

NV college joins trade mission

CAPILANO College President Greg Lee is accompanying B.C. Premier Glen Clark, Prime Minister Jean Chretien, and nearly 700 other Canadian business officials on a two-week trade mission to Latin America.

From Jan. 10 to 23, Team Canada 1998 will visit Mexico, Brazil, Argentina and Chile, where it hopes to strengthen trade links.

Stacey Wootten, a first-year student in the Asia Pacific Management Cooperative Program (APMCP), is also making the journey south at

the encouragement of the federal government.

"Capilano College was invited to join the trade mission because it is in the process of initiating a Latin American Management Program (LAMP)," said John Potts, dean of International Programs at Capilano College.

"This program is being structured after the college's highly-successful Asia Pacific Management Cooperative Program, which currently has 310 alumni working in 14 Asian countries."

Canadian students with university degrees will be training through LAMP to assume professional and

Team Canada tours throughout Latin America for two weeks

development positions in Latin America. In turn, managers and graduate students from Latin America who want to establish linkages with Canada and Southeast Asia will participate in the program.

As part of Team Canada, Capilano College will be seeking partnerships to build Latin American connections. Said Potts, "Another major benefit of having our college president join the Team Canada mission is the number of Canadian business and educational contacts he will make

even before he arrives in Latin America. The plane will be full of people who are already doing business in those countries."

While the immediate purpose of the trip is related to international projects and LAMP, each connection made opens the door to developing new relationships for international exchange — not only for students, but for faculty

members as well.

APMCP student Wootten would eventually like to work in Latin America. This trip will offer her first-hand experience in four Latin American countries.

Each year B.C.'s exports to the Latin American region total over \$350 million.

Brazil, B.C.'s 15th most important trade partner in 1996, took \$133 million worth of the province's exports. This represented 10% of Canada's total exports to the South American country.

Chile was B.C.'s 20th largest international export destination in 1996, accounting for \$61 million of the province's exports. B.C. accounts for 15% of total Canadian exports to Chile.

Mexico is B.C.'s 23rd largest global export destination, accounting for \$49 million in 1996.

Argentina accounted for \$9 million of B.C. exports in 1996. Argentina ranked 41st amongst the province's international trade partners in 1996.