

access to the Canadian market. A number of Soviets and Central and East Europeans are currently enrolled in a Government-sponsored entrepreneurial and management training program at York University. Canada has extended a \$500 million line of credit to the Soviet Union. Canada is also participating in the newly established European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

The year has seen an unprecedented number of bilateral visits. The Prime Minister's November 1989 visit to the U.S.S.R., the first by a Canadian Prime Minister in 18 years, culminated in 14 major agreements in areas such as Arctic cooperation and the environment. As well, the appointment of a Canadian Consul-General in Kiev was announced. The Canada-U.S.S.R. Business Council held its first meeting in Moscow during the Prime Minister's visit, and more than 20 commercial agreements were signed. Canada received a wide range of visitors from the region, including Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze in February 1990, and several Foreign Ministers and other Ministers in connection with the Open Skies Conference in Ottawa, also in February. Discussions on each

of these occasions served as important milestones in enhancing respective bilateral relations.

Canada has been an active participant in a number of forums including NATO, the G-7, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), the G-24, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the OECD, in the discussion surrounding the end of East-West relations as known in the post-World War II period. More importantly, Canada is involved in discussions on the creation of a new order in Europe where, as symbolized by the crumbling of the Berlin Wall and the unification of the two Germans, the line between East and West is disappearing.

Trade

The political and economic changes of 1989/90 have revealed unprecedented opportunities for new types of business in the U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe. Canada is actively seeking to expand its trade and economic links in the area through cooperative ventures between the Canadian government and the business community.