

grants in 1979. Development assistance has been concentrated in the sectors of education, air transport, water supply and agriculture (including forestry). On a multilateral basis funds have been made available through various organizations including the United Nations and the Caribbean Development Bank. Canada is a member of the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development formed under the auspices of the World Bank.

Canadian permanent residents number several thousand throughout the Caribbean. Tourism is increasing in the area and Canadians are the most numerous in many cases. There are Canadian high commissions in Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana and Barbados; these four countries and Grenada maintain high commissions in Ottawa. There is also a commissioner for the Eastern Caribbean in Montreal who represents three West Indies Associated States (Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla) and Montserrat.

### **20.3.3 Canada and Latin America**

Canada maintains diplomatic relations with all Latin American countries through 13 resident missions and dual or multiple accreditation from those missions. In addition, Canada is associated with the inter-American system through membership of observer status in many inter-American institutions including a permanent observer mission to the Organization of American States.

In 1978 and early 1979 Canadian government officials visited Cuba, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, Mexico and Venezuela in various capacities. Ministerial missions from Latin America came to Ottawa also.

Canada's trade with Latin America continued to rise. In 1978, it rose by 12.3%: exports jumped 22.5%, from \$1.6 billion in 1977 to \$2 billion in 1978 and imports increased by 4.8%, from \$2.2 billion to \$2.3 billion. Canada's trade deficit declined from \$613 million to \$376 million during the same period.

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) provides direct development assistance to the poorer countries of the area to help them achieve their social and economic objectives. CIDA also participates in multilateral assistance projects with various inter-American institutions. The Export Development Corporation (EDC) increased its presence in Latin America by granting a credit line of \$1.5 billion to Mexico.

At the multilateral level, Canada is an active member of many inter-American organizations, namely: the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, the Pan American Health Organization, the Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Sciences, the Inter-American Statistical Institute, the Inter-American Centre for Tax Administrators, the Centre for Latin American Monetary Studies and the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain. Canada supports various technical and professional inter-American organizations. In April 1978, Canada hosted the annual meeting of the Inter-American Bank.

### **20.3.4 Canada and Europe**

Canada's cultural and social ties with Western Europe and shared commitment to its security through membership in the NATO Alliance, have over the last few years been expanded by placing a new emphasis on the development of an enhanced economic, trade and commercial relationship. The achievement of this objective is a result of the increased importance of the European Economic Community (EEC), which has become the world's largest trading bloc.

Canadian activities in 1978 were directed toward the development and strengthening of political, economic and commercial relations. In political matters, co-operation was actively promoted through regional and international conferences, high-level official visits and ministerial meetings.

Canadian efforts in 1978 and 1979 were directed toward broadening and deepening bilateral and multilateral relationships. The development of political relations was actively promoted through a series of regional and international conferences, high-level official visits and ministerial meetings. Canadian participation at the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting, the Bonn Economic Summit and other international conferences such