

## **CANADA-MALAYSIA COMMERCIAL RELATIONS**

### **BACKGROUND**

Malaysia is a relatively prosperous country of 29.4 million people and it is one of Canada's important trade and investment partners in Southeast Asia.

Following a gross domestic product (GDP) contraction of 1.5% in 2009 resulting from the global economic downturn, Malaysia's highly export dependent economy enjoyed a sharp rebound in 2010 growing 7.2% before registering growth of 5.1% in 2011. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates that the Malaysian economy has grown approximately 5.6% in 2012 and will grow 4.7% in 2013. While GDP growth is solid, the government has run its 16<sup>th</sup> straight deficit following its recently announced budget, and public debt sits relatively high at 53% of GDP. Should the need arise, the government t drawson the revenues of PETRONAS, Malaysia's state-owned oil and gas company, which already contributes as much as 40% of state revenues to sustain a vast array of social and economic development programming

The public sector plays a significant role in the Malaysian economy. A report from the Malaysian Ministry of Finance indicates that upwards of 68% of expenditures in the Malaysian economy are made either directly through the federal government or Government-Linked Companies. It is further estimated that GLCs comprise 65% of the market cap of Bursa Malaysia. In 2010, the Malaysian government launched a 10-year, \$444 billion Economic Transformation Program (ETP) to propel Malaysia from upper middle-income to high-income status. Projects within the scope of this ambitious, multi-sector program may provide opportunities for Canadian companies.

Canadian companies have traditionally been involved in infrastructure development in areas such as hydro power generation and engineering and financial services, oil and gas, telecommunications, transport and aerospace. With the growth and increasing sophistication of the Malaysian market, Canadian companies are now becoming more active and successful in a new range of sectors, including: agri-food, information technology, education, and defence & security.

### **Merchandise Trade**

In 2013, Canadian merchandise exports to Malaysia were valued at nearly \$779 million, down by less than 1% from the previous year. Top Canadian exports for 2013 included fertilizers, soya beans, petroleum, cereals and oilseeds. Imports from Malaysia surpassed \$2.2 billion in 2013, down 2% from 2012 figures. Canada primarily imports electrical and electronic machinery and equipment, machinery, technical and precision instruments, fats & oils and rubber from Malaysia.

Notable deals include Bombardier's sale of two Amphibious CL-415 aircraft to the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA), and SNC-Lavalin's contract as the Independent Consulting Engineering firm on Kuala Lumpur's new 51 km light rail system. Bombardier and SNC-Lavalin have both been involved in developing Kuala Lumpur's Light Rail Transit lines. On February 27, 2013 British Columbia-based Viking Air Limited and Malaysia Airlines signed an agreement for the sale of six DHC-6 Twin Otter Series 400 aircraft to Malaysia Airlines' Borneo subsidiary, MASwings. A number of BC-based Ag-food companies, including Coastal Fruit, Peller Estates Winery, as well as some seafood producers (live and frozen), also export to Malaysia. Burnaby-based OSI Maritime has recently announced a contract with Boustead Naval Shipyards to provide its services to Malaysia's Littoral Combat Ship program.

### **Investment**

According to Statistics Canada, stocks of Canadian investment in Malaysia were valued at \$569million for 2013, while Malaysia had invested \$1 million in Canada for the same year. However, these figures may not include investments made through third countries and other specific situations, and thus do not capture the full scope of the bilateral investment relationship.

Calgary-based Talisman Energy is the largest Canadian investor in the country and has recently sold \$1.5 billion worth of BC shale gas assets to PETRONAS. Montreal's CAE has a full-service training facility in Malaysia. On April 12, 2013 Sun Life Financial and Malaysian sovereign wealth fund Khazanah Nasional announced the completion of the acquisition of CIMB Aviva Assurance Bhd and its Islamic insurance wing, CIMB Aviva Takaful Bhd. The transaction is valued at approximately \$300 million (its joint venture partner, Khazanah, has invested the same amount for a total consideration of almost \$600 million). Contract electronics manufacturer Celestica has major plants in the states of Johor Bahru and in Kedah. Other Canadian companies like Manulife, Scotiabank, Solmax, ATS Automation, Teknion Furniture and Vancouver-based Monument Mining also have also established a significant presence in Malaysia. More recently, FELDA announced it was putting an additional \$13 million into its Quebec-based oilseed crushing operation in Quebec, on top of its existing \$150 million stake.

