



# Statements and Speeches

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## CANADA AND CHINA -- A LITTLE MUTUAL EDUCATION

A Press Statement by Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau  
issued at Peking on October 13, 1973.

My visit to the People's Republic of China was, of course made at the invitation of Premier Chou En-lai. It was first extended over a year ago and renewed early this summer. Considering the importance of China on the world scene and the particular interest Canada has had and continues to have, both in terms of our own commercial relations and in respect of the broader issues of the day, I was very happy to have been able to accept. The discussions that have taken place I think I can describe as extremely warm and indicative of a high order of mutual respect and regard. The results, on which I shall have more to say in a moment, also included a little mutual education. I am hopeful that the Chinese Premier and the Government of the People's Republic of China will have a better understanding of the Canadian point of view even on those issues on which we still differ.

For my part, I have learned a great deal about what underlies China's policies and its actions on the world scene. On bilateral matters, the results we have achieved speak largely for themselves and I shall give the gist of them:

### Trade and economics

On the trade and economic side, the Premier and I were pleased to note the favourable development of two-way trade since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1970. Trade between Canada and China has increased considerably both in value and composition. It is expected that Canadian exports to and imports from China will surpass in 1973 the record levels reached in 1972, when two-way trade totalled over \$300 million. We expressed the expectation that our discussions during the past few days would lead to a further development of this trend in 1974, to the mutual benefit of both countries. As a further important step in the development of trade relations, the Premier and I signed a trade agreement that will serve as a framework for the development of trade between Canada and China over the next three years. In the agreement, both sides undertake to endeavour to create favourable conditions for further strengthening the flow of goods between them. The agreement establishes a joint trade committee that will meet annually, and we agreed that a meeting of the committee should take place in early December in Peking. The trade agreement also contains an undertaking by both sides to promote the interchange of persons,

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groups and delegations engaged in trade. It was agreed that a program of such interchanges for the coming year would be established during the December meetings of the joint committee. I suggested, in particular, that consideration be given to such areas as transportation, forestry and agriculture.

In the trade agreement, both governments agree to facilitate the development of mutually-beneficial, long-term commercial arrangements between the relevant trading bodies and enterprises of the two countries. In this regard, the Premier and I were pleased to note that Canada and China had just signed a long-term wheat agreement under which China will buy up to 224 million bushels of Canadian wheat over the next three years. Long-term arrangements appear to be particularly useful in a number of other product areas. Two such examples, where it was agreed that detailed discussions might be initiated quickly between the enterprises and organizations concerned in Canada and China, are aluminum and woodpulp. Both sides also exchanged views on potash, sulphur and nickel and agreed that further discussions should take place between the relevant trading bodies and enterprises.

I noted that there had been a significant increase of Chinese imports from Canada of manufactured goods, including capital equipment. Of particular importance were generators, insulated wire and cable, telecommunications equipment and electronic equipment and components. I fully expect that this trend will continue.

During the visit, we were advised that, when importing complete plants, China would consider Canada as a source of supply. In this respect the Chinese indicated that, when they decided to purchase a complete synthetic rubber-producing plant, they would consider Canada first.

In my discussions, I noted that Chinese exports to Canada had doubled in 1972 over 1971, and I expressed the hope that they would continue to increase and that China would take advantage of the varied export opportunities in the Canadian market. I appreciate, of course, that an expansion of our exports to China should be accompanied by an expansion of Chinese exports to Canada. That is what two-way trade is all about. We agreed, in this connection, that both governments should try to render whatever help and assistance they could.

Medical science and health care During my visit there has been a most profitable exchange of views in the medical science and health-care field. More particularly, it has been agreed as follows:

- a) In April 1974, Canada will send to China a nine-member team for a period of one month to learn the technique of acupuncture analgesia.
- b) In September 1974, China will send to Canada a nine-member team, being three groups of three persons, for one to two months, to study neurophysiology, organ-transplantation and the artificial kidney.
- c) In 1974, China will send two scientists to McGill University for one month under the Bethune Lectureship.
- d) Also in 1974, preparation will be made for China to send to Canada, about January 1975, a five-member team to demonstrate acupuncture analgesia and to teach it to Canadian scientists and practitioners.
- e) At the end of 1974, Canadian and Chinese representatives will meet again to discuss exchanges in the medical science and health-care field for 1975.

science and technology      Following upon the highly successful visit to China of the Canadian scientific delegation led by Minister Sauvé, Premier Chou and I agreed that, for the mutual benefit of scientific research in Canada and in China, there should be a number of exchanges during the course of 1974. China will send to Canada delegations of scientists to study the fields of laser research, coal-mining by the open-cast method, seismology, fisheries and forestry. Canada will send to China delegations in the fields of coal-mining by hydraulic power, metrology, fisheries, forestry and pest-control.

