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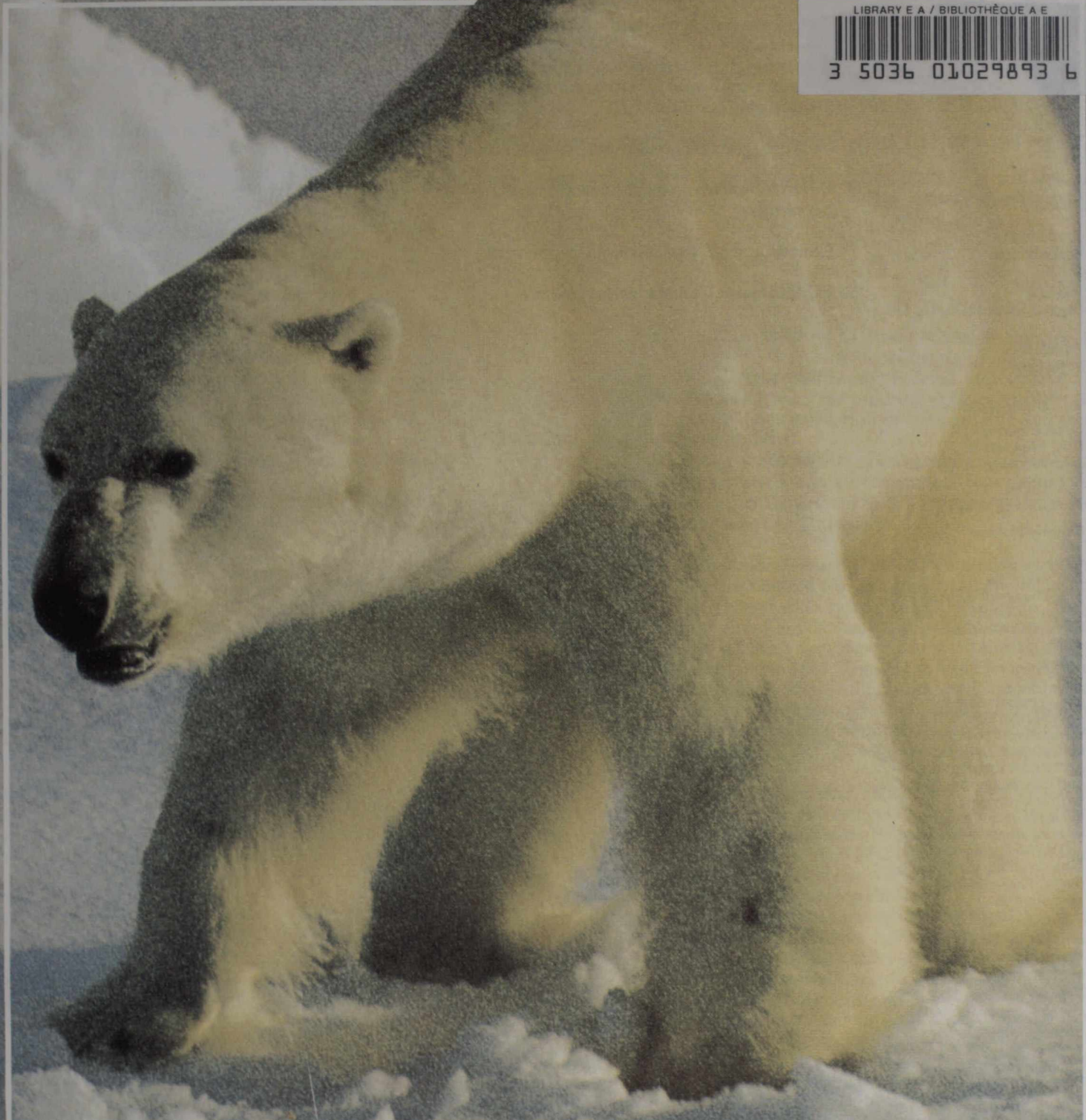
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Canada world leader in wildlife management

- Animal conservation in Canada is scientific and sensitive
- Canada builds more muscle into its sports training programmes
- Masks: A Canada House exhibition of unique Indian artefacts
- New air agreement cuts travel costs to Canada

In this issue

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Front cover

*The polar bear, indigenous
to Canada, is a majestic but
fierce animal; sometimes
invading towns and
airlifted back to the wild.*

Photo: R.E. Schweinsburg,
Fish and Wildlife Service,
Government of the NWT

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Editorial

When explaining Canada's size encompassing some 5½ time zones, a number of British colleagues and friends mention the difficulty of appreciating just how vast a country Canada is, and just how much wilderness it still contains.

Here in Britain, it is possible to believe that the environment has been tamed. There are no wild animals that threaten human life; and anyway, help is seldom more than a few miles away.

This is not the case in Canada, where there are still literally thousands of square miles of uninhabited wilderness, and where wildlife exists untouched by mankind.

This wilderness is an integral part of the Canadian psyche. It shows itself in much of our art and literature. And it intrudes into many aspects of our everyday lives: even in major cities like Toronto, raccoons and skunks are frequently seen in urban backyards.

But Canadians have never squandered their wildlife inheritance. It's true that the first Europeans who went there to trap saw Canada as an unlimited source of skins and furs that could be exploited. But the settled Canadians very soon realised that they were custodians of a resource that was worth conserving.

As our main feature in this issue explains, it is

nearly 200 years since legislation was first passed in Canada to preserve and protect the country's wildlife. Concern for the environment can therefore be said to be considerably older than the country itself.

Since 1966, that concern has been formulated in Canada's National Wildlife Policy, under which the federal government — along with the provinces — is pledged to make every attempt to enforce sound conservation policies for all wild species. It is little wonder that Canada is seen to continually be on the leading edge of wildlife management and scientific research.

Canada may enjoy an abundance of wildlife. But it has every intention of seeing it preserved.



Bob Stantley

Wildlife in Canada

A priceless asset

Quote by Canadian
Richard Bocking in 1972

It is no coincidence that our national emblem is not a rising sun, a star, a hammer, a sickle or a dragon, but a beaver and a maple leaf. Nor is it a coincidence that there are more paintings of wilderness lakes, spruce bogs, and pine trees on more Canadian living room walls than in any other nation on earth. We may scoff, we may deny, but the wilderness mystique is still a strong element of the Canadian ethos.

