end of 1992.