



PRESS RELEASE

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UNITED NATIONS TRAINING CENTRE AT UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE RIVERS, FORESTS, CITIES AND INDUSTRIES OF WESTERN CANADA AND NORTHWESTERN UNITED STATES WILL SERVE AS A LABORATORY IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT FOR A NEW-TYPE TRAINING CENTRE TO BE OPERATED BY THE UNITED NATIONS, THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA BEGINNING 1 JUNE.

THE REGIONAL TRAINING CENTRE FOR U.N. FELLOWS, WITH HEAD-QUARTERS ON THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS IN VANCOUVER, B.C., WILL ENABLE TRAINEES FROM UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO STUDY AND OBSERVE ACTIVITIES IN FIELDS SUCH AS HYDROELECTRIC POWER, WATER DEVELOPMENT, MINING, FORESTRY, LAND MANAGEMENT, COOPERATIVES, CREDIT UNIONS, SOCIAL WELFARE, AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

IN CONTRAST TO TRAINING CENTRES THAT PROVIDE FORMAL LECTURES AND GROUP FIELD TRIPS, THE VANCOUVER CENTRE WILL DRAW UP INDIVIDUAL TRAINING PLANS TAILORED TO THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF EACH FELLOW.

A TRAINEE, SELECTED UNDER THE UN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, MAY ENROLL FOR CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION, IF APPROPRIATE, OR HE MAY CARRY OUT GUIDED STUDIES UNDER FACULTY SUPERVISION. IN ADDITION, HE WILL BE ATTACHED TO A FIELD AGENCY OR GOVERNMENTAL OFFICE IN THE LABORATORY AREA FOR FIRST-HAND OBSERVATION IN HIS SPECIALTY.

"REMARKABLE" DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA CITED AS THE LABORATORY AREA OF

THE REGION, FELLOWS ENROLLED IN THE VANCOUVER CENTRE WILL BE ENABLED TO LIVE WITH FAMILIES OF THE AREA RATHER THAN IN DORMITORIES, IF THEY WISH.

AS EACH TRAINEE ARRIVES IN VANCOUVER, THE CENTRE WILL WORK OUT A STUDY PLAN FOR HIM. IT WILL BE ABLE TO DRAW UPON THE ENTIRE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA FACULTY TO OBTAIN APPROPRIATE GUIDANCE FOR TRAINEES, ALONG THE LINES OF THE TUTORIAL SYSTEM, AND THEN WILL ASSIGN A FIELD PROJECT TO SUPPLEMENT CAMPUS ACTIVITIES.

THREE GENERAL FIELDS ARE OFFERED: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL WELFARE, AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF PLANS FOR THE CENTRE COMMENTS THAT "MANY INTERESTING OPPORTUNITIES" ARE OFFERED FOR STUDY IN SPECIFIC FIELDS SUCH AS GEOLOGY, MINING, MULTI-PURPOSE WATER DEVELOPMENT, OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION, FORESTRY AND FOREST PRODUCTS INCLUDING PULP AND PAPER PRODUCTION, AGRICULTURE, IRRIGATION, FISHERIES AND PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT. "IN HYDROELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT, THIS REGION IS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT AREA OF THE CONTINENT", IT STATES. "THERE ARE EXCEPTIONAL FACILITIES FOR TRAINING IN TRANSPORT BY SEA, LAND AND AIR..."

IN THE FIELD OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, THE CENTRE WILL PLACE TRAINEES IN MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, OFFICES OF PROVINCIAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS, AND REGIONAL BRANCHES OF FEDERAL AGENCIES. THEY WILL OBSERVE ACTIVITY IN FIELDS SUCH AS CUSTOMS, INCOME TAX, CIVIL SERVICE, BUDGET, NATIONAL REVENUE, NARCOTICS CONTROL, PUBLIC WORKS, AND TRADE AND COMMERCE.

SOCIAL WELFARE TRAINEES ALSO WILL FIND MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDY, THE ANNOUNCEMENT NOTES, AS "THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA HAS TRADITIONALLY PLAYED A LEADING ROLE ON THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SOCIAL SERVICES".

PLANS FOR THE CENTRE ARE BEING DEVELOPED BY THE UN OFFICE FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, AND FELLOWSHIP ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING HANDLED BY THE UN BUREAU OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OPERATIONS.

WESTERN CANADA AND NORTHWESTERN UNITED STATES WAS CHOSEN BECAUSE IN THE PAST 50 YEARS THIS AREA HAS EXPERIENCED A MOST REMARKABLE EXPANSION OF POPULATION AND OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT", AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CENTRE STATES. "THE REGION'S NATURAL RESOURCES OF LAND, FOREST, WILD LIFE, MINERALS, WATER AND ENERGY HAVE PROVIDED THE BASIS FOR SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT WHICH CAN USEFULLY BE STUDIED BY PERSONNEL FROM THE LESS MATERIALLY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES".

UNDER A THREE-WAY AGREEMENT ON OPERATION OF THE CENTRE, THE UNITED NATIONS WILL SUPPLY FELLOWSHIPS FOR THE TRAINEES AND WILL PROVIDE A DIRECTOR AND AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER. THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA WILL PROVIDE INSTRUCTION AND GUIDANCE FOR THE FELLOWS, AS WELL AS OFFICE SPACE FOR THE CENTRE. THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT WILL CONTRIBUTE \$10,000 IN EACH OF THE THREE FISCAL YEARS BEGINNING 1959-60. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS COOPERATED BY MAKING THE FACILITIES OF ITS AGENCIES IN NORTHWESTERN STATES AVAILABLE TO THE TRAINEES FOR STUDY AND OBSERVATION.

THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED NATIONS BY HUGH L. KEENLEYSIDE, UN UNDER-SECRETARY IN CHARGE OF THE OFFICE FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. U.N. AND AGENCY FELLOWS ELIGIBLE FOR FELLOWSHIPS FOR THE CENTRE WILL BE PROVIDED UNDER THE PRESENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND RELATED AGENCIES (UNDER THIS PROGRAM, EXPERTS IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL FIELDS ARE SENT TO UNDERDEVELOPED AREAS, AND FELLOWS FROM THOSE COUNTRIES ARE ENABLED TO OBTAIN ADVANCED TRAINING ABROAD).

APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE TAKEN SPECIFICALLY FOR THE VANCOUVER PROGRAM, BUT FELLOWSHIP WINNERS SELECTED THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THE NEW CENTRE WHEN IT IS CONSIDERED THAT ITS FACILITIES WOULD BE USEFUL IN THEIR SPECIALTIES. ALL FELLOWS ARE SELECTED FROM CANDIDATES NOMINATED BY GOVERNMENTS, AND AWARDS ARE GRANTED FOR VARYING PERIODS RANGING UP TO A YEAR.

IN THE PAST, MOST FELLOWSHIP WINNERS HAVE STUDIED IN REGULAR ACADEMIC PROGRAMS. THE VANCOUVER CENTRE WILL INCREASE EMPHASIS ON PRACTICAL TRAINING AND WILL GIVE FELLOWS ACCESS TO COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL PROJECTS IN THEIR AREA OF STUDY. IN ADDITION, TO BROADEN THEIR OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTACT WITH THE PEOPLE OF