

Minister for
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SEMINARS TO FOCUS ON BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN EASTERN GERMANY

Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade Michael H. Wilson announced today that his Department will sponsor a series of seminars on opportunities for business and investment in eastern Germany.

Hosted by the Canadian German Chamber of Industry and Commerce and featuring a delegation of leading government and business representatives, the seminars will be held in Montreal on May 6, in Toronto on May 7, in Vancouver on May 9, and in Calgary on May 10. The program in each city will begin with presentations in the morning followed by individual meetings between German and Canadian participants in the afternoon.

Attending from Germany will be representatives from Treuhandanstalt (Berlin), the agency responsible for the privatization of more than 7,000 east German firms; the Federal Ministry of Economics (Bonn); Dresdner Bank AG (Frankfurt); DOWC Ost West Consult (Berlin); Brandenburg Economic Development Corporation (Brandenburg); and the Canadian Consulate General (Berlin).

Several sectors have been identified with strong potential for co-operation between Canadian and east German suppliers including telecommunications, environmental technology, construction and food processing.

"These seminars are an important element of the Going Global strategy aimed at facilitating strategic partnerships between Canadian and European firms," said Mr. Wilson. "The economic reconstruction of eastern Germany, coupled with the integration of that region into the European Community, offers exciting business prospects for Canadian firms seeking to position themselves strategically in the New Europe."

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