

consortia, licensing and technology transfer, as well as scientific co-operation.

Under the agreement, a joint co-operation committee meets annually to review the various activities already in motion and those envisaged for the future. The agreement is likely to take on added importance as the Community moves to unify its market, allowing Canada a unique avenue for discussing economic concerns and participating in economic developments in Europe.

The 1976 framework agreement has made possible science and technology (S&T) co-operation between Canada and the EC. As part of this on-going co-operation, memoranda of understanding have been signed in the following areas:

- radioactive waste management (1980)
- wastewater treatment (1983)
- medical and public health research (1984)
- thermonuclear fusion (1986)
- raw materials (1987)
- health and environmental effects of radiation (1987)
- thermonuclear fusion (1988) within the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) project

These memoranda make possible the exchange of scientific and technical information and of researchers — for example, Canada is very active in the EC fusion program and is considering an increased participation. EC fusion research teams already have Canadian members, and contracts have been awarded to Canadian firms because of their expertise.

Canada is exploring the possibility of formalizing its S&T co-operation with the European Community through the negotiation of a separate framework S&T agreement that would give Canadian interests access to a number of research fields, including the environment, non-nuclear energy sources, biotechnology, telecommunications and information technologies, and advanced materials research.

What is Europe 1992?

“Europe 1992,” or the Single Market Program, aims to sweep away the remaining restrictions on the movement of goods, capital, services and workers to make the EC a truly unified common market. The ambitious undertaking began with a 1985 White Paper that outlined close to 300 pieces of legislation that would need to be passed to completely liberalize trade. These included measures to reduce (1) physical barriers (border customs and immigration controls), (2) technical barriers (technical standards, health and safety requirements, lack of mobility for workers and professionals, etc.), and (3) fiscal barriers, such as different rates of value-added tax in different member states.

As an example of how removing barriers is resulting in increased efficiency, in 1988 a “Single Administrative Document” was introduced to replace the up to 70 forms previously required by truck drivers crossing internal EC borders.

A report by the EC predicts that, provided the entire Single Market Program is implemented, the benefits could mean an incremental of 5 per cent increase in GDP and two to five million new jobs over a five-year period.