

A Road Map to Opportunities in

China and Hong Kong

Dept. of External Affairs Min. des Affaires extérieures OTTAWA

FED 1 2000

RETURN TO DEPARTMENTAL LIBRARY
RETOURNER A LA BIBLIOTHEQUE DU MINISTERE

The following is the first in a series of regular articles on China.

t the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Canada-China Business Council last November, International Trade Minister Pierre Pettigrew announced the release of the year 2000 edition of the China and Hong Kong Trade Action Plan.

This document identifies for Canadian firms the important opportunities, as well as the challenges and constraints, of the Chinese marketplace. It also outlines the services available through Canada's Trade Commissioners in our five missions in the region.

"This is our comprehensive strategy for Canadian commercial partnership in this key region, a strategy which I am confident will bring benefits and success to Canada and to China," Minister Pettigrew said during his keynote address to the AGM.

The Action Plan includes sections

on the business environment, a description of regional markets, sector profiles — agri-food and fisheries, construction, education, electrical power, environment, forestry, information technologies, natural resources

and transportation — a focus on cultural and health

industries and financial services, as well as contacts both in Canada and abroad.

The Trade Action

Plan is updated regularly
following broad public and
private sector consultations.

For more information or to obtain a copy, contact DFAIT's Enquiries Service, tel.: 1-800-267-8376 — (613) 944-4000 in the Ottawa region — fax: (613) 996-9709, e-mail: enqserv@ dfait-maeci.gc.ca. A copy can also be downloaded from the Internet in html or PDF formats at: www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/china/trade-e.asp

Small Miramichi Software Firm Scores Big in First-ever Export... to the U.S.

Vital Knowledge Software Inc. won select vendor status from the New Hampshire Department of Education — beating out 27 American competitors, including Microsoft and IBM.

As a result, the New England state is purchasing US\$200,000 worth of Teachers' Tech Tutor™ — a software package developed by Vital to help

educators understand and apply information technologies in their classrooms.

How does a team of five people, which never before sold its product outside of New Brunswick, get to compete with multinational giants — and win — in the tough U.S. market?

Continued on page 11 - Vital Knowledge