

- (4) There is intrinsic scholarly value in expanding contact. Considering the world-class quality of scholarship and research at the best institutions in Taiwan, and the thousands of Taiwanese students who study abroad each year, Canadian universities and colleges can benefit from expanded exchange of students and faculty as well as research collaboration.
- (5) In view of the constraints of Canada's one-China policy and our substantial relations with the PRC, educational and academic matters are a comparatively safe way of moving ahead on the Taiwan front without jeopardizing other commercial and geo-strategic objectives with respect to mainland China.

PART ONE: PAST AND CURRENT ACADEMIC CONTACTS

HISTORY

Taiwan was first incorporated into China in 1683 as a prefecture of Fujian province. It achieved provincial status 1887. Presbyterian missionaries from Canada began arriving in Taiwan in the 1870s, well before our traders and diplomats. Dr. George Leslie MacKay (1844-1901), the best known of the Canadian missionaries, combined evangelism, medical pioneering, and educational reform in north Taiwan between 1872 and 1901. Less celebrated in Canada than a Norman Bethune or Robert McClure, his memory lives on in Taiwan, most tangibly in the MacKay Memorial Hospital, one of the leading medical institutions in Taipei which also has branch operations in Tamsui and Taitung. Associated with the hospital is one of Taiwan's few nursing schools. MacKay's educational efforts concentrated on theology and the founding of a high school eventually open to both men and women. The current President of the Republic of China, Lee Teng-hui, is an alumnus of the school.

In 1895 Taiwan became a Japanese colony. Fifty years later, after the Japanese surrender in World War II, it was returned to Chinese rule. Canada had recognized the Nationalist government of the Republic of China in the 1920s but did not establish direct diplomatic representation with it until 1943. During and after World War II, Canada provided material support to Chiang Kai-shek's government. Following the Communist victory on the mainland in 1949, the Nationalist government withdrew to the island of Taiwan. Canada continued to recognize Chiang's government and to support its representation in international organizations such as the United Nations until 1970.

Canadian interest in and commitment to the Republic of China on Taiwan was never substantial, even during the twenty-one years of formal diplomatic relations. The ROC government established an embassy in Ottawa and consulates in two other Canadian cities. Canada did not reciprocate, instead handling consular and commercial relations out of the High Commission in Hong Kong. A small trading relationship began in the