

## SPAIN AT A GLANCE

### *Spain-Canada Relations:*

- Canada and **Spain** have similar concerns on major international issues and closely cooperate within various international institutions.
- Investments between the two countries have quadrupled over the last five years.
- Bilateral trade between **Spain** and Canada is increasing, but is still far from reaching its full potential. Trade cooperation between Canadian and Spanish companies in Latin America is also becoming increasingly common.
- The November 2003 visit to Canada by **Spain's** former First Vice-President and Minister of the Economy, accompanied by a high-level business delegation, was very successful.
- Bilateral relations in the area of science and technology are outstanding. Contacts and institutional cooperation in this field have become greatly enhanced.
- Canada and **Spain** share a similar, although not identical, experience in managing regional diversity. Canada serves as a reference in the Spanish debate on this topic.
- There are more than forty agreements between universities from the two countries, evidence of the ever-growing academic cooperation between **Spain** and Canada.

### *Canada, Spain and the European Union:*

*Many of the themes in the Canada-European Union Partnership Agenda also lend themselves to Spain-Canada cooperation. Possible examples:*

- Combatting terrorism is the top priority of the Spanish government. Canada has also committed to making efforts to combat terrorist activities. Both countries are key partners in advancing the fight against international terrorism.
- Currently, Canada-**Spain** fishing relations are based on constructive and pragmatic cooperation in scientific, economic and environmental fields.
- Canada and **Spain** would like to promote youth mobility to enable young Canadians and Spaniards to embark on extended stays in the other country.
- Canada's experience in terms of immigration and the integration of new immigrants is of considerable interest to **Spain**.
- **Spain** and Canada wish to enhance bilateral trade and investment ties. Canada and the European Union will shortly begin negotiating a Trade and Investment Enhancement Agreement (TIEA), which aims to facilitate the movement of people and capital. We believe that **Spain** and Canada will benefit from this agreement.