environment-friendly goods and technology represents a more specific kind of contribution.

There is a thick literature on the links between trade and the environment. Some environmentalists have argued that freer trade (as promoted in APEC) militates against environmental protection. Free-market believers incline to the argument that trade policy is one thing, environment policy another. But even in APEC, environmental questions are receiving more ministerial time these days. A program of "sustainable cities," intended to remedy some of the ills of Asian urbanization, is on the agenda of APEC's November summit in Vancouver. Is this another case for corporate codes of conduct? What other environmental threats should the Canadian government address in Asia-Pacific? What are the costs it ought to accept?

More to be said, more to be done...

No paper of this kind could lay claim to all the answers, or even all the questions. But the point here is to open discussion, not to close it down. The intention is to foster a debate in which Canadians can form reasoned judgments, and give direction to their government.

Canada is a small country by Asia-Pacific standards, with limited power to act on its own or influence others. But there is no disputing that what happens in Asia-Pacific can have acute and lasting consequences for Canadians. So it comes to this: How best can Canadians, through their government and otherwise, collaborate with Asia-Pacific people