

East Asia

The Philippines is a major source of immigration to Canada and a commercial partner of growing importance. Manila is also Canada's contact point with ASEAN, which offers significant potential as an instrument for stability, peace and development in the region. Canada has offered technical assistance to the Association, and discussions have begun to identify a regional project.

China

Bilateral activities during 1975 contributed perceptibly to the growth of a mutually-beneficial relation between Canada and China.

Sino-Canadian trade reached a record high in 1974, with exports to China of \$434.2 million and imports of \$60.9 million. In 1975, Canadian exports to China totalled \$376 million, while Canada imported from China \$56-million worth of goods. In 1974, non-grain exports represented 23.1 per cent of the total value of all Canadian exports to China; for the first nine months of 1975, non-grain items accounted for 18.4 per cent of the total. Efforts to diversify trade are continually being made through mechanisms such as the Canada-China Joint Trade Committee, which met in Ottawa during February 1975.

During the year, commercial missions on port, harbour and marine technology and on railways visited China, while Chinese missions interested in high-voltage transmission, power-dam construction, railways and geophysics came to Canada. As part of the continuing effort to promote Canada as a source of agricultural produce, the Canadian International Grains Institute staged a feed-grains symposium in Peking.

The program of exchanges continued as an important and successful area of bilateral co-operation. Canada was host to Chinese science and technology missions on permafrost, biological insect-control and fisheries, while Canadian delegations to China were drawn from experts on seismology and veterinary medicine. In November, two Canadian forestry scientists conducted the first visit by individual experts in the science and technology fields.

Exchanges were not confined to matters of scientific and commercial interest. In April, a highly-successful Canadian landscape painting exhibition was held in Peking and Shanghai; this was the first exhibition of Western-style painting in China since the Cultural Revolution, which began in 1966. Canada received a Chinese education delegation, and two professors of Chinese language and literature. A Chinese exhibition was also held at "Man and His World" in Montreal. Under the student-exchange program, there were 24 Canadian students studying in China and 25 Chinese students in Canada. Four exchanges in sports (two teams each way) took place as part of the 1975 program.