



Foreign Affairs and
International Trade Canada

Affaires étrangères et
Commerce international Canada

DOC
CA1
EA200
2008A52
EXF



THE AMERICAS

Our Neighbours, Our Priority

Our vision is a more prosperous and secure Canada within a hemisphere of increasing stability and opportunity.

Canada's engagement in the Americas, as announced by the Prime Minister in July 2007, is based on the promotion and enhancement of prosperity, of security and of the fundamental values of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

Dept. of Foreign Affairs
Min. des Affaires étrangères

JUN 30 2009

Return to Departmental Library
Retourner à la bibliothèque du Ministère



Canada 

“We are in the Americas for the long haul—as people who share common political values, as economic and business partners, as neighbours.”

ATML/Doc
.64219260(E)
.64219272(F)

– Prime Minister Stephen Harper

Creating new opportunities for growth

Canada has substantial trade and investment ties to the Americas that are built on a foundation of mutual economic benefit.

To secure new opportunities for Canadian exporters, investors, innovators and service providers, the Canadian government continues to pursue initiatives such as free trade, foreign investment promotion and protection and air services agreements. Our experience with free-trade partners in Mexico, Chile and Costa Rica has shown that increased trade and investment can foster economic growth and prosperity and lead to expanded opportunities for citizens.

At the same time, we are negotiating labour and environmental cooperation agreements that will help position Canada as a commercial partner of choice in the Americas.

www.americas.gc.ca

Promoting a safe and secure neighborhood

Crime, drugs, terror, pandemics and natural disasters transcend borders. That is why Canada is working with its neighbours in the region to anticipate and respond to such threats. For example, in Haiti, our work with hemispheric partners on issues related to health, police reform and border management demonstrates how long-term engagement in the region can lead to greater security, stability and development.

Ensuring a free and democratic hemisphere

The people of the Americas have demonstrated their strong commitment to democracy. In support of this commitment, Canada is working to ensure that our shared values of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law are protected and strengthened. The tools at our disposal include active diplomacy, development assistance, bilateral partnerships and multilateral cooperation, the last of which is carried out through regional organizations and processes such as the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Summit of the Americas. In addition, we are sharing our governance experience in support of more effective, accountable and inclusive public institutions.

18-840-382(A)
18-840-381(E)



DOCS
CA1 EA200 2008A52 EXF
The Americas our neighbours, our
priority. --
18840381(E) 18840382(F)





Outside of the United States and Mexico, Canada has 26 offices in the Americas.

Did you know...

- Over 2.5 million Canadians travel to Latin America and the Caribbean annually—more than to any other destination outside the United States.
- According to the 2006 census, approximately 11 percent of recent Canadian immigrants are from Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Canada is the third-largest investor in the region and a major player in the mining industry.
- Canadian merchandise exports to the region rose by 92.9% between 2003 and 2007.
- Canada is pursuing free trade, labour and environmental cooperation agreements with several countries in the region, including Peru, Colombia, Dominican Republic and the Caribbean Community.
- Canada supported 18 OAS electoral monitoring missions in the Americas between January 2006 and May 2008.
- Canadian development assistance to the region surpassed \$500 million in 2006.