



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JOE CLARK INVITES
COMMISSIONER WILLY DE CLERCQ OF THE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (EC) TO VISIT VANCOUVER,
MAY 10, 1986

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, has invited Mr. Willy De Clercq, EC Commissioner for External Relations and Trade Policy to visit Vancouver, Canada. Mr. Clark and Mr. De Clercq will discuss in broad terms Canada-EC bilateral relations including the effect on our trading relationship of the recent enlargement of the European Communities and Canadian concerns about world agricultural markets. Canada-US trade negotiations are expected to be discussed as will the new round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations.

The EC is the world's largest trading block, with a market of more than 320 million people. It accounts for almost a fifth of the world's trade and, as such, is a major trading power. The EC is Canada's second largest trading partner with the majority (58%) of our exports being manufactured goods. The EC remains Canada's second largest source of investment and the second most popular destination of Canadian investment abroad.

This year represents the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Canada-European Communities Framework Agreement. That agreement has as its key objective improved commercial and economic cooperation between the two parties.

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Following his visit to Expo '86 on May 9, Mr. De Clercq will meet with Mr. Clark on May 10 and the two will co-chair the Sixth session of the Canada-EC Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC). The JCC meets at the Ministerial level to review agreed programs of cooperation under the Framework Agreement and provide direction for further endeavours. Mr. Clark and Mr. De Clercq will review reports of the JCC Sub-Committees, approve work plans and discuss the direction of future cooperation between Canada and the European Communities.

In particular the Preparatory and General Cooperation Sub-Committee will report on its activities in the fields of science and technology, which have an emphasis on pre-commercialization research intended to lead to future industrial benefits to both sides (e.g. informatics, biotechnology and advanced materials). The Sub-Committee for Industrial Cooperation will report various industrial cooperation initiatives (e.g. a Machinery Manufacturing Industrial Development Mission to the EC, Nickel and Tungsten Seminars) and the results of its policy reviews aimed at determining means of enhancing the growth of small and medium sized enterprises in the respective economies.