

Trade between Cameroon and Canada is modest, but there are several good possibilities. The recent visit to Canada, June 1979, of a Cameroonian economic and commercial ministerial mission (20 top officials and important businessmen) has already led to the signing of a number of contracts. Furthermore, two Canadian companies -- Bata and Denison Mines have set up operations in Cameroon.

In addition, the presence in Cameroon of more than 160 missionaries, including Cardinal Léger, reinforces the links between the two countries. These missionaries are most often teachers who have lived in the country for nearly 20 years. They have played an important role in training Cameroonian élites and the Cameroonians are very grateful for the assistance they have received. However, the number of missionaries has declined in recent years owing to fewer candidates for the priesthood.

The visit to Cameroon in April 1975 of Allan MacEachen, then Canada's External Affairs Minister, and the June 1977 visit of Jean-Pierre Goyer have reinforced the ties between the two countries. On the Cameroonian side, there was the September 1978 visit of Dr. John Monié, Minister of Transport. In June 1979 Youssoufa Daouda, Minister of Economics and Planning, and Joseph Awunti, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, led an economic mission to Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal.

President Ahidjo has already visited Canada -- once in 1967 for EXPO in Montreal, and again in 1970.

The Canadian Ambassador in Cameroon is Gilles Duguay.