

Minister for
International
Trade



Ministre du
Commerce
extérieur
October 12, 1990

No. 237

INTERNATIONAL TRADE MINISTER TO LEAD TRADE

MISSION TO THE U.S.S.R.

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie today announced that he will lead a trade mission consisting of 30 Canadian companies on a visit to the U.S.S.R., from October 20 to 28.

"The Soviet Union is going through historic economic as well as political changes," said Mr. Crosbie. "Although conditions are unsettled at present, Canadian businesses have told me that a carefully planned approach can and does reap valuable results for the right firms."

The companies participating in the mission, which will visit Leningrad, Moscow, Kiev, and the republic of Kazakhstan, represent a range of sectors from resource development to food processing, and high technology. Several already have joint ventures in the U.S.S.R. or are planning similar linkages with Soviet enterprises. Some of the participating companies, which include large, medium and small firms, are Northern Telecom Ltd., Canac International Inc., Canadian Marine Drilling Ltd., Canadian Helicopter Corp., Canadian Satellite Communications Ltd., and SEP Specialized Equipment Products Inc.

"I am anxious to assist these companies to position themselves to respond to the present and future requirements of the Soviet economy," said Mr. Crosbie. "The immense human and natural resources of the U.S.S.R. make it an important business partner for us now, and in the long term."

The Minister's agenda includes a wide range of meetings and activities. Among these events:

On October 22, in Moscow, Minister Crosbie will open the Ninth Canada-U.S.S.R. Mixed Economic Commission meeting. Along with federal officials, provincial representatives from Alberta, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Quebec and Saskatchewan will be participating in the deliberations of the Mixed Economic Commission.

On October 24, in Moscow, the Minister will address a "Know Canada" seminar, organized by the Canada-U.S.S.R. Business Council (C.U.B.C.). Canadian company officials will have the opportunity during the seminar to exchange views with representatives of leading Soviet commercial organizations. Mr. Crosbie will also officially open the C.U.B.C. Moscow office.