



news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CANADA-FRANCE TERMINOLOGICAL LINK INAUGURATED

The Secretary of State, the Honourable Gerald Regan and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mark MacGuigan, announced today that the first permanent trans-Atlantic connection with the Government of Canada's terminology bank has been inaugurated in Paris by the Communications Minister, the Honourable Francis Fox.

A terminal installed in the Cultural Centre of the Canadian embassy in Paris will now allow a continuous exchange of information and terminology between the Canadian government's Translation Bureau and the various national and international translation agencies in Europe.

Termed by Dr. MacGuigan "an excellent illustration of co-operation between France and Canada", the project, a follow-up to the work of the recent Tenth Session of the Canada-France Joint Cultural Commission, is a co-operative achievement of Canada's Secretary of State, Communications and External Affairs Departments.

Describing this project as "a terminological chain linking America and Europe", Mr. Regan expressed the wish that this might be "the prelude to a more extensive contribution by Canada to the development and advancement of the French language worldwide". Mr. Regan made reference to the activities and successes of his department in promoting the use of French in the context of the government's bilingualism policy.

Drawing on its own resources, first from the Translation Bureau and also from research carried out by the University of Montreal, Canada has developed a computerized bank of terminological data that will provide a valuable service in meeting the scientific and other needs of the French-speaking world.

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The opening ceremony took place in the presence of the Ambassador of Canada, Mr. Michel Dupuy, the French Minister of State for Research and Technology, Jean-Pierre Chevènement, and the French Minister of Communications, Georges Fillioud, as well as French and Canadian personalities, including those in charge of the project in the Department of the Secretary of State. It featured a brief demonstration in which the participants were able to communicate directly with the terminology bank in Ottawa.

Information:

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