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Min. des Affaires extérieures
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Mountain Goat found in western Canada

Photo: M. Beedell

today there are many Federal and Provincial enlightened and far reaching policies in place, to ensure the preservation of both wildlife and their habitats.

As a result, the extinction of many rare species has been averted, and the country can now claim to be home to 500 species of bird, 33 species of whale, and 163 species of land mammal.

Two-hundred-year tradition of wildlife conservation
The first effort at conservation in Canada was made nearly two centuries ago. In 1794, Nova Scotia introduced legislation to protect grouse and black ducks. Ontario was next to act, introducing its first game laws in 1821. The 1820s were also marked by a growing interest in the natural environment for its own sake, with the foundation of naturalist societies in Quebec City and Montreal. It is interesting to note that Canada did not become a Sovereign country until 1867.

The closing years of the nineteenth century saw the establishment of Canada's first great national parks, beginning with the Banff National Park in Western Alberta, opened in 1887. In the same year, Canada's first bird sanctuary was created at Lost Mountain Lake on the Canadian Prairies.

From modest beginnings the national park concept has grown, and today national parks account for about 50 000 square miles of the country — an area roughly the size of England.

In addition to the national parks, there are provincial parks which also afford protection to wildlife. Lord Tweedsmuir Park in British Columbia, for example, covers an area of 2.3 million acres; while 140 miles north of Toronto, there is the 1.75 million acre Algonquin Park.

Wildlife outside the park system is safeguarded by provincial and territorial governments, which enact, administer and enforce legislation with respect to hunting, trapping and other activities that affect wild animals and birds.

There is also cross-border co-operation with the United States. As long ago as 1916, the two countries signed the Migratory Birds Treaty whereby non-game and insect-eating birds are afforded complete protection, and restrictions have been placed on the hunting of game birds.

That quote highlights the strong bond between man and nature which exists in Canada today. Yet, this has not always been the case. The first European settlers regarded wildlife as an inexhaustible resource to be exploited rather than preserved. Animals were hunted for their furs and for food, and the widespread destruction of many mammals and birds took place.

Fortunately, the early Canadians realised very quickly the value of the wildlife that surrounded them. There has always been a strong conservationist element in Canadian attitudes, so that



Sandhill Crane

The crucial role of the Canadian Wildlife Service Administration of the Treaty on the Canadian side of the border is carried out by the Canadian Wildlife Service, the main conservation agency of the federal government. Apart from having responsibility for managing migratory birds, marine animals and all wildlife in national parks, the Service carries out research and works closely with provincial government counterparts.

Since 1966, there has been a fully co-ordinated National Wildlife Policy to ensure the conservation of all forms of wildlife from the humpback whale to the Peregrine falcon.

One of the activities of the Canadian Wildlife Service is the acquisition and management of important wildlife habitats, such as wetlands, grasslands and forests. There are now more than 40 National Wildlife Areas, and some 80 sanctuaries for migrating birds.

Each habitat has a special significance for some form of wildlife. The mud flats of Cap Tourmente National Wildlife Area in Eastern Quebec, for instance, attract the world's only flock of greater snow geese. The Vaseux-Bighorn Wildlife Area in British Columbia, on the other hand, is a wintering and lambing range for the endangered Californian bighorn sheep. Lost Mountain Lake, jointly managed by the CWS and the Saskatchewan authorities, attracts migrating ducks, sandhill cranes, geese and whooping cranes.



Right: There are a number of species of bear in Canada including Brown, Black, Grizzly and Polar

Below: The once almost extinct Buffalo now number over 50000

Photo: Pat Morrow





Even the impressive Musk Ox blends well with its surrounding environment



Rough Legged Hawk

Photo: George Calef, NWT Fish and Wildlife Service.

Endangered species are saved for posterity

The whooping crane is a species which would have gone the same way as the Dodo but for efforts by CWS and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. In 1941, there were only 15 of these birds left, mainly because of the destruction of their habitats. Now the number has increased to 100 wild birds, migrating between Canada and Texas, and another 20 in captivity in Maryland.

The bison is another animal which used to exist in great profusion in North America, but almost died out thanks to indiscriminate slaughter in the early part of the last century. In 1873, an Indian rancher saved four calves, which by 1914 had grown into a herd of 700. The Canadian government bought the herd and released it in the Wainwright Buffalo

National Park, where it now numbers some 50 000 animals.

Inroads into the beaver population began in the early 1600s as beaverskin hats became the rage in Europe. Overtrapping once threatened the survival of this energetic and ingenious animal, but the tide has turned thanks to people like the eccentric naturalist Grey Owl, who started a beaver colony in Prince Albert National Park in 1930.

These days there are probably more beavers in Canada than at the height of the fur trade.

Another success story concerns the caribou, the deer of the far north, whose numbers had declined to 200 000 by the 1920s. The decline was initially arrested by issuing Indians and Eskimos with fishing nets and encouraging them to feed their sled dogs on fish rather than caribou meat. Other measures have included the introduction of carefully supervised caribou hunts to ensure the availability of food and to deter the spread of disease. A temporary wolf control programme was also instituted.

That the caribou population is now approaching the one million mark is a clear indication of the success of the programme.

Public participates in wildlife conservation

The activities of the federal and provincial governments are supplemented by the work of voluntary associations. The Canadian Nature Federation, for example, fosters an appreciation for wildlife, as do museums devoted to the natural sciences. Youth organisations — such as the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides — introduce their members to wildlife conservation. Angling and hunting associations, too, are active in the field of conservation as are service clubs and many local community organisations.

Wildlife management is a complex process which requires effective cooperation from all those concerned if the ecological balance is not to be upset. Such co-operation is achieved through formal conferences like the federal-provincial Wildlife Conference and through effective working relationships to exchange information and co-ordinate activities.

Preserving the wildlife is an on-going struggle, but policies being introduced today are helping to guarantee the well being of Canadian wildlife of tomorrow. ♦

Canadians are keen wildlife conservationists

It has long been recognised that Canadians value their extensive wildlife resources. The 44th federal-provincial Wildlife Conference launched a study on the value of wildlife to Canadians.

