

In just a few short months, the Task Force has undertaken consultations with the following groups:

Canadian Chamber of Commerce
 Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada
 Canadian Bar Association
 Canadian Bankers' Association
 Conference Board of Canada
 Canadian Labour Congress
 Canadian Council for International Co-operation
 International Labour Organization
 Montreal Stock Exchange
 Toronto Stock Exchange
 Canadian Co-operative Association
 Canadian Executive Services Organization
 Association of Canadian Community Colleges
 Canadian Exporters' Association
 Canadian Federation of Deans of Management and Administration Studies
 Organisation canadienne pour la solidarité et le développement
 International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development
 World University Service of Canada
 Radio Canada International
 National Film Board
 Numerous Canadian Businesses
 Many Ethnic/Multicultural Organizations

These consultations will be continued and expanded, ensuring the Canadian commitment to the New Europe is extensive and broadly-based.

PROJECT PROPOSALS

The Task Force is committed to ensuring the private sector is a key player in our co-operation efforts.

It is the Canadian private sector that has the skills and the knowledge that are so clearly required in these countries. In addition, it is the private sector that will lead the way in capitalizing on market opportunities and potential trade relationships.

Groups and companies which have initiatives they want to undertake should get in touch with the Task Force offices in Ottawa (address and phone number are included in this newsletter).

The Task force does not accept unspecified applications for funds. Detailed program proposals are required, covering such things as the objectives of the program, the benefits for the recipient countries, the long-term benefits for Canada. The fundamental criteria used in judging and approving proposals is their contribution to the economic and political transformation of these countries.

An additional important factor is a financial contribution to the project by the sponsoring company or organization. The government has limits on the funds it can commit to this program. In an effort to enhance the commitment and involvement of Canadians in the "new" Europe and practically speaking to expand the program, the Task Force is requesting matching or shared-cost financial contributions whenever possible.

CANADIANS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Here are just some of the kinds of projects undertaken so far:

- The federal government, the Ontario government and the private sector provided financial support to York University's East/West Enterprise Exchange on entrepreneurship and market operations. One hundred and thirty rising young executives from Central and Eastern Europe and the USSR participated in a nine-week program this past summer. One of the features of the program was a regional placement to familiarize participants with the diversity of Canadian culture and business.
- A training program for 100 Polish farmers has been established. The trainees are in Canada to study advanced methods of farm management and herd reproduction. Their course includes a 14-week apprenticeship on family-operated dairy farms across Canada.