



Minister for
International Trade

Ministre du
Commerce extérieur

COMMUNIQUÉ

No. 092

May 8, 1987.

MINISTER CARNEY WELCOMES 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE CANADA-JAPAN BUSINESSMEN'S CONFERENCE
MAY 10-13, 1987, VANCOUVER

The Minister for International Trade, the Honourable Pat Carney, today welcomed the 10th annual Canada-Japan Businessmen's Conference, which will be held in Vancouver May 10-13. This meeting will bring together the Canada-Japan Businessmen's Co-operation Committee (CJBCC) led by Mr. David Culver, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Alcan Aluminium Ltd., and the Japan-Canada Economic Committee of the Keidanren (Federation of Economic Organizations) led by Mr. Minoru Kanao, Chairman of the Board of Nippon Kokan K.K. The Conference, established in 1976, has developed into an effective bilateral forum for direct contact between the Canadian and Japanese private sectors.

The two national Committees were instrumental in organizing the Japanese Economic Mission to Canada, led by Mr. Kanao in October 1986. The mission identified joint technological collaboration as having potential for expanding Canada-Japan trade relations. As a result, a manager exchange program with Japanese industry has been started this month by the Dept. of External Affairs. The CJBCC and the Keidanren will help identify interested Canadian and Japanese companies and participants.

The two Committees have consistently provided leadership in orienting bilateral natural resource trade

.../2

Canada

for mutual benefit. Mr. Kanao states in his introduction to the report of the Japanese Economic Mission, that Canada-Japan natural resource trade be conducted on the basis of a long term perspective. The Minister shares this viewpoint recognizing that the economic and investment realities of resource development necessitate a sustained approach. The honouring of commitments by both sides over the long term is an essential element in ensuring the economic viability of western Canadian coal production.

The Minister looks forward to continuing support from the Japanese business community, and particularly from the Keidanren, in persuading the Japanese Government to speed up its market liberalization initiatives, especially for manufactured goods and agricultural, forestry and fisheries products.

Minister Carney noted that the record of achievement in the first 10 years of the Conference has provided a solid basis for further expanding Canada-Japan private sector co-operation, and developing new trade and investment opportunities.