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CANADIAN MUNICIPAL AND LABOUR LEADERS TO VISIT MAJOR EUROPEAN ORGANIZATIONS

The Department of External Affairs is pleased to announce that a group of twelve municipal leaders from communities in the Yukon and each of the ten provinces, and five labour leaders will leave Ottawa April 10 for a seven-day study tour in Europe. The visit is sponsored by the Department of External Affairs, the NATO Information Service, and the Department of National Defence.

During their tour abroad, the group will visit the Organization for Economic Development and cooperation (OECD) and the International Energy Association (IEA) in Paris, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Canadian Mission to the European Community in Brussels, and the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers in Europe (SHAPE), near Mons.

This visit, which is part of a continuing programme, will give these leaders an opportunity to familiarize themselves with some aspects of Canada's foreign policy and international commitments and to pass on their knowledge to a wider Canadian audience. In previous years, groups of parliamentarians, high school teachers and journalists from Canadian weeklies have taken part in similar study tours. This is the first time that labour leaders have been included in the programme.

The delegates, who were named by their municipal associations and unions, will first travel to Ottawa for advance briefings by government officials before setting off for Paris and Brussels.