



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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CO-OPERATION IN INDUSTRIAL APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

A Statement to the House of Commons on February 4, 1971, by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, the Honourable Jean-Luc Pepin.

...I should like to table, in the two official languages, copies of the agreement between the Governments of Canada and the U.S.S.R. on co-operation in the industrial application of science and technology, the protocol of the first meeting of the Canadian-Soviet Mixed Commission, as well as the communiqué issued at the end of those talks.

I had the honour of leading the Canadian delegation composed of civil servants and businessmen. The purpose of this visit was to sign the agreement referred to, and to hold the first meeting of the Canadian-Soviet Mixed Commission set up under the agreement.

We were greeted warmly, our discussions were constructive, and everything seems to indicate that they will lead to mutual benefits.

The agreement aims at encouraging co-operation between the two countries in the field of industrial science and technology. That co-operation could take the form of exchanges of information, and visits of businessmen and experts. It could also lead to licensing agreements in specific areas of technology.

It might lead to all kinds of "joint ventures". I suggest it will also lead to increases in two-way trade between the two countries.

Numerous meetings were held in Moscow between members of the Canadian delegation and their opposite numbers in various industrial and research sectors of the Soviet Administration. These discussions identified a considerable range of subjects of mutual interest to the two countries. As a result, six working groups have been established in order to further identify prospects for mutually beneficial exchanges. The groups are as follows: architecture, construction and building materials; forest-based industry; the non-ferrous metals industry; electric power industry; the oil industry, and the gas industry. Formation of an additional group to consider airport design, facilities and servicing is under consideration.