Cultural, academic, sport and media      In the area of cultural, academic, sport and media exchange, the Premier and I have discussed the following for 1974: China has agreed in principle to be host to a Canadian symphony orchestra and to an exhibition of Canadian paintings from the collection of the National Gallery. Canada will receive an exhibition of Chinese historic relics now on show in London. We have also noted China's intention to participate next year in Man and His World in Montreal through an exhibition of traditional-style paintings and handicrafts. The same exhibition may also go to Vancouver. China has accepted a gift of books on Canada to be given, over a period of five years, to a Chinese University.

With regard to academic exchanges, both the Premier and I are pleased with the arrangement already concluded which allows for an exchange of 20 students each way each year for the next two years. We have also agreed upon an exchange of professors, to begin, if

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possible, early in 1974, and upon an exchange of delegations in the field of education.

Concerning sport, we have agreed to an exchange of three teams from each country in 1974.

Regarding the media, I was happy to accept an invitation for a delegation of representatives of the press of Canada to visit China, returning the visit to Canada earlier this year of Chinese press representatives.

Finally, we have agreed to an exchange of radio and television programs and documentary films between our two countries.

Consular affairs In the consular field, extensive discussions have been held in a co-operative and friendly atmosphere on matters that are of mutual concern to the Chinese and Canadian Governments and will mean much to our peoples. These discussions have resulted in agreements in three areas. The broadest of these is an understanding on the formal establishment of consular relations that includes a provision for each side to set up a consulate-general in the other country. Another is an understanding on the simplification of visa procedures, which will facilitate the movement of persons between the two countries. Thirdly -- and of perhaps the greatest humanitarian interest -- is an understanding to facilitate the reunion of families. It will now be possible for the Canadian Government to process within China applications made by Canadian residents on behalf of their relatives in China.

We regard these three understandings as a major contribution to increasing the movement of persons to which the Canadian Government attaches great importance.

World affairs The format of the discussions was proposed by the Chinese side. They began with a statement by myself of the Canadian viewpoint on a wide range of subjects both of a general nature and of particular interest to the two countries. The most obvious matters were those currently occupying the attention of governments everywhere, including the situation in the Mid-East, the problems of newly-emerged and emerging countries, the movement toward an accommodation in Europe, and the world situation in respect of energy resources and food supplies.

In these, as in other matters, I took the opportunity of explaining to the Premier the particular attitudes that arise out of Canada's unique geographical and historical position in the world and the Government's policies relating to them. Premier Chou displayed

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considerable interest in my presentation of the Canadian world outlook, particularly in matters relating to Canadian participation in NATO, and other international groupings such as the Commonwealth and the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation. He also enquired about Canadian attitudes toward the Law of the Sea Conference and about Canada's pollution-prevention zones in the Arctic, and about our energy policies.

For his part, Premier Chou presented with great clarity the views of his Government on issues of particular concern to China. I also explained to Premier Chou that, with one great power to our south and another to our north, it was natural that Canada should exert special efforts to establish and maintain close and friendly relations in other parts of the world. To the east, we are concerned with safeguarding and improving our relations with the countries of Europe, but equally it was important for us also to look west to the countries of Asia and the Pacific for co-operation and understanding. I was at special pains to point out that our relations with the U.S.A. were good and must necessarily remain so, that the American relation would obviously continue to form a vital part of our foreign policy. It was no reflection on any of our existing relations that we were seeking to establish and improve our contacts in other parts of the world.

Premier Chou and I agreed that, although there were factors that prevented us from seeing the same events in precisely the same light, our respective points of view were at least understandable to each other and often very similar. Speaking for Canada, I was able to assure him that friendship for China was and would continue to be an important element in our foreign policy.

I think I may say that this visit to Peking, the warm welcome and excellent arrangements that have been made for us, and the extremely friendly and candid conversations we have had, as well as the agreements and understandings we reached, have all combined to ensure that the relationship between the two countries will remain both friendly and of substantial importance to both.