

China's contributions to the cultural exchange programme were crowned by the Exhibition of Archaeological Finds of the People's Republic of China at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto from August to November 1974 and by the exhibition of ancient scientific inventions at the Ontario Science Centre in 1982. The 150 member Shanghai Ballet made a highly successful visit to Canada on its first tour of the West; in 1979 the Peking Opera troupe played to packed houses across the country as did the Wuhan Circus in 1982.

Canadian culture has also received commendable exposure in China, ranging from exhibitions of Eskimo art, landscape paintings and photography to performances by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra in Peking, Shanghai and Canton, a successful tour by the Canadian Brass Quintet, workshops given by noted Canadian dancers Celia Franca, Karen Kain and Frank Augustyn, and appearances by opera star Maureen Forrester and pianist Louis Lortie.

Education

In September 1973, a bilateral agreement was reached providing for the creation of an academic exchange programme. Since the inauguration of the programme, more than a hundred and fifty Canadian students have studied for two year terms in China and a larger number of Chinese students have studied English or French in Canada. Reciprocal exchanges of university professors have taken place, and for the past six years, Canadian teachers of English and French as a second language have worked on short-term assignments in China.

As a result of policy changes in China, greater emphasis has been placed on upgrading skills in the areas of science and technology, and a decision has been made to send abroad for further training large numbers of teachers and researchers. In June 1979, an arrangement was reached with the Chinese Ministry of Education for the placing of Chinese scholars in Canadian universities. (Under the terms of this arrangement, "Scholar" has been defined as a person pursuing research or studies for purposes other than attaining a university degree). The Council of Ministers of Education, of Canada, in cooperation with the provincial education authorities and other federal and provincial agencies was charged with the placement and language evaluation of the scholars in consultation with the academic community.