In 2012, Minister of Industry Christian Paradis approved PETRONAS' estimated \$6-billion takeover bid to acquire control of Calgary-based Progress Energy Resources and its shale gas holdings in northern BC. PETRONAS has since announced further expansion of its investment including a planned LNG plant on Canada's west coast and a separate LNG infrastructure project. During the October, 2013 visit of Prime Minister Stephen Harper to Malaysia, Malaysia's Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak announced that PETRONAS would grow its investment in Canadian LNG to \$36 billion over 30 years.

### **Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP)**

Canada is one of 12 members of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations, together with: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and the United States. The TPP currently represents a market of 792 million people and a GDP of \$27.5 trillion, with the potential to grow with the addition of other members in the future.

The TPP is an important platform to open new opportunities for Canadian businesses in the Americas and the Asia-Pacific region.

### **Double Taxation Agreement (DTA)**

During the October, 2013 visit of Canada's Stephen Harper to Malaysia, MINA and Malaysian Foreign Minister Anifah signed a Declaration expressing their intent to conclude ongoing work on a Double Taxation agreement in the near future

### **Air Transport Relations**

A 1995 bilateral agreement between Canada and Malaysia allows direct services between the two countries. Although Malaysia Airlines did fly to Vancouver for three years in the late 1990s, no carrier currently provides direct services.

### **Visa**

This June, in response to the closure of the visa section of the High Commission of Canada in Malaysia, CIC has opened a Visa Application Centre (VAC) in Kuala Lumpur through its contract with VFS Global. The CVAC is authorised to provide administrative support services, such as the collection of visa applications, fees and return of passports in sealed decision envelopes to applicants. The CVAC can also assist in scheduling interviews on behalf of the Canadian visa office.

### **Education**

Malaysia has become an important source country for Canada with close to 75,000 Malaysians that have studied in Canada to date. In 2012, Malaysia ranked 23<sup>rd</sup> (down from 20<sup>th</sup> in 2011) as a source country for international students with 1,7 Malaysian students studying in Canada, representing a value of more than \$48 million annually to the Canadian economy. The sixth annual 'Education in Canada Tour' to the ASEAN region, organized by DFATD, which focuses on student recruitment, will be held in Malaysia in January, 2015 in Kuala Lumpur.



Top 5 BC Origin Exports to Malaysia, 2014	Cdn \$Millions	Share of total
1. Helicopters, airplanes and spacecraft	\$13.7	20%
2. Unwrought zinc	\$10.7	16%
3. Rape, colza or mustard oil and their fractions, not chemically modified	\$9.6	14%
4. Wheat or meslin flour	\$5.7	9%
5. Lumber, of a thickness exceeding 6 mm	\$3.9	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$66.9</b>	<b>100%</b>

Top 5 Canadian Exports to Malaysia, 2014	Cdn \$Millions	Share of total
1. Mineral or chemical fertilizers, potassic	\$226.0	31%
2. Soya beans, whether or not broken	\$71.1	10%
3. Crude petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals	\$42.8	6%
4. Wheat and meslin	\$29.2	4%
5. Helicopters, airplanes and spacecraft	\$20.8	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$734.9</b>	<b>100%</b>

Top 5 Canadian Imports from Malaysia, 2014	Cdn \$Millions	Share of total
1. Electronic integrated circuits	\$330.1	14%
2. Telephone sets; other apparatus for transmission/reception of voice/image/data, nes	\$282.9	12%
3. Printing machinery for printing by plates/ cylinders/etc; mach. for uses ancillary to printing	\$192.3	8%
4. Automatic data processing machines; optical readers, machines for transcribing data, etc, nes	\$114.6	5%
5. Apparel, gloves and clothing accessories of vulcanized rubber other than hard rubber	\$100.8	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,419.8</b>	<b>100%</b>

