

CANADIAN-BRAZILIAN RELATIONS

After 21 years of military rule, the Federative Republic of Brazil returned to democratic, civilian rule in 1985, and took steps to assure respect for human rights, universal suffrage and democratic elections at virtually all levels of government. A new constitution reflecting these values was adopted in October 1988. Today, Canada is represented by its embassy in Brasilia, which moved from Rio de Janeiro in 1962, and a consulate general in Sao Paulo and an honorary consul in Rio de Janeiro. Brazil maintains an embassy in Ottawa; consulates general in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver; and honorary consuls in Edmonton, Halifax and St. John's.

The Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) Bilateral Co-operation Program in Brazil dates back to 1968. Discussions are now underway on a new program that will concentrate on the areas of agriculture, telecommunications, human resources development and health. CIDA also funds an Industrial Co-operation Program, supporting projects directly, as well as through the Brazil-Canada Chamber of Commerce. The final element of Canadian assistance to Brazil is administered under CIDA's Special Program Branch, which supports the work of the Canadian non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Brazil. In 1987-88 some 104 projects were supported, with a budget allocation of \$1.9 million.

Canada's cultural presence in Brazil has increased appreciably since 1983 and has been actively promoted by the Canadian Embassy in Brasilia and the Consulate General in Sao Paulo.

Growing academic relations, including Canadian Studies, have been actively promoted. There are a growing number of inter-university links: the University of Sao Paulo with Laval University and the Technical University of Nova Scotia; Universidade Federal Fluminense with Laval University; and several other Brazilian universities with the universities of Montreal and Waterloo.

Many Canadian performing artists have had an opportunity to visit Brazil, some partly sponsored by Canadian firms with interest there. The Canadian Chamber Orchestra, Oscar Peterson, the Moe Kaufman Quartet, and the Oliver James Trio are among the groups that have performed in Brazil.

Exhibitions of Canadian photography and art are regularly held throughout Brazil. Every second year, several Canadian artists' works are chosen to appear in Brazil's prestigious international art exhibition, the Biennale de Sao Paulo.

The Francophone dimension of Canadian culture is promoted by the international organization, Agence de co-operation culturelle et technique (ACCT), as well as the Department of External Affairs. Translation of the work of some French Canadian authors is being explored, including their use in Brazilian Canadian Studies programs. As well, the Canadian Embassy participates in three or four Francophone conferences held in various Brazilian universities throughout the year.

