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# news release

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## CANADA-TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AIR AGREEMENT REACHED

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark and the Honourable Benoît Bouchard, Minister of Transport announced today that a new bilateral air services agreement has been reached between Canada and Trinidad and Tobago.

"This new air agreement is a reaffirmation of Canada's commitment to foster special ties with the Commonwealth Caribbean countries", Mr. Clark said.

A balanced and enhanced package of route rights was agreed between the two countries. Under the new agreement, Trinidad and Tobago (BWIA International) Airways Corporation obtains landing rights at a point to be named in eastern Canada in addition to its existing services to Toronto. Air Canada will be entitled to operate with full traffic rights beyond Port of Spain to Caracas, Venezuela.

Intermediate points which may be served by either BWIA or Air Canada under the agreement include eight existing destinations at Bermuda, Antigua, the Bahamas, Barbados, Martinique, Guadeloupe, Saint Lucia and Jamaica plus four newly agreed points at St. Christopher and Nevis, Grenada, the Dominican Republic and St. Maarten.

Additionally, rights for carriers of both countries to carry traffic to and from Antigua and Barbados while serving the Canada-Trinidad and Tobago market were enshrined under the new agreement. Regulatory control of air fares has also been lessened in line with efforts to encourage greater competition.

Mr. Bouchard said he was pleased that bilateral negotiations with Trinidad and Tobago have concluded successfully, with the expectation that scheduled air services to the eastern Caribbean will improve as a result.