

forces, and a participant in regional groups, such as the Association of South East Asian Nations Regional Forum, which deals with security issues.

- Canada is represented in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Chongqing and Hong Kong. China has missions in Ottawa, Vancouver, Toronto and Calgary.

Trade and Investment

- China remains a priority market for Canadian exporters. Canada has worked closely with the private sector and other levels of government to support Canadian companies in the China market.
- Canadian and Chinese leaders have met at least once each year since the Team Canada mission to China in 1994. As well, several federal ministers and provincial premiers have visited China, and Chinese governors have come to Canada. Most recently, the Prime Minister, the Minister for International Trade, and the Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) attended the Canada China Business Council's annual general meeting in November 1998 in Beijing.
- Canada's 1998 trade plan focuses on China's rapidly emerging regional markets and trade sectors. In line with the plan, Canada's Minister for International Trade and the Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) led four trade missions during 1998 to explore opportunities on the coast and in the interior.
- Two-way trade more than doubled in the 1991-98 period, reaching about \$9.8 billion in 1998. Canada exported \$2.1 billion in goods to China in 1998.
- While the Asian financial crisis has affected its neighbours, the market for Canadian exports to China remains relatively strong; Canada's 1998 exports declined 9.6 per cent over 1997, compared to declines of 40.8 per cent for Korea and 25.8 per cent for Japan. In 1997, there was a drop of about 25 per cent in Canadian exports to China, which was consistent with most of Canada's major competitors — the United States, the European Union, Australia and New Zealand. In all cases, the largest decline was in commodities.
- Wood pulp, fertilizers, grains, seeds, and fruit currently make up 48.2 per cent of Canada's total exports to China. Sales of Canadian aircraft and related parts increased 125 per cent in 1997-98.