

7. The initial structuring of the Foundation must be kept flexible. The institution must be left free to grow organically out of the necessity of its stated objectives. Otherwise it will not encourage a high degree of creativity and interest on the part of its participants.

In meeting these principles the Foundation must not in any way detract from the activities already being undertaken by existing institutions and associations such as: the Canadian Committee of the Pacific Basin Economic Council (PBEC), the Canada-Japan Business Co-operation Committee, the Canada-Korea Business Council and the Canada-China Trade Council, to name a few, as well as the universities and indeed the three levels of government. The study confirmed that there are many centres of excellence in Canada with interests in Asia and the Pacific. However, their activities are often carried out in isolation without achieving the full potential for the community at large.

Therefore, it is recommended that the Foundation more fully exploit existing facilities and resources by providing information and co-ordinating skills for the organizations already active in Asia and the Pacific. This could include co-operating with the bilateral business associations to support efforts to increase the awareness among Canadian businessmen of the market opportunities in the Pacific, as well as assisting in the funding of such organizations.

C. WAYS AND MEANS

1. Specific Functions

The following are a list of functions the Foundation could perform to accomplish the listed objectives:

- (i) Co-ordinate research by determining the gaps in existing research programs, as well as responding to the research needs of business, government, universities and other organizations.
- (ii) Maintain up-to-date information files in the form of an inventory of Canadian activities and names of people in the country and abroad who have special skills related to Asia and the Pacific.
- (iii) Provide a balance between being a grants-making and operating institution; providing grants for activities that develop a coherent and co-ordinated Canadian approach to Asia and the Pacific as well as those that promote awareness and understanding.
- (iv) Encourage learning of the Asia Pacific languages and disciplines in our schools and universities to meet the needs of the future as far as the Asia Pacific region is concerned.
- (v) Provide scholarships for students from Pacific communities to study in Canada and for Canadians to study in the Asia Pacific region.
- (vi) Promote academic, cultural and other sectorial exchanges (such as religious, business, labour) by organizing symposiums and conferences to bring Canadians together to share their ideas and discuss proposals.