

January 28, 2010

Australian-Canadian Investments Jump Big Time!

Good-Bye 'old friends', hello 'go-to partners'. Always good business partners, Canada and Australia have traditionally prospered in a healthy and balanced trading relationship currently topping AUD \$4 Billion annually.

But coming up from behind has been a stealthy bound in two-way investments. They now exceed AUD \$37 Billion* – an increase of **60%** over five years.

Canada is now Australia's third most important destination for outgoing FDI after the U.S. and New Zealand. Australian investments in Canada in 2008 amounted to AUD \$27.9 Billion.

Canada is the eighth largest foreign direct investor in Australia, at AUD \$ 10.2 Billion, a perch that may well move upward based on signals from Canadian pension funds.

Highlights of current bilateral economic trending include:

- Australian service exports have expanded almost 10% in 2008
- Tourism and travel are booming;
- Mining, financial and health services, biotech and professional and business services are thriving;
- Education and training are hot – over 4000 Canadian students study in Australia today;
- And movement of skilled personnel has surged – each is in the other's top ten source countries.

Fertile sectors that dominate two-way commerce also feature:

- ICT equipment and services
- Food and wine
- Raw materials
- Vehicles, trains
- Chemicals.

* Source: Austrade.

AIR CANADA 

 **RBC**
Capital Markets


CAE

 **CGI**

BOMBARDIER


MACQUARIE

Investments are substantially influenced by mutual mining interests but have heavy doses as well of:

- Food products industries,
- Electronics,
- Infrastructure development
- Banking.

Vectors are not confined to cross-Pacific traffic: jointly Canada and Australia see rich promise in north-south, third-country collaborations. Long-standing expertise of Australian business in a booming China – and East Asia more broadly – in tandem with Canada's dynamic commercial ties with a recovering U.S. economy and in Latin America make for an attractive forum for mercantile prospects.

Canadians and Australians share the same Head of State, culture, sense of humour, federative form of government, similar legal system and international reputation; in complementing each other they are comfortable together.

The Canadian Australian Chamber of Commerce, with growing membership in both countries, is an ideal first-stop for business people wanting to get a window on opportunities that await them. Visit our web site at www.cacc.com.au or contact us via email at admin@cacc.com.au (or, in Canada, at richard.kohler@cacc.com.au) for a speedy introduction to the chamber's many benefits.

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Information:

L. Richard Kohler
Special Advisor
Canadian Australian Chamber of Commerce
Email: richard.kohler@cacc.com.au