

Canada contributes \$1.7 million more

Canada will spend more than C\$1.7-million to further co-operation between Canada and ASEAN.

This proposal was made at the Fourth Canada-ASEAN Joint Co-operation Committee (JCC) meeting which was held in Bangkok last November.

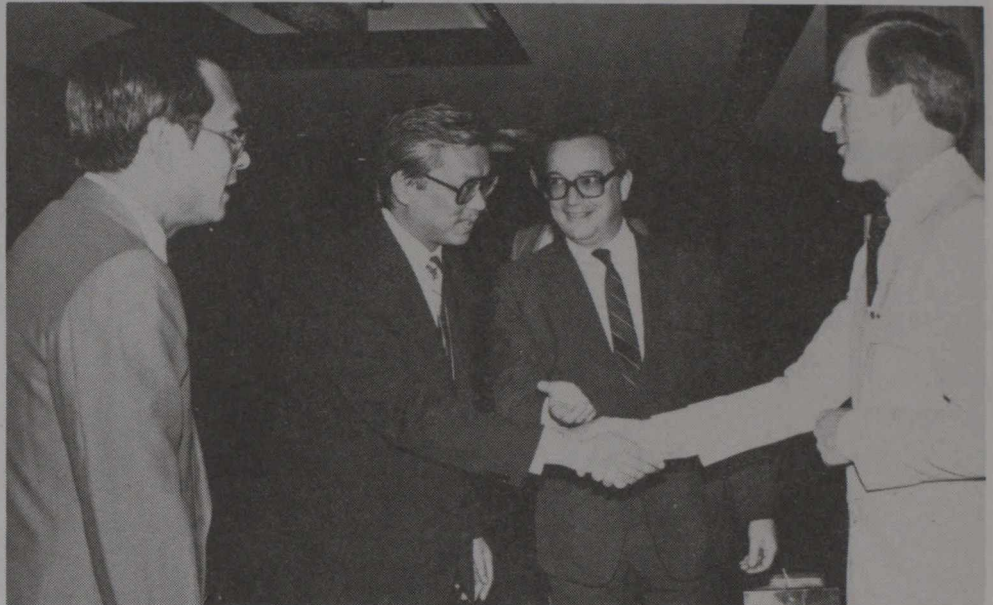
Expand trade, tourism and investment

Dr. Chirayu Isarangkun Na Ayuthaya, Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office of Thailand, who opened the meeting, called for more expansion and consolidation of Canada-ASEAN co-operation in such areas as trade, investment, and tourism.

\$600,000 for ASEAN students

In response Canada proposed providing \$750,000 for the creation of a regional Human Resource Development Fund; to increase to \$250,000 the Regional Mission Administered Fund which provides financial support for non-governmental organization projects; and to establish an ASEAN Scholarship Fund of \$600,000 to allow ASEAN students to study in Canada.

In addition, specifically targetted funding to promote trade and investment will be made available for ASEAN countries and administered through the Canadian Trade Facilitation Office.



Canadian Ambassador to Thailand, John Paynter introducing Michael Berry, Director General of Asia Pacific South of Canada's Department of External Affairs to Minister Chirayu while looking on at left is Chawat Arthayukti, Director General of ASEAN Affairs, Foreign Ministry.

Also \$100,000 will be provided to the recently established ASEAN-Canada Business Council (ACBC) in an effort to give greater impetus to trade investment and commercial ties.

At the meeting senior officials on both sides reiterated their commitment to

continue consultations to achieve an early and substantial result in the New Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations.

Considerable emphasis was placed also on the increasingly important role of the private sector.

ASEAN explores sharing electricity

In December, the Canadian High Commission sponsored a three-day seminar in Kuala Lumpur to discuss regional power interconnection with invited officials from power utilities of five ASEAN countries.

Transferring technology

Canadian High Commissioner, Manfred von Nostitz, in addressing this ASEAN gathering, said the seminar's purpose was to explore Canadian capabilities in the power sector relevant to the ASEAN region thus encouraging the transfer of Canadian technology and expertise.

The High Commissioner said such transfers were a fundamental commitment of the Canadian government in its relationship with ASEAN.

Speakers were drawn from Shawinigan Lavalin in Montreal and from Hydro-Quebec and Manitoba Hydro, two Canadian utilities with solid experience in power interconnection between provinces and with the United States.

Topics covered during the event included: Canada's experience with interconnection; line operation, control and protection; negotiating contracts and setting tariff structures; and characteristics and technical application of high voltage

AC and DC transmission interconnection over land and under the sea.

Major advantages

In his keynote speech, Malaysian Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and Posts, Dato Leo Moggie, stressed the importance and timeliness of the seminar, noting the significant advantages integrated systems provide to all participating countries in terms of fuller utilization of existing power capacity, reduced system operating costs, improved access to alternative power sources on an emergency basis, and greater economic viability for large projects under consideration.