Top 5 Exports from Malaysia to the Rest of the World, 2014	US \$Millions	Share of total
1. Electrical, electronic equipment	\$65,725.5	28%
2. Mineral fuels, oils, distillation products, etc	\$51,731.1	22%
3. Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery, etc	\$23,169.4	10%
4. Animal,vegetable fats and oils, cleavage products, etc	\$15,810.3	7%
5. Plastics and articles thereof	\$7,555.0	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$234,135.0</b>	<b>100%</b>

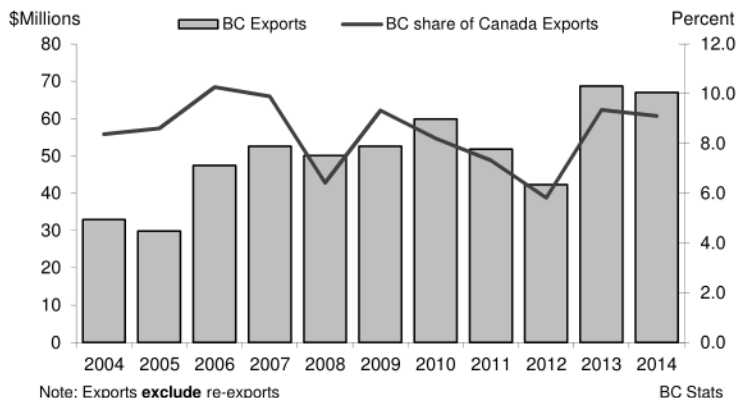
Data Source: International Trade Centre

Top 5 Imports into Malaysia from the Rest of the World, 2014	US \$Millions	Share of total
1. Electrical, electronic equipment	\$53,394.7	26%
2. Mineral fuels, oils, distillation products, etc	\$35,141.9	17%
3. Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery, etc	\$22,447.7	11%
4. Plastics and articles thereof	\$7,251.8	3%
5. Vehicles other than railway, tramway	\$6,500.1	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$208,823.4</b>	<b>100%</b>

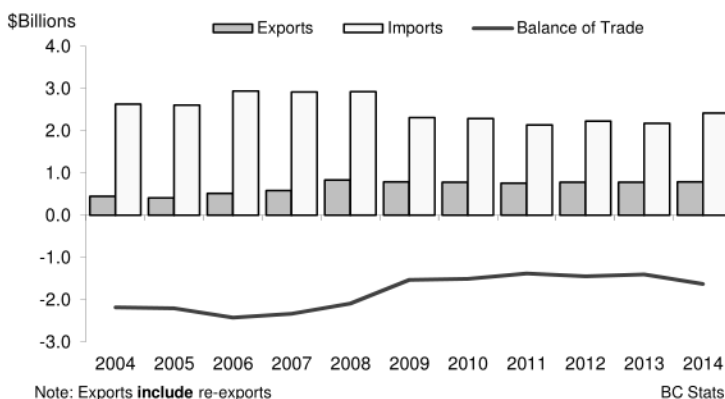
Data Source: International Trade Centre

Provincial Distribution of Exports to Malaysia, 2014	Cdn \$Millions	Share of total
1. Saskatchewan	\$247.4	33.7%
2. Ontario	\$209.7	28.5%
3. Alberta	\$104.6	14.2%
4. Quebec	\$84.2	11.5%
5. <b>British Columbia</b>	<b>\$66.9</b>	<b>9.1%</b>
6. Manitoba	\$10.7	1.5%
7. Nova Scotia	\$5.3	0.7%
8. New Brunswick	\$3.6	0.5%
9. Prince Edward Is.	\$2.0	0.3%
10. Newfoundland & Lab.	\$0.4	0.1%
11. Nunavut	\$0.0	0.0%
12. Yukon	\$0.0	0.0%
13. Northwest Terr.	\$0.0	0.0%
<b>Canada Total</b>	<b>\$734.9</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

