

Canada's Trade Record

- One in three jobs in Canada depends on trade, and Canada's standard of living depends largely on trade with other countries.
- Canada's exports account for more than 40 per cent of its GDP, a higher percentage than for any other G-7 nation. Canada is second among G-7 countries in job creation. Every billion dollars worth of exports sustains about 11,000 jobs in Canada.
- In 1996, Canada's trade of goods and services grew to \$280.6 billion, a six per cent increase over the previous year. Its trade surplus increased to \$41 billion. Between the beginning of 1993 and the end of 1996, exports increased by more than \$88 billion, or 47 per cent.
- These trade figures are the result of a Team Canada approach to boosting exports — a partnership between governments and the private sector.
- Markets are opening up and trade barriers are falling around the globe. The government is refining and developing a new trade strategy that will focus and expand the range of programs and services promoting trade and investment.
- The approach will build on the Team Canada model, which has worked well in crafting partnerships with the provinces and with the business community. Together the private sector and all levels of government have designed an effective trade promotion network — "Team Canada Inc."
- Initiatives planned under Team Canada Inc. include a 30 per cent increase in the number of trade commissioners assigned outside Canada, and a new unit at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to focus on the export needs of small and medium enterprises.