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APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL ADVISOR ON INVESTMENT TO THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN TOKYO

The Minister for International Trade, James Kelleher today announced the appointment of Mr. Richard Michael Howard as special advisor on investment to the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo.

Mr. Howard's primary responsibility will be to stimulate increased Japanese investment in Canada. He will plan and undertake major investment development programme activities in coordination with post personnel and in support of Provincial Government and private sector investment initiatives. Mr. Howard will work closely with potential Japanese investors to assist them in evaluating specific investment opportunities in Canada.

Mr. Howard joins the Embassy from a position of partner with Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co. Of particular interest to this assignment is his recent lead role at Peat Marwick in conceiving and developing a successful program for marketing firm-wide services to Japanese companies coming to and operating in Canada. His two year assignment is being conducted through Interchange Canada, a program to facilitate executive exchanges between the federal government and the private sector.

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"Mr. Howard comes highly recommended and well qualified for this assignment in Tokyo", said Mr. Kelleher. "Continuing and increased investment in Canada from Japan is extremely important to the success of the Government's investment program. Mr. Howard's private sector experience and knowledge of Japanese investor needs will be of important use in our investment development initiatives".

Mr. Howard's appointment follows Cabinet's decision to authorize the Department of External Affairs to recruit investment advisors for priority markets. It is part of Investment Canada's new foreign investment program launched last September 25 by the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion, Sinclair Stevens.

Mr. Kelleher recently announced a similar assignment of Mr. Victor Clarke in Canada's High Commission in London. He expects to make announcements in the future regarding the assignment of investment advisors to Canadian missions in Germany, Chicago, New York and Paris.