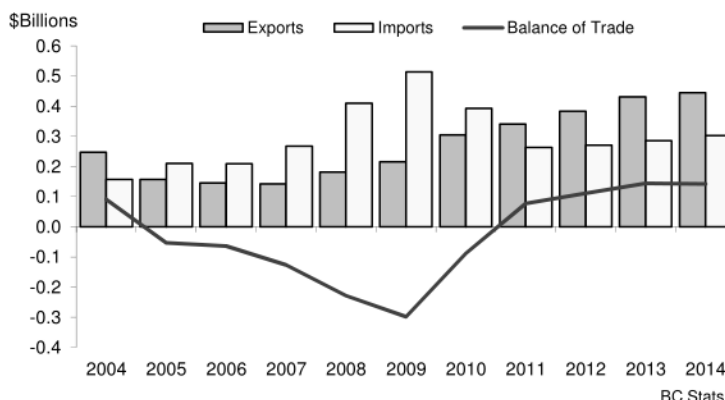
## BC Origin Exports to Malaysia



## Canada's Balance of Trade in Goods with Malaysia



## Canada's Balance of Trade in Services with Malaysia



How important is Malaysia to BC and Canada?

Malaysia ranked #26 as a destination for BC origin exports in 2014 with 0.2% of BC's commodity exports shipped there. It was ranked #30 as a destination for Canadian exports with 0.1% of Canadian goods exports shipped there and #20 as a source of imports into Canada with 0.5% of Canadian imports originating from Malaysia.

How important is Canada to Malaysia?

Canada was the source of approximately 0.3% of imports into Malaysia in 2014. Approximately 0.9% of exports from Malaysia were destined for Canada in that year.

# MALAYSIA

## Continued

### Malaysia General Information

Population	30,513,848 (2015)
Annual Population Growth Rate	1.4% (2015)
GDP (US\$)*	\$746.1 billion (2014)
Per Capita GDP (US\$)*	\$24,700 (2014)
GDP Real Growth	6.0% (2014)

\*Purchasing Power Parity  
Source: CIA

### BC's High Technology Trade with Malaysia (Cdn\$ Millions)

Year	Domestic Exports	Re-Exports	Imports	Trade Balance
2004	\$1.8	\$27.2	\$135.5	-\$106.6
2005	\$3.8	\$22.4	\$142.4	-\$116.3
2006	\$2.0	\$24.3	\$161.3	-\$135.1
2007	\$1.4	\$22.1	\$186.6	-\$163.1
2008	\$3.2	\$4.9	\$187.3	-\$179.2
2009	\$1.8	\$0.4	\$125.0	-\$122.7
2010	\$1.9	\$0.9	\$120.2	-\$117.4
2011	\$1.5	\$0.7	\$100.3	-\$98.1
2012	\$2.4	\$0.3	\$113.1	-\$110.3
2013	\$3.5	\$2.1	\$111.9	-\$106.3

Source: BC Stats

### Canada's Investment Position with Malaysia (Cdn\$ Millions)

Year	Canadian Direct Investment in Malaysia	Direct Investment in Canada by Malaysia
2005	\$711	\$140
2006	x	\$167
2007	\$886	\$94
2008	\$478	\$64
2009	\$139	\$62
2010	\$311	\$17
2011	\$394	x
2012	\$512	x
2013	\$503	x
2014	\$573	x

