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CANADA SIGNS FIRST-EVER AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH KOREA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, and the Minister of Transport, the Honourable Benoît Bouchard, today announced that Canada has signed its first air services agreement with the Republic of Korea. International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie and Korea's Foreign Minister Choi Ho Joong formally signed the agreement today during a ceremony in Seoul.

Minister Crosbie noted that the agreement would encourage even stronger links between Canada and Korea. "This first-ever air services agreement is an important new step in promoting trade and travel between our two countries," he stated. "It further demonstrates Canada's commitment to increasing its presence in the Pacific Rim."

Air Canada is scheduled to begin twice-weekly flights from Vancouver to Seoul and on to Singapore in the spring of 1991. The service will begin when Air Canada has taken delivery of new aircraft. That will be Air Canada's first scheduled service across the Pacific.

Korean Air now operates twice-weekly flights from Seoul to Vancouver and Toronto. The airline also offers weekly all-cargo service between Seoul and Toronto.