

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

After three years, the method of operation of the Board has evolved into a process which appears to be most appropriate for present conditions. The backlog of urgent topics that required prompt attention during the initial period has now been largely dealt with, and during the past year the Board has been able to focus its attention on a more limited number of broader policy issues.

It is expected that this method of operation will continue to be utilized in the coming years, although there will undoubtedly be specific situations which will require immediate attention. The use of sub-committees to address major topics has proven most satisfactory, and this process will be continued. Two day meetings will be held annually in the West and in the East, with the remaining four meetings taking place in a central location.

Important subjects which will be the focus of considerable attention in the coming year include sectoral free trade, liberalization of trade-in-services, the proposed Aid-Trade Fund and the use of Canadian flag vessels for exports. Each of these has the potential of making a significant impact on future trade development, and requires careful study. The Board also considers the coming year to be an appropriate time to re-examine the position of the Trade Ministry within the overall government organizational framework, now that some experience has been gained with the present structure.

The Board continues to seek input from all interested parties on these and any other export related subjects. Presentations by industry groups, provincial governments and others during the last year are listed in Appendix III. Such presentations provide a valuable opportunity for the exchange of information and opinions, and members look forward to a continuation of this process during the coming year.