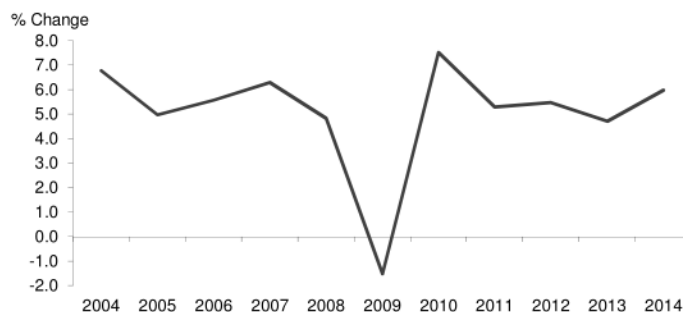
Source: Statistics Canada

### Travellers from Malaysia Entering Canada Through BC and Immigration to BC from Malaysia

Year	Travellers (Persons)	Immigrants (Persons)
2005	5,642	206
2006	6,807	223
2007	6,067	153
2008	8,127	218
2009	4,579	213
2010	6,497	226
2011	6,172	164
2012	6,639	119
2013	6,804	61
2014	6,699	-

Source: Statistics Canada

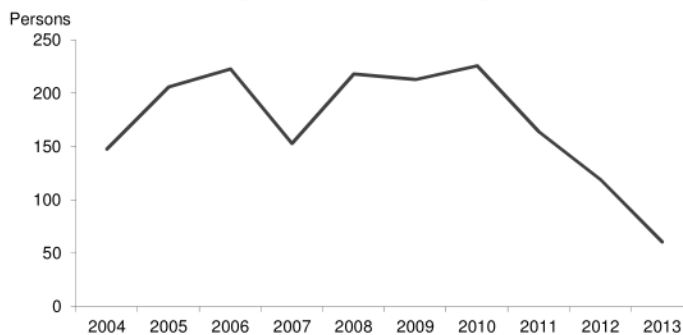
### Year-Over-Year % Growth in GDP of Malaysia



Source: International Monetary Fund

BC Stats

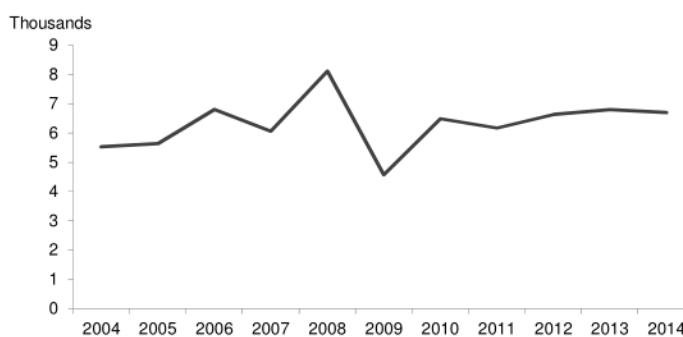
### Immigrants to BC from Malaysia



Source: Statistics Canada

BC Stats

### Travellers from Malaysia Entering Canada Through BC



Source: Statistics Canada

BC Stats



## International Profile:



# Malaysia



### Quick Facts

Total Area:	329,750 sq km
Population:	30.26 million
Capital:	Kuala Lumpur
Type of Government:	Constitutional monarchy; Parliamentary democracy
Administrative Divisions:	13 states , 3 federal territories
Head of State:	King Tuanku ABDUL HALIM Mu'adzam Shah (since April 2012)
Head of Government:	Prime Minister Mohamed NAJIB bin Abdul Najib RAZAK (since April 2009)
GDP	\$361.09 billion (2014)
National Currency:	Malaysian Ringgit
Language (s)	Bahasa Malaysia (official), English, Chinese, Tamil
Religions:	Muslim (or Islam - official), Buddhist, Christian, Hindu
National Holiday:	Independence Day 31 August (1957) (independence of Malaya); Malaysia Day 16 September (1963) (formation of Malaysia)

### Government

- The King of Malaysia is a ceremonial position, elected to a 5 year term by and from the 9 hereditary rulers of the Malay states (commonly referred to as sultans).
- Malaysia's parliamentary system is based on the Westminster model, and is bicameral (non-elected upper house and elected lower house).
- In May 2013 Malaysia's ruling coalition, led by Prime Minister NAJIB RAZAK, won a simple majority in the country's election, extending its 56-year rule.
- Malaysia's priorities include: charting development towards a high-income nation, creating an environment for economic growth, moving towards inclusive socio-economic development, developing and retaining a first world talent base, building an environment that enhances quality of life, and transforming government to transform Malaysia.

