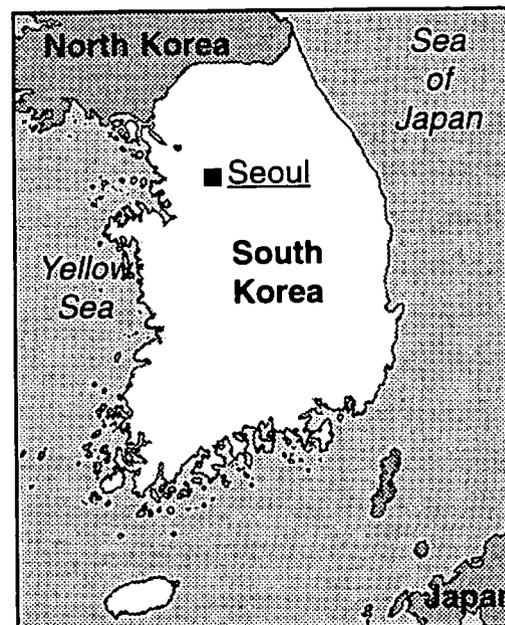




CANADA-KOREA RELATIONS

Bilateral

- Canadian involvement in the Korean peninsula began in the late 19th century, when Canadian missionaries played an important role in education and health care. Official involvement began in 1947, when Canada participated in the United Nations Commission that supervised free elections.
- Formal recognition of the Republic of Korea followed in 1949. Canada opened its embassy in Seoul in 1973.
- Canada contributed the fourth-largest contingent to the United Nations (UN) Command in the 1950-53 Korean War, providing 26 791 troops and suffering 516 fatalities.
- Korea's rapid development, democratic evolution and growing regional and international interests, together with its entry into the UN in 1991, have resulted in greater co-operation in a number of areas, such as arms control, disarmament and peacekeeping.
- Canada welcomed the election in 1992 of Korea's first civilian president in more than 30 years. Canada firmly supports South Korea's continuing efforts to improve relations with North Korea (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) and to lessen tensions on the divided peninsula, one of the last remaining areas of Cold War-style confrontation.



Trade and Investment

- Canada's trade relationship with Korea continues to expand and intensify. In 1993, South Korea ranked as Canada's fifth-largest export market and the second-largest, after Japan, in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Preliminary trade figures for 1993 show that Canadian exports to Korea increased by 20 per cent over 1992 to \$1.7 billion, and imports from Korea increased nine per cent to \$2.2 billion.
- Major Canadian exports to Korea in 1993 included coal and mineral fuels; pulp; organic chemicals; cereals; aluminum products; iron and steel; fertilizers; energy equipment; telecommunications equipment; and aerospace products.
- Major Canadian imports from Korea in 1993 included electronic equipment (televisions, VCRs); vehicles and parts; clothing; footwear and textile products; mechanical equipment; and iron and steel.

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