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# news release

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For release

## MACLAREN TO LEAD TRADE MISSION TO ASIA

The Minister for International Trade, the Honourable Roy MacLaren, will lead a Canadian trade mission to the People's Republic of China, Korea and Japan, March 26 to April 9. The visit will promote increased trade and investment with Canada, and will highlight the region's strong business potential for Canadians.

"Asia-Pacific is the most dynamic region in the world today, with average annual growth rates between six and nine percent. China, Korea and Japan are among Canada's top six trading partners, together accounting for \$27.8-billion worth of trade with Canada," the Minister said. "Increasing trade and investment with these countries is of vital importance to economic growth and job creation in Canada."

Mr. MacLaren will meet with government ministers and business officials in each of the three countries to discuss key issues regarding bilateral trade and economic relationships, including market access issues. As well, he will underline to ministers the importance Canada attaches to a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round in April at Marrakesh.

In China, Mr. MacLaren will seek to strengthen and expand Canada's already active participation in the country's rapidly developing economy, and assure government leaders that Canada supports China's accession to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). He will tour the Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications and address local business representatives in Beijing. In Shanghai, he will tour the Pudong economic zone and participate in a business forum at Tongji University, College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

In Korea from March 31 to April 5, Mr. MacLaren will visit Seoul and Wolsung, the site of four CANDU nuclear reactors, one of which has been in operation since 1983, and three which are under construction. He will also meet with the chairmen of Korea's leading *chaebols* (conglomerates), including Hyundai, Daewoo, POSCO, Sammi and Lucky-Goldstar International.

The Minister will visit Tokyo and Fukuoka in Japan from April 5 to 9, in an effort to support the trade development objectives outlined in Canada's Action Plan for Japan, for the building products, processed food and informatics sectors in particular. He will meet with industry leaders in Fukuoka, and with members of Keidanren (the Federation of Economic Organizations) and Japanese ministers in Tokyo. Mr. MacLaren will lend support to Japan's efforts to deregulate and open its markets to imports, to the benefit of both the country's trading partners and consumers.

Accompanying Mr. MacLaren will be representatives of leading Canadian companies with business interests in the region from the following sectors: telecommunications and information technology; informatics; transportation; nuclear power, oil and gas; agri-food and fish products; pulp and paper; building products; chemicals, financial services; and heavy machinery. A list of the companies is attached.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874

## TRADE MISSION TO CHINA, KOREA, AND JAPAN

### Participating Companies

#### China

AECL CANDU, Ontario  
American Barrick, Ontario  
Asia Communications, Quebec  
B.C. Trade Development  
Corporation, B.C.  
Babcock & Wilcox, Ontario  
Black Clawson-Kennedy Ltd.,  
Quebec  
Bombardier, Quebec  
CANAC International Inc.,  
Quebec  
Canada-China Business Council,  
Ontario  
Canadian Airlines International,  
Ontario  
Canadian Industrial Consortium,  
Quebec  
CAPSEP, National  
Chemetics, B.C.

Hudson's Bay Company, Ontario  
Joe Ng Engineering, Ontario  
Kvaerner Hymac Inc., Quebec  
Lateral Vector Resources Inc.,  
Saskatchewan  
London Life, Ontario  
Manulife, Ontario  
Mitel, Ontario  
Monenco Agra, Quebec  
Northern Telecom, Quebec  
Pratt and Whitney Canada, Quebec  
Raytheon Canada Ltd., Ontario  
SNC-Lavalin, Quebec  
SR Telecom Inc., Quebec  
Stanley Associates Engineering,  
Alberta  
Teleglobe, Ontario  
Westcoast Energy, B.C.  
Western Star Trucks, B.C.

#### Korea

AECL CANDU, Ontario  
Alternative Fuel Systems Inc.,  
Alberta  
Bristol Aerospace, Manitoba  
Canadian Marconi, Quebec  
Douglas Manufactured  
Homes Ltd., B.C.

EDC (Export Development  
Corporation), Ontario  
Mitel, Ontario  
Raytheon Canada Ltd., Ontario  
SHL Systemhouse, Ontario  
Whiting Equipment, Ontario

#### Japan

ACDS Système Graphique Inc.,  
Quebec  
Bombardier, Quebec  
Douglas Manufactured  
Homes Ltd., B.C.  
Fulcrum, Ontario  
Loewen Windows, Manitoba

Mitel, Ontario  
Newbridge Networks Corp., Ontario  
Pursuit Fisheries Ltd., Nova  
Scotia  
Spectrum Signal Processing Inc.,  
B.C.  
Thermo Brick International,  
Ontario