## Why Malaysia Matters

### LNG

- ▶ Malaysia is the world's second-largest exporter of LNG.
- ▶ PETRONAS, Malaysia's national oil corporation, announced a \$36 billion plan to develop LNG in BC in 2013 (Pacific NorthWest LNG), and bought 75% of Calgary-based Talisman's shale holdings in the Farrell Creek and Cypress areas for \$1.5 billion.
- ▶ In 2013, PETRONAS completed construction of the 3.8 mmtpa Lekas LNG import terminal in Peninsular Malaysia.
- ▶ In December 2013, PETRONAS announced that in 2016, the company plans to use Lekas LNG to receive LNG from the currently under construction PETRONAS FLNG project, rather than from imported supply. This will mark the first time that Malaysia will divert cargoes to the domestic market.
- ▶ In May 2015, the BC government signed an MOU with Pacific NorthWest LNG that sets out the steps leading toward ratification of a project development agreement between government and the company.
- ▶ In June 2015, Pacific NorthWest LNG announced its conditional approval of the project. The project will be approved on the condition it receives regulatory approval from the federal government and the BC government passes in law a project development agreement. The BC legislature is currently sitting to debate legislation that would enable the project agreement.
- ▶ A final investment decision is expected once the two outstanding conditions have been resolved.

### Trade Relations

- ▶ In 2014, British Columbia's total exports to Malaysia were (CAD)\$66.9M.
- ▶ Malaysia ranked #26 as a destination for BC origin exports in 2014, with 0.2% of BC's commodity exports shipped there.
- ▶ Top exports: Helicopters, airplanes and spacecraft (\$13.7m), Zinc (\$10.7m), Rape, colza or mustard oil (\$9.6m), Wheat (\$5.7m), and Lumber (\$3.9m)
- ▶ Malaysia, along with Canada, is a member of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations.

### Economic Program

The Economic Transformation Programme (ETP) was launched in September 2010, with the goal of elevating Malaysia to developed-nation status by 2020, targeting GNI per capita of US\$15,000. This will be achieved by attracting US\$444 billion in investments to create 3.3 million new jobs, and through the implementation of 12 National Key Economic Areas (NKEAs), representing economic sectors like Oil, Gas and Energy, Tourism, and Education (including International Education) which account for significant contributions to GNI. The programme is centred on raising Malaysia's competitiveness through the implementation of six Strategic Reform Initiatives (SRIs), comprising policies which strengthen the country's commercial environment to ensure Malaysian companies are globally competitive such as Narrowing Disparity and Human Capital Development.

## British Columbia — Malaysia Relations

### Community

- ▶ According to the 2011 census, 4,355 British Columbians identify themselves as being of Malaysian descent. This is approximately 30% of the total Malaysian community in Canada (14,165).

### Education

- ▶ In 2011/12, there were 300 students from Malaysia studying in BC post-secondary institutions. This was approximately 24% of the international students from Malaysia studying in Canada.
- ▶ SFU, UVic, Royal Roads University, along with other public post-secondary institutions in BC, maintain education agreements with partner institutions in Malaysia.

### Diplomatic Relations

- ▶ The Consul General of Malaysia in Vancouver is: Mr. Mohd Adli BIN ABDULLAH
- ▶ The High Commissioner of Canada in Malaysia is: Judith St. George.

### Missions

- ▶ In May 2014, Premier Clark and Minister Coleman traveled to Malaysia, where Premier Clark met with Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak and signed a letter of intent with LNG proponent Petronas on its proposed facility in BC.

