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Contacts for the Russia-based trade promotion groups mentioned on pages VIII-X may be obtained from REE (as above) or the Embassy in Moscow.

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SECTOR OPPORTUNITIES

Construction: A Boom in the Making – *Continued from page VII*

ment) is discussing a new Land Code, and the World Bank is funding a US\$400-million project to develop free market housing in five major cities.

Canadian companies have been quick off the mark: Alberta's Nascor is selling pre-fabricated houses to the Russian Ministry of Interior; a consortium of 25 manufacturing companies, known as Construct Québec (see page III), is exporting with great success construction materials to Russia.

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) — see item page VIII — has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Russian Ministry of Construction for co-operation in cold weather construction technology, building codes and standards, and to support new business ventures. CMHC built a model home in Tver, northwest of Moscow, which features Canadian environmental building technologies.

Russia is eager to share Canada's expertise in cold weather construction. This market offers tremendous opportunities to

developers and exporters of pre-fabricated houses and building materials.

And then there are more...

Oil and Gas — The services of Western exploration and production companies, well work-over firms, and suppliers of oil-field equipment, services and technology will be needed if Russia is to reverse the nearly 50-per-cent decline in oil and gas production since 1989.

Mining and Metallurgy — Many Russian mines use antiquated equipment and are unsafe and inefficient, representing a need for Canadian expertise, technology and equipment, particularly in gold and coal mining. In addition, blast furnaces at many Russian steel works date from the 1930s, creating a potential market for metallurgical equipment and services.

Forestry — Opportunities exist for Canadian equipment, technology and services, as well as for licensing agreements for local equipment manufacturing.

Telecommunications — Russia's telephone system, which is in serious need of modernization, offers considerable opportunities for Canadian expertise in this area.