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# *Media Advisory*

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**September 15, 2006**  
**No. A/46**

## **MINISTER MACKAY WELCOMES AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO CANADA**

The Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, will welcome Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer to Canada from September 17 to 19, 2006.

Canada and Australia share common interests that extend beyond the historic, economic and people-to-people ties. These include shared goals in ASEAN and global forums such as the WTO. During the visit, the two leaders will have the opportunity to meet and discuss key issues of interest to both countries.

Australia is a significant and strategic partner to Canada on a wide range of regional security issues, including cooperation in counter-terrorism activities. Australia and Canada work closely together to promote a coherent and robust system of global trade, as well as economic cooperation in key international organizations such as the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum and many UN agencies.

This will be Mr. Downer's first official visit to Atlantic Canada with Mr. MacKay as Minister of Foreign Affairs.

**Event:** Tour of St. Margaret's Bay  
Four Winds Charters\*  
**Date:** Monday, September 18, 2006  
**Time:** 8:45 a.m. local time (ADT)  
**Location:** Boutiliers Point Wharf  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

**Event:** Bilateral meeting\*  
**Date:** Monday, September 18, 2006  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m. local time (ADT)  
**Location:** Kenny Room  
Halifax Club  
1682 Hollis Street  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