## MALAYSIA

Head of Gov't: Mohamed NAJIB bin Abdul Razak Foreign Minister: Dato' Sri ANIFAH Hj. Aman Capital: Kuala Lumpur, Administrative Capital: Putrajaya Population: 30 million	Human Development Index: 64 of 187 (UNDP 2013) Democracy Index: 64 of 167 (EIU 2012) Corruption Perception Index: 53 of 177 (TI 2013) GDP: \$ 312.5 B (WB 2013) Per Capita: \$ 10,500 (WB 2013)
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### POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

A former British colony, Malaysia has a federal Westminster-style parliament and a legal system based on English Common Law. The King, elected from among nine hereditary sultans of Malaysia's states, holds mainly a ceremonial position. The population is 30 million with Bumiputera (ethnic Malays and aboriginals) accounting for 67 percent, Chinese 25 percent, and Indians 7 percent.

Political parties in Malaysia are racially based and divided into two opposing coalitions which contest elections in a first-past-the-post system. National elections in May 2013 were judged by independent monitors to be "partly free but not fair". The Barisan Nasional (BN) or National Front coalition of Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak was returned to power despite losing the popular vote 47% to the opposition's 51%. The BN, including its previous incarnations, has held power continuously since independence in 1957. The opposition Pakatan Rakyat, or People's Pact is held together by Anwar Ibrahim, the leader of the Parti Keadilan Rakyat, or People's Justice Party. Anwar has faced repeated prosecution and incarceration for sodomy charges, which many Malaysians feel are politically motivated. He was acquitted in 2012 but the government appealed this decision and in March 2014 the acquittal was overturned and Anwar was sentenced to five years of prison just ahead of his planned participation in an important state by-election. He remains free on bail pending an appeal.

Malaysia is a middle-income, significant trading nation. Along with Brunei, Malaysia is the only net oil exporter in East Asia. It is also a major exporter of electronics, rubber, and palm oil. The government's economic agenda is "Vision 2020", intended to move Malaysia from a "middle-income" to a "high-income" economy by 2020. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates that the Malaysian economy grew 4.7% in 2013 and will grow 4.9% in 2014. In its budget for 2014, the government confirmed that a GST will be implemented in 2015, in an effort to reduce significant price subsidies on petrol and some basic foods, as well as to reduce the government's dependency on revenue from state-owned energy company PETRONAS, which accounts for as much as 40% of the government's income.

### Bilateral Relations

Canada was one of the first countries to establish diplomatic relations with the newly-independent Federation of Malaya in 1957, and was represented at the celebrations marking the formation of Malaysia in 1963. In Malaysia, Canada is represented by the High Commission of Canada in Kuala Lumpur, and by a consulate headed by an honorary consul in Penang. Malaysia is represented in Canada by a high commission in Ottawa, a trade office in Toronto and a consulate in Vancouver.

Canada and Malaysia interact in several multilateral forums such as the Commonwealth, the United Nations, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and World Trade Organization (WTO). Malaysia is a candidate for the UN Security Council for 2015-2016. Canada has been a formal Dialogue Partner since 1977 in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which Malaysia will chair in 2015. Canada and Malaysia are also both members of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) free trade negotiations.



Education and tourism play key roles in promoting people-to-people bilateral ties. It is estimated that close to 80,000 Malaysians have studied in Canada since the 1950s, though many of these were educated in Canada in the 1970's and 1980's. According to Citizenship and Immigration Canada, in 2013 there were 1,520 Malaysian students studying in Canada. Some 89,000 Canadians visited Malaysia in 2013, and approximately 12,000 Malaysians visited Canada in 2011. In the 2006 census, just over 12,000 Canadians claimed Malaysian origins while some 3,000-4,000 Canadians live in Malaysia.

Malaysia is an important partner for Canada on security issues, particularly in combatting illegal maritime migration. In October 2013, Canada and Malaysia signed a Memorandum of Understanding on security cooperation to facilitate security capacity-building programming between the two countries. Canada has disbursed approximately \$1.8 million in Malaysia for capacity building efforts to combat human smuggling and has provided direct training to the Royal Malaysian Police. Canada will also contribute two rigid hull fender boats to the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency, Malaysia's coast guard in 2014 as part of continued joint efforts between the two countries to identify and impede potential migrant trafficking ventures. Canada has also provided significant assistance to Malaysia through the Counter-Terrorism