Some 100 000 Canadians were questioned on their attitudes to wildlife and the results of this far reaching

survey were overwhelmingly positive. Wildlife related activities — in which 84 per cent of the population participate — are one of the most popular forms of recreation. Some 15 million Canadians (70 per cent of the population) regularly watch wildlife films, read books on wildlife and visit zoos, wildlife

Many Canadians make special trips to study wildlife. Even a tiny marmot is a fascinating animal for man to study



Photo: A Harvey

parks, aquariums, etc, and Canadians normally contribute more than £50 million annually to wildlife organisations.

The survey also found that 12.3 million Canadians take a lively interest in wildlife around their homes. Some eight million have encountered wildlife during trips and outings, and nearly all feel that these encounters increase their enjoyment significantly.

As many as one in five Canadians make special trips for the primary purpose of observing, photographing, feeding or studying wildlife, while 80 per cent attach importance to the maintenance of abundant wildlife, and 82 per cent believe that the preservation of endangered species is crucial.

The findings of the survey also show strong support for current policies and programmes to promote wildlife. ♣

Canada wins praise for environmental protection



Moose are found from coast to coast. They weigh up to 1800 lbs, and can eat 50-60 lbs of twigs and plants every day.

A tranquillised moose is airlifted to a base station in Ontario in an effort to restock the species in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Polar bears invade towns in Northern Manitoba where they are put into a compound prior to being transported by helicopter to a safe distance.

Whereas in some countries wild animals are regarded as a nuisance, in Canada they are regarded as important species. Incidents like these are indicative of Canada's commitment to the preservation of the natural environment — a policy which has drawn praise from United Nations officials.

Last April a global commission warned that growing environmental crises pose as great a threat to humanity as war does. But there are a few bright

spots on the horizon. Canada, for instance, has created a 17-strong National Task Force on the Environment and Economy to formulate a series of recommendations for new development policies within the country.

According to Noel Brown, Head of the UN Environment Programme for North America, Canada is the first country in the world to create such a task force of government, business and environment leaders and to deal with the recommendations of a UN report that development should not destroy the environment.

Brown has said that Canada's leaders have 'sent a signal to the world that one rich country is not afraid to think of sustainable development.' ♣

New air agreement cuts trans-Atlantic fares

If you ever felt you could not afford a trip to Canada, perhaps it is time to look again. An agreement reached at the eleventh hour between Canadian and British officials means lower fares on scheduled flights between the UK and Canada as well as fewer booking restrictions.

The new accord is one of the most liberal ever reached covering long-haul flights between the UK and another country. It means that airlines can operate from any airports with long-haul facilities in one country to any cities in the other.

In addition, Canadian carriers gain the right to carry traffic beyond London up to ten times weekly to most cities in Western Europe, and four times weekly to three points in Asia. In exchange, Britain gains reciprocal rights to operate beyond Canada to the US, Caribbean, Central America and the Pacific.

UK Transport Minister Paul Channon described the agreement as 'a further major step towards our goal of increased competition in international air services under fair conditions.' Canadian External Affairs Minister Joe Clark was pleased, too. 'The agreement provides airlines with opportunities for growth and establishes a durable framework for the future', he said.

Other features of the treaty are that all designated

airlines will be able to determine their own capacity route-by-route for bilateral services. They will also be able to determine their own passenger tariffs within a liberal arrangement of tariff zones, and set their own cargo rates.

Airlines welcome the new accord

The accord has met with the approval of all the airline companies concerned. British Airways is 'very satisfied' with the outcome of the negotiations, according to Alan Beaves, the company's Commercial Relations Manager.

One benefit he sees is that BA will be able to offer a wider range of fares. The advance booking restriction for many excursion deals will no longer apply, which means that scheduled carriers will be able to compete more effectively with charter airlines.

Although British Airways has no immediate plans to modify its route network, Beaves feels that in the long term the additional landing rights will prove most advantageous.

Air Canada's response to the new agreement was to introduce a new 'Pondhopper' excursion fare, which slashes up to 50 per cent off regular economy fares. A no-advance booking return fare from London to Toronto will now cost as little as £323, whereas previously the comparable fare was £630. The only restrictions are that the visit must be for at least a week and payment must be made at the time of reservation.

Other fares, which are considerably lower, have also been significantly reduced.

'We are delighted that the new air services agreement has allowed Air Canada to pass on such savings to the consumers,' says John Barnes, Air Canada's General Manager for the UK. 'Air Canada will be adopting a very aggressive marketing policy in the UK, which will further benefit both business travellers and holiday-makers.'

Regional airports will gain scheduled flights to Canada

Ian Mayer of Wardair is also pleased with the new arrangements. His company used to operate only charter flights between the UK and Canada, but for the past 18 months it has also been operating scheduled services out of certain airports.

'When we started scheduled operations we became very concerned about the inflexibility of the existing tariff regime,' he says. 'It didn't allow us to be competitive with chartered operators. Now we can offer a much better deal, and the main benefit will be to the consumer.'

Does that benefit include lower fares? 'We are in competition with British Airways, Air Canada and the charter airlines,' Mayer said. 'You can rest assured that passengers will get a competitive fare.'

One consequence of the agreement is that Wardair plans to make all its flights between the UK and Canada scheduled ones, including its summer services from regional airports. These include Birmingham, Cardiff, Leeds/Bradford and Newcastle.

Lower fares apart, travel between the UK and Canada has never been easier. ♦



Investment patterns change as global economy emerges

Late last year, Canada and the United States – the world's two largest trading partners – signed a historic agreement which will greatly reduce tariffs and other trade barriers (see box). Among other things, the new pact is expected to lead to much higher levels of cross-border investment.

In this extract from a recent speech, Paul Labbé, president of Investment Canada, describes some of Canada's attitudes towards international investment in general – and outlines how that investment is changing the 'very dynamics' of the way business around the world is now conducted.

Any discussion of international investment must take place against a backdrop of two overwhelming facts. The first is that we are now living in a global economy – the first in history – and the second is that within that global economy, investment has assumed an unprecedented importance.

According to a recent article by Peter Drucker in the Wall Street Journal, it is observable that international investment is booming at a time when international trade is slowing down. The reason is, as Drucker says, that 'investment has now become the dominant factor in the world economy.'

Where traditionally investment has followed trade, it is now trade that follows investment.

But when we speak of investment, we are really using an old word to describe something new. Global interdependence and technological change have had a profound impact on the forms and patterns of international investment.

In fact, the very dynamics of business – how corporations make decisions and act upon them – have changed. Investment no longer means simply the provision of capital. Increasingly today it involves a commitment of technology, production know-how, and managerial expertise.

