



news release

Date **April 22, 1994**

No. 79

For release

GOVERNOR GENERAL PAYS STATE VISIT TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

His Excellency the Right Honourable Ramon John Hnatyshyn, Governor General and Commander in Chief of Canada, will pay a state visit to the People's Republic of China from April 24 to April 29, 1994. The Governor General will be accompanied by the Honourable Ralph Goodale, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, and a delegation representing some of Canada's leading agri-food industries.

The visit underlines the importance Canada places on strengthened political and economic relationships within the Asia-Pacific community, Canada's largest and most active area for source of trade outside North America. China, in particular, is a growing superpower whose future development will have considerable impact in areas of concern to Canada, including international disarmament, the environment, the development of democratic and legal institutions, and regional security. Economic exchanges have become increasingly important to both countries, as Canada has particular technical expertise matching China's infrastructure needs in key sectors of telecommunications, oil and gas, hydro power and transportation. The further development of trade in agricultural commodities and related technologies is a particular priority of the Government of Canada.

On Monday, April 25, the Governor General will meet with His Excellency President Jiang Zemin to discuss issues of mutual concern to the two countries, including trade, investment and recent political developments in the region.

On April 26, the Governor General will deliver a speech to faculty and students at Qinghua University in Beijing. He will also visit a telecommunications facility developed with the assistance of Spar Aerospace and the Government of Canada. In the evening, His Excellency will attend a concert by Canada's Oliver Jones Trio. The next day, the Governor General will travel to Shanghai where he will address the Shanghai business community and tour a Canadian investment showcase. On Thursday, April 28, he will address faculty and students at Jiatong University, and that evening will attend a concert by the Oliver Jones Trio. An outline of the Governor General's program is attached.

During the visit, the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food will hold bilateral meetings with his Chinese counterparts, and business and industry leaders and business people. The Minister will promote awareness of Canada's capacity as a supplier of high-quality agri-food products, as well as Canadian advances in food-processing, food-handling and marketing abilities. He and members of the agricultural delegation will pursue the development of joint opportunities between Canada and China in the Asia-Pacific region.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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

STATE VISIT TO CHINA, APRIL 24- 29 1994

Program Highlights

Monday, April 25

- 12:30 p.m. Arrival at Beijing International Airport.
- 2:15 p.m. Visit to the Forbidden City.
- 5:00 p.m. Official welcoming ceremony, Great Hall of the People.
- 5:20 p.m. Meeting with His Excellency President Jiang Zemin, President of the People's Republic of China.
- 6:30 p.m. State dinner hosted by His Excellency Jiang Zemin in the Diaoyutai.

Tuesday, April 26

- 9:30 a.m. The Governor General will receive an honorary degree from Qinghua University, Beijing, and will address the guests.
- 1:00 p.m. Visit to Spar Aerospace, Beijing.
- 7:30 p.m. Concert by the Oliver Jones Trio, 21st Century Theatre.

Wednesday, April 27

- 8:40 a.m. Departure from Beijing International Airport for Shanghai.
- 10:35 a.m. Arrival at Shanghai International Airport.
- 12:30 p.m. Luncheon address to the Shanghai business community, Portman Hotel, Shanghai.
Tour of a Canadian investment showcase, Portman Hotel.
- 3:45 p.m. Visit to the waterfront.
- 6:30 p.m. Meeting with the Mayor of Shanghai at Jin Jiang Guest House, Shanghai.
- 7:00 p.m. Dinner hosted by the Mayor of Shanghai at Jin Jiang Guest House.

Thursday, April 28

- 2:00 p.m. Address to faculty and students of Jiaotong University.
- 7:00 p.m. Concert by the Oliver Jones Trio at the Shangri-la Plaza Theatre.

Friday, April 29

- 8:00 a.m. Depart for Shanghai International Airport.