

## **CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CIDA)**

An important possible source of financing for Canadian ventures in Mexico is the special fund available through CIDA under the Industrial Cooperation Program (CIDA/INC). This program provides financial contributions to stimulate Canadian private-sector involvement in developing countries by supporting long-term business relationships such as joint ventures and licensing arrangements. INC supports the development of linkages with the private sector in Mexico by encouraging Canadian enterprises to share their skills and experiences with partners in Mexico and other countries. A series of INC mechanisms help enterprises to establish mutually beneficial collaborative arrangements for the transfer of technology and the creation of employment in Mexico.

There are five INC mechanisms that help eligible Canadian firms to conduct studies and that provide professional guidance and advice to potential clients. Where a project involves environmental improvement, technology transfer, developmental assistance to women, job training or job creation, early contact with CIDA's Industrial Cooperation Division is suggested. An important CIDA criterion is that the project creates jobs in Mexico without threatening jobs in Canada. In fact, most CIDA-assisted projects have produced net increases in Canadian jobs. For more information, contact:

**Industrial Cooperation Division**  
Canadian International Development Agency  
200 Promenade du Portage  
Hull, PQ K1A 0G4  
Tel.: (819) 997-7905/7906  
Fax: (819) 953-5024

## **ATLANTIC CANADA OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY (ACOA)**

Atlantic Canadian companies seeking to develop exports to Mexico may be eligible for assistance from the ACOA. The Agency works in partnership with entrepreneurs from the Atlantic region to promote self-sustaining economic activity in Atlantic Canada.

ACOA provides support to businesses as they look to expand existing markets through the development of marketing plans. Efforts include monitoring trade opportunities arising from global economic change, communications efforts to promote the region, trade missions and associated activities, as well as better coordination with federal and provincial bodies that influence trade and investment opportunities. For more information, contact:

**Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency**  
Blue Cross Centre  
644 Main Street  
P.O. Box 6051  
Moncton, NB E1C 9J8  
Tel: 1-800-561-7862  
Fax: (506) 851-7403

## **WESTERN ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION CANADA (WD)**

WD is responsible for federal economic development activities in Western Canada. The Department works in partnership with the western provinces, business, industry associations and communities to stimulate the western Canadian economy.

WD's "New Directions" program will work to enhance the export position of western companies by boosting their competitiveness in domestic and global markets.

The Department no longer provides repayable loans to individual companies, but seeks new innovative partnerships within both the public and private sectors. These partnerships will address the needs of small- and medium-sized enterprises for information, business services and capital, particularly for high growth industries critical to Western Canada's economic diversification.

One of WD's new products focused on export development is the International Trade Personnel Program. This federal-provincial initiative links export-focused western firms with recent post-secondary graduates. The program accomplishes two important socio-economic goals: it gives companies the extra person-power they need to penetrate new markets, and it gives recent graduates valuable work experience. Under the new program, the length of export-development projects may vary from one to three years. Approved projects will be eligible for assistance ranging from \$7,500 for one year, to a maximum of \$37,500 per graduate over the 3 year period. For more information, contact:

**Western Economic Diversification Canada**  
The Cargill Building  
240 Graham Avenue  
Suite 712  
P.O. Box 777  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 2L4  
Tel.: (204) 983-4472  
Fax: (204) 983-4694