Companies seeking investment opportunities are increasingly looking for partners that they know are sophisticated enough to quickly assimilate and benefit from the investment.

Also, new forms of investment have arisen – joint ventures, R&D Consortia, Co-marketing arrangements, and strategic alliances.

Profound changes in investment

These profound changes in the nature of investment have been accompanied by equally profound changes in both the sources and destinations of investment.

For example, in 1975, the United States was the single largest source of international direct investment. At that time, US foreign direct investment exceeded the combined total for the next six largest international investors.

In 1982, however, Japan replaced the United States as the leading source of new international investment. Over the last decade, other nations – including Canada – have emerged as dynamic players in the global economy.

Today, Japan, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, the Netherlands and Canada together

TRADE: Securing Canada's Future LE COMMERCE: la clé de l'avenir



account for more than 50 per cent of all foreign direct investment among the advanced industrialised economies. Indeed Canada alone accounts for about four per cent of the global stock of investment.

At the same time, the United States has become the single largest destination for international foreign direct investment.

Canada also more attractive

Canada too has become more attractive for foreign investors. In 1986, for example, inflows of foreign direct investment stood at a record £3 billion, double the total for the previous year. In the same year, Canada also received £12.5 billion in portfolio investment.

About ten per cent of foreign direct investment in Canada originates in the United Kingdom, making the UK Canada's largest source of foreign direct investment after the United States.

Going the other way, the United Kingdom is also the second largest recipient of Canadian direct investment abroad. By the beginning of 1986, Canadians had located around £2 billion in Britain.

Canada represents considerable opportunities for UK investors. The 1986 Report on Competitiveness issued by the World Economic Forum ranked Canada in sixth place among the OECD countries, up from eleventh just two years previously.

The WEF report reflects what international investors have increasingly understood – Canada has become one of the world's most attractive investment prospects.

Access to US market

Canada has now reached agreement with the United States, pending final ratification by the Canadian and US governments, on ways of further liberalising our two-way trade – the largest bilateral trading relationship in the world. Our objective here is to ensure secure access into the US market from Canada.

Yet Canadians appreciate that bilateral agreements alone are not the whole answer to the challenges posed by the emergence of a global economy.

According to a recent survey by Toronto Professors Fleck and D'Cruz of 25 CEOs heading the largest US manufacturing subsidiaries in Canada, their chief concern is not the effects of the free trade agreement between Canada and the US, but rather the impact of the rapid globalisation of their industries.

Free trade may give an immediate impetus to change, but the over-riding strategic concern of these companies is their longer-term viability given the new forms of international competition. In other words, in spite of the free trade deal, the problem of economic rationalisation in response to global change will remain.

That is why the Canadian government's policies of economic renewal are so vital to the future of our country. By creating an attractive climate for investment, those policies will lay a solid foundation for Canadian international competitiveness.

Thus the government's policies are also having a profound effect on foreign perceptions of Canada.

For example, a high-level Japanese mission to Canada in 1986 spoke of a strong, developed and outgoing 'new Canada' ready to work closely with Japanese investors.

Also, the Conference Board of Canada recently issued a survey of foreign investors which confirmed that investors around the world have recognised the profound changes in Canada's investment climate.

The most successful and prosperous economies today are those whose people understand that economic achievement depends on receptivity to new forms of investment, technology, global orientation, entrepreneurship, and economic initiatives stemming from the grass-roots of the economy.

That kind of outward-oriented competitive attitude is the key toward attracting the kind of new international partnerships that can help take advantage of our opportunities, and realise our country's vast potential.

Canada and US sign free-trade agreement

Canada and the US have signed a historic free-trade agreement that is expected by 1998 to eliminate all tariffs and other barriers to trade between the two countries.

Canada and the US are already each other's largest trading partners, accounting for about £80 billion of trade each year. More than 70 per cent of Canadian exports go to the US, while about 20 per cent of US exports go to Canada.

In Ottawa, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney said of the agreement, 'We view it as a significant accomplishment for Canada and one that should benefit the economies of both countries.'

In Washington, US President Ronald Reagan said the agreement would create thousands of jobs in both countries, adding, 'Now, in addition to sharing the world's largest undefended border, we will share membership in the world's largest free-trade area.'

The free-trade agreement, still to be ratified by the Canadian and US governments, is scheduled to take effect on January 1, 1989. In general, it would:

- Remove all tariffs within 10 years including those on agricultural and food products;
- Ease Canada's rules on foreign investment;
- Retain most protections for Canada's cultural industries;
- Expand access to Canadian markets for US farm products and exempt each country from the other's meat import laws;
- Improve access to Canadian energy supplies by the US and secure markets for Canadian energy exports to the US;
- Protect intellectual property, patent and copyright laws and move to improve access for US financial institutions.

Exhibitions at Canada

The Canada House Galleries in Trafalgar Square are currently mounting several exhibitions to complement *Living Arctic*, the exhibition on Canadian Indian and Inuit life currently showing at the Museum of Mankind.

The Main Gallery at Canada House is showing twenty five historical and contemporary masks from the Pacific Northwest Coast, entitled *I have seen the other side of the world*. The masks have been borrowed from the Museum of Anthropology of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver. This is the first time that such an important group of Indian artefacts from the world-renowned collection of the museum has been shown in Europe. The exhibition runs from December 4, 1987 to March 4, 1988.

I Have Seen the Other Side of the World

The tradition of mask making extends along the entire Northwest Coast area, from northern Washington State through British Columbia to the Alaskan panhandle. The masks vary in size, shape, complexity and purpose from one tribal group to another. The tribal origin of most masks can be readily distinguished by the characteristic features that define cultural styles.

Winter dance ceremonies have their most elaborate expression among the Southern Kwagiutl people. Bold carving, exaggerated features and colourful surface painting give Kwagiutl masks a stunning theatrical effect. The great masks of the cannibal birds, used in the important Hamatsa dance, are unsurpassed in dramatic power, with their huge clapping beaks, shredded cedar bark hair and penetrating eyes.

Among the West Coast (Nootka) people, head-dresses and masks representing supernatural wolves

'Bookwus' mask
Beau Dick
collected 1983
Kwagiutl

'Hamatsa' mask
Glen Tallio
collected 1987
Bella Coola



Photo: Bill McLennan - UBC Museum of Anthropology

and serpents dramatise the capture and return of young dance initiates. The Coast Salish Swaixwe mask, with protruding eyes and stylised tongue, is used in the ritual cleansing of people involved in life changes. And in masks by Haida and Tsimshian carvers, human faces representing ancestors or hereditary names are portrayed with subtle realism.

Carvers today use many of the same materials and techniques that were refined by their ancestors. Red and yellow cedar, alder and yew woods are transformed into masks with the aid of traditional adzes and curved or straight knives. Masks are embellished with cedar bark, human or horse hair, abalone and operculum shells, and paint.

An arts and crafts revival in the Pacific Northwest

The modern masks in this exhibition are evidence of the dramatic revival in Indian art that has been taking place on the Northwest Coast of North America since the 1960s. Today, at least 200 professional native artists and many more craftsmen and women are creating not only masks but silver and gold jewellery, basketry and weaving.

Native art flourished in coastal British Columbia until the late 19th century. But the continuing effects of colonisation on the Indian cultures left artistic and ceremonial traditions in a state of decline. In 1884 an amendment to the Canadian Indian Act prohibited the potlatch, a central institution of native society. Art played a major role in this ceremony, both as gifts and as dance regalia.

With the prohibition of the potlatch, which lasted until 1951, the impetus for artists to master the traditions and pass them on was severely diminished.



Photo: Bill McLennan - UBC Museum of Anthropology

House



Eagle-human mask
Dempsey Bob
1987
Tahltan-Tlingit

Photo: Bill McLennan - UBC Museum of Anthropology

For most tribes, carving and other art production virtually came to a halt, or in some cases was driven underground.

The potlatch has become an important element in the current resurgence of Indian identity and art. It is a special ritual occasion in which important hereditary privileges are passed on and social status is publicly affirmed. These privileges include special names, songs and legends, as well as the right to use certain masks and headdresses. Contemporary native artists are often commissioned to create new masks for use in these dance ceremonies. They also produce similar pieces for sale in an avid collector's market.

Prominent Northwest Coast Indian artists work within centuries-old conventions of form and composition that require long training and much sensitivity to master. As 20th century artists, however, they also respond to the challenge of innovating within these conventions. Whether their work is created for contemporary native use or for the market, they are extending the art into new directions.

From the Domain of the Raven

Visitors to the masks exhibition in December can see for themselves the vitality of Northwest Coast art in other forms by visiting *From the Domain of the*

Raven, an exhibition in the Side Gallery at Canada House. It shows carved objects from the collection of June Bedford, who has been collecting such artefacts for the last 25 years. The objects date from the 18th to the 20th century and include carved rattles, human figures with animal heads and totem poles with crests. They are carved from wood, argillite, bone, walrus ivory and cedar bark.

In January the Side Gallery continues the Canadian Indian theme by showing Indian photographic portraits by Christine Turnauer. The exhibition consists of 21 portraits taken between 1985 and 1986 of members from various Indian tribes, including the Kiowa, Assinboine-Sioux, Hidatsa and Cree. This exhibition has been organised by the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Banff.

In February the Side Gallery will be showing paintings by the Anishnawbe artist Blake Debassige, born in Ontario in 1956. He says of his paintings: 'I feel that I am still carrying on a tradition of picture writing, using art as the way of making a statement. The whole thing is a way of communicating to the world.'

Gallery hours for all exhibitions are Monday to Friday, 11.00 am to 5.00 pm. The galleries are closed on Saturdays and Sundays, and on December 25 and 26 and January 1

International

Canada writes off £300 million of African debts

Canada has taken action to assist debt burdened Third World countries that are facing endemic balance of payments problems and declining prices for their exports. Canada's initiative is intended to assist these countries to undertake longer-term economic adjustment programmes.

At the Francophone summit held in Quebec last September, several African leaders reiterated calls for measures to alleviate the precarious financial situation of their countries.

The Canadian government reacted soon afterwards with an announcement by External Affairs Minister Joe Clark that £147 million of debts owed by Senegal, Zaire, Madagascar, Cameroon, the Congo, the Ivory Coast and Gabon would be written off.

An additional £165 million was written off by Canada at the Commonwealth summit in Vancouver the following month. This time the beneficiaries were six Commonwealth African countries. Canadian officials hope that their action will prompt other developed countries to make similar gestures to relieve the debt burden on the world's poorest nations.

Canada also plans to make a substantial contribution to the International Monetary Fund to support the structural adjustment measures which the Fund negotiates with poor countries.

Economy

Forecasters optimistic about Canada's economic prospects

Canada is set to enjoy above-average economic growth over the next 18 months, while medium-term prospects for the economy also look favourable. This is the view of a number of leading economic institutions.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), for instance, has noted that Canada's output showed the fastest growth of any large industrial country last year.

Unemployment fell to 9.6%, and next year it is expected to fall below 9%. The OECD also predicts economic growth of between 2.5% and 3% – a figure which is confirmed by the Conference Board of Canada.

At the same time, EuroRatings Ltd, Europe's only international full-service rating agency, has announced that it has assigned its highest investment grade (AAA) to several long-term obligations of the Canadian government. This is a reflection of Canada's wealth of natural resources, its highly developed manufacturing industry and its sophisticated services sector.

Medium-term prospects for the Canadian economy are favourable, according to EuroRatings. Output will expand with falling inflation, the balance of payments deficit will narrow, and there will be a further reduction in the federal budget deficit.

Trade

Canadian wheat exports top 21 million tonnes

Canada's wheat exports are running at a rate of close to 21 million tonnes per year and account for nearly one quarter of world grain exports. This is a 40% increase over Canada's share of the market five years ago.

The United States remains the largest wheat exporter with 30% of the world market, but Canada in second place is cutting the American lead. In fact, the Canadian share of the world wheat market is growing faster than any other country's despite intense competition.

However, the Canadian Wheat Board 'has been obliged to match the very low prices being offered



His Excellency Roy McMurtry, Canadian High Commissioner, and to his right, Mr Garde Gardom, Agent General for British Columbia, discuss existing dispatch systems for Dial-a-Cab prior to MDI signing.

by the US and other suppliers in order to stay in the market,' says Wheat Council spokesman Bill Demaria. As a result, farmers are receiving the lowest prices for seven years.

Business

London's cabbies choose Canadian taxi dispatch system

A Vancouver-based firm, Mobile Data International, has broken new ground by selling its computerised taxi dispatch system to one of London's largest taxi companies, Owner-Drivers Radio Taxi Service Ltd – better known as Dial-a-Cab. It will be the largest such system in the world, and the first one in the UK.

The heart of the system is a radio modem which transmits digital data on radio waves. Each of the cabs will be equipped with a keyboard and small computer

screen which is able to display up to 320 characters on ten lines. It represents an improvement over radio voice communication from the standpoint both of accuracy and speed of transmission.

The search for a suitable system lasted two years, according to Dial-a-Cab's Chairman, Ken Burns. During that time, he and his members studied numerous systems and visited a number of Mobile Data's customers in North America. One of these was the Houston Yellow Cab Company which has 1300 vehicles fitted with terminals, just short of Dial-a-Cab's 1420.

Mobile Data International's sales in 1986 topped £15 million with a current workforce of 350. One of its first customers was the Vancouver Police Force back in 1979. Having signed the £2.7 million deal with Dial-a-Cab, which includes a five-year maintenance contract, this innovative hi-tech company is turning its attention to other parts of the lucrative, but discriminating, European market.

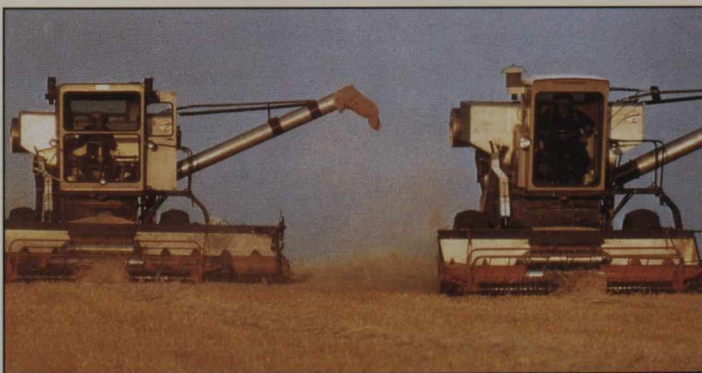


Photo: National Film Board

Trends

Canada's population continues to grow despite lower birth rate
Canada's population is still increasing, but at a slower rate than in the past, according to the

results of a census conducted in June of last year. While marriage is on the increase, the divorce rate has declined slightly. There has also been a 38% jump in common-law marriages since 1981, and now one in twelve Canadian couples is living in a common-law relationship.

Although Canada's population, which now stands at 25.3 million, continues to grow, this is largely attributable to Canada's post-war baby boom and medical advances. The average annual growth rate, however, has declined to 0.84%, which is still higher than that of all other industrial countries with the exception of Australia.

Canadians are also living longer, with the result that, today, the country has more than one million people aged 75 and over – double the 1961 figure. Also, more than half the population is now aged over 30 for the first time in Canada's history.

One particularly interesting trend is that the longevity gap between sexes seems to be shrinking. In 1981, the average Canadian woman could expect to live eight years longer than her male counterpart. Now the gap is only seven years. Statistics Canada's chief statistician, Ivan Fellegi, suggests that this could be a reflection of the changing lifestyles of women who are participating in the labour force in increasing numbers.

A reduction has also been noted in the nation's infant mortality rate, which among the Western democracies is bettered only by Sweden's. But there are now more families without children – 30% of the total number. And 13% of all families have just one parent.

English speakers now account for 68% of the population, while French is the mother tongue of just under 25% of all Canadians.

Science and Technology

Alberta scientists make breakthrough in enzyme research

One problem encountered in medicine is the enzymes which cause germs to resist antibiotics such as penicillin. Now, two

scientists in Alberta have made a discovery that will enable compounds to be found, which will neutralise the enzymes' effect.

Dr Osnat Herzberg and Dr John Moulton have worked out the atomic structure of the antibiotic-resisting enzymes. They obtained a three-dimensional picture of one of three classes of the enzyme known as Beta-lactamase or penicillinase, which revealed the part of the enzyme that enables it to bind with, and destroy, penicillin molecules.

This discovery will help scientists to design compounds that will inhibit the enzymes' action. Alternatively, they could design new antibiotics that the enzymes do not recognise.

Until now, drug companies have resorted to trial and error in their efforts to counteract this class of enzyme. Now thanks to the efforts of Herzberg and Moulton, the stage seems set for the early development of a compound that will overcome resistance to antibiotics.

Education

Canadian studies project produces geography packs for UK students

Land use in Ontario features in a set of three teaching packs produced by the College of St Mark and St John in Plymouth. The packs are designed for 'A' Level and first-year degree courses in geography.

The packs form part of the College's Canadian Studies Geography project, and have been compiled by Dr Roland Allison, an acknowledged expert on Canada, with assistance from other members of the Centre for North American Studies at the College. They provide a comprehensive case study of land use in southern Ontario with extensive data in the form of maps, diagrams and statistics.

The first pack deals with agricultural land use and farming systems, while the second examines the impact of urban influences on changing rural land-use patterns in the area. The most recently published pack is entitled Urban Land-Use and

Planning in Metropolitan Toronto.

The packs have been welcomed by Canada specialists, as well as by those who are particularly concerned with the study of land use. As the material focusses on a single part of Canada, the interplay of influences can be more easily detected.

The packs cost £3 each, and more information on them can be obtained from Michael Bradshaw, Centre for North American Studies, College of St Mark and St John, Derriford Road, Plymouth PL5 8BH.

Sport

\$100 gold coin will commemorate Calgary winter Olympics

The climax of the Royal Canadian Mint's special issues to mark the staging of the 1988 Winter Olympics in Canada is to be a \$100 gold coin. It depicts a hand carrying the Olympic torch with a stylised flame forming an image of Canada's Rocky Mountains.

The coin follows on from a ten-coin sterling silver Olympic commemorative series, which was launched in 1985. Part of the revenue from the sales of all the coins will go to support the Olympics and amateur athletes through royalties.

The coin's designer is Friedrich Peter who has won many awards for coin design. The second silver coin of the series depicting a speed skater is also his work, and his submission to the Games Organising Committee has been selected as the design for the gold, silver and bronze medals that will be presented to the winning athletes.



shown larger than actual size

People

New business development director arrives at Ontario House

The Government of Ontario has recently appointed John B Blanchard as its Business Development Director in London. He takes over from Brian Donoghue who has moved to Atlanta.

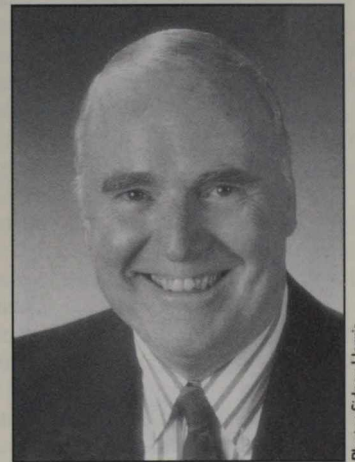


Photo: Sidney Harris

A certified management accountant, Mr Blanchard is well versed in business development matters; he held senior positions in private manufacturing industry before joining the Toronto Area Industrial Development Board in 1960.

In 1979, he joined the industrial development branch of Ontario's Ministry of Industry and Trade, later becoming Director of the Ministry's Domestic Offices Section, which promotes manufacturing and industrial development throughout the province.

In London he will have responsibility for all aspects of business and trade development, not only in Great Britain, but in Ireland and Scandinavia as well.

Canada now a training ground for champions

Canada's Ben Johnson is the fastest man in the world. In September 1987 he won the 100 metres in Rome with a time of 9.83 seconds.

But Johnson is not the only Canadian sportsman to come to prominence in recent years. There are swimmers Alex Baumann and Victor Davis, high jumper Milt Ottey, skiers Steve Podborski and Nancy Green, and figure skater Brian Orser, to mention but a few. Furthermore, at the 1988 Olympics the country looks set to exceed its performance in Los Angeles, when Canadians had top-six placings in 26 of the 31 sports.

This is a far cry from Canada's poor showing in the 1960 Olympics, when it took home only one medal. Since then, Canadian sporting performance has improved beyond recognition.

But this has not happened purely by chance. It is due in no small measure to federal government support for high performance training centres which bring together top-quality facilities, coaches and support services.

Sport Canada and the promotion of excellence

Government encouragement began in 1961 with the establishment of a Fitness and Amateur Sport Directorate. In 1969, the *Task Force Report on Sport for Canadians* recommended more government assistance for both sport and physical recreation in Canada. This led to the formation of Fitness Canada, which encourages Canadians to be more sports-minded, and Sport Canada, which is responsible for improving competitive ability at the national and international levels.

Sport Canada has a brief to co-ordinate, promote and develop high performance sport in Canada in conjunction with national sport organisations, and to assist in the development of domestic sport in those areas requiring co-ordination at national level. It also provides technical leadership, policy direction and consultative services to assist national sport organisations in the pursuit of excellence, in addition to developing federal government sport policies.

Canada has become much more sports conscious

in recent years, and part of the impetus has come from the hosting of international sports events, beginning in 1976 with the Summer Olympics. These were followed by the Commonwealth Games in 1978, the World University Games in 1983 and now, in 1988, the Winter Olympics in Calgary and we hope the 1994 Commonwealth Games.

High performance training centres are key to success Canada produces its own coaches, such as Al Taylor, coach to the national volleyball team, Andrzej Kulesza, who has achieved considerable success with Canada's weightlifters, and Reszo Gallov, who is developing the performance of the national water polo team. But a crucial factor in Canada's sporting renaissance is the network of specialist sports centres.

The start-up funds for an approved centre are provided by the federal government, which monitors the facilities on a regular basis to ensure they are making a clear contribution to the development of high performance athletes. Many centres also have a regional development component which attracts aid from provincial governments.

A national sports organisation is involved in the centre's programme administration and operation, while the sport organisations at provincial level actually manage the centre and provide coaches as well as scientific and administrative support.

Each sport decides whether to centralise its activities or develop regional centres of excellence.

The first full-time centre to be established was for the national men's volleyball team in 1971 on the campus of the University of Calgary. Its annual operating costs are around £50,000 with Sport Canada providing 60% of the funding. It has a full-time coach, an assistant coach, a full-time co-ordinator and athletic therapist. During the summer, it accommodates up to 34 athletes, and about half that number in the winter.

Since the establishment of the centre, Canada's national volleyball team has chalked up some notable successes. Canada won a silver medal in the World University Games and finished fourth in the



1.

1. The Olympic Torch being carried by one of the 6214 torch bearers on its 11250 mile journey around Canada which will end in Calgary, Alberta. In remote areas the torch is being transported using airplanes, boats, snowmobiles, cross-country skis, snowshoes and dog sleds.

2.



3.



Photo: AIB/SA

4.



Photo: AIB/SA



5.

2. & 5. Downhill skiing and Bobsleigh are two of the sports that will be featured at the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary.

3. Angela Issejenko, one of the Canadian gold medal winners at the Edinburgh Commonwealth Games.

4. Victor Davis, a member of Canada's Commonwealth Games swimming team, and winner of the 100 metres breastroke.

6. Team Canada, one of the finest exponents of the game of ice hockey.

7. Canadian equestrian, Ian Millar, competing in Toronto.

6.



Los Angeles Olympics. Canadian players are now being recruited by European teams.

While centralisation has worked for volleyball, water polo has opted for four regional centres, two of which have been completed — one in Montreal and one in Toronto. In addition, coaches have been trained by national coach Rezso Gallov under the Coaching Association of Canada's apprenticeship programme.

Outstanding athletes receive government subsidy

One of the most successful centres is actually run as a private business. The national pairs figure skating centre at Kitchener, Ontario, trains leading pairs such as Cynthia Coull and Mark Rowsom, Denise Benning and Lyndon Johnston, who are ranked among the world's top five pairs.

The federal government contributes £20 000 to the centre, which shares its facilities with Conestoga College. These facilities are impressive: an Olympic-size arena, a complete gym and modern off-ice weight-training facilities. There is also a coaching staff of ten led by Kerry Leitch, together with a team of medical consultants.

Sports like figure skating make considerable demands on an athlete's time, and many would not be able to compete in the top events were it not for allowances they receive from national sports associations and Sport Canada. The federal government has introduced a system whereby outstanding competitors receive between £225 and £320 a month, according to their world ranking. Some 750 sportsmen and women are funded in this way.

Canada's investment in systematic high-quality training programmes for its athletes is beginning to attract interest from all quarters. Says Deryk Snelling, head coach of the aquatic team which was so successful in the last Commonwealth Games: 'Canada has got what it deserves, because it has established a professional organisation, with the people who understand the sport dictating to the administrators.'

7.

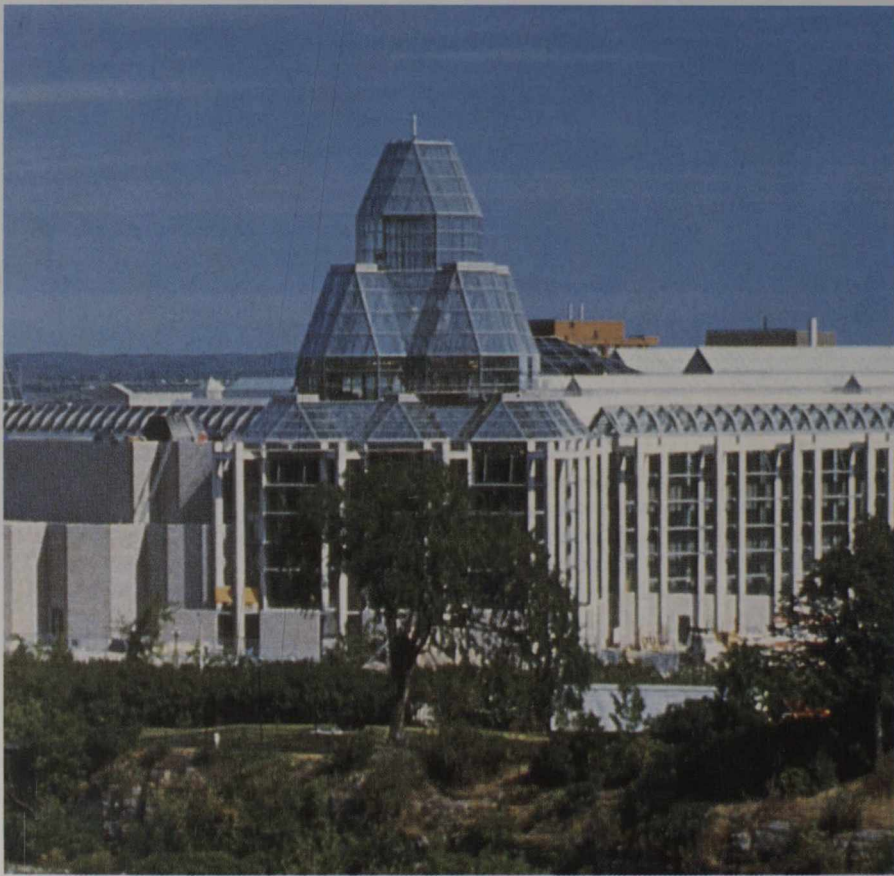


Photo: H M Rosenberg

National gallery of Canada moves to a new site

The National Gallery of Canada is on the move. It has forsaken its premises on the corner of Elgin and Slater Streets in Ottawa, and its staff are busy preparing for its reopening in May in a handsome new building, designed by architect Moshe Safdie, on Sussex Drive.

This move to a permanent home represents a turning point in the history of the Gallery, which was founded in 1880 by the Governor General of the time, the Marquess of Lorne. The new Gallery will boast 3000 square metres of vaulted exhibition galleries surrounding two interior courtyards. The rooms will be illuminated by natural light descending through light-shafts to provide optimum viewing conditions.



The new National Gallery of Canada

The ground-floor galleries will be devoted to the Gallery's collection of historic Canadian art, where 800 paintings, sculptures and other works of art will be arranged both chronologically and regionally — from the early 18th century to the avant-garde of the 1960s.

The first-floor galleries will house the important European collection, together with a small complement of American and Asian works. All centuries will be represented, from the Middle Ages to the present day; while the two Asian galleries will be devoted principally to a collection of Indian, Nepali and Tibetan art amassed by the noted collector Nasli M Heeramaneck.

Contemporary art will be displayed in a two-storey wing of the Gallery, which includes a videotheque and a sculpture court.

Exhibition of European prints and drawings

The National Gallery is particularly proud of its extensive prints and drawings collections — the largest in Canada, with over 12000 works. Its photography collection is even larger, more than 16000 photographs in all, and ranks among the major international collections of its kind. The Gallery was one of the first public galleries to recognise photography as an art form and held its first photography exhibition as long ago as 1934.

The new Prints, Drawings and Photograph Galleries will feature rotating exhibitions from the permanent collection as well as touring exhibitions. The first of these — when the National Gallery opens in May — will be an exhibition of 20th-century European prints and drawings from the Gallery's own collection of European graphic arts.

Among the 45 outstanding pieces on view will be Cezanne's watercolour study for the coloured version of the *Large Bathers* lithograph (c1890-1895) and George Braque's etching *Fox* (1911). There will be two works by Paul Klee — the water colour *Wintery Mask* (1925) and the etching *Higher and Higher!* (1928) — which show the artist's fascination with folk and children's art.

Pablo Picasso will be represented by three works — two influenced by surrealism and a graceful neo-classical drawing from 1923 entitled *Three Female Nudes Dancing*; so will Henry Matisse, with *Study of a Woman's Back*, *Woman with a White Fox Boa* and *Dancer Resting in an Armchair*.

Also of considerable interest will be the Gallery's newly acquired prints, works by the Dutch artist M C Escher — donated by the artist's son — and Marc Chagall's masterpiece of colour lithography *Daphnis and Chloe*.

Major Degas exhibition planned for the summer

June also promises to be a particularly exciting month for art lovers. That's when the Gallery will host a major retrospective exhibition of works by Degas, in conjunction with the Réunion des Musées Nationaux in Paris and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

The core of the exhibition will be the substantial holdings of the artist's work from two of the participating institutions, the Musée d'Orsay in Paris and the Metropolitan. National Gallery staff in Ottawa have compiled the definitive catalogue of all the works borrowed for the exhibition.

About 376 works will be on display, including some of the artist's best known ones, such as *The Bellelli Family*, *The Cotton Market* and *The Rehearsal of the Ballet on Stage*, which is perhaps the most famous of all his dance pictures. There will also be works from the Gallery's own collection, notably *Portrait of a Woman with an Umbrella* (1887) and *Race Track* (c1895).

In the past century, Canada has built up an extensive collection of fine art, much of which has not been exhibited before because of a lack of space. The opening of a permanent home therefore represents an important addition to the Canadian cultural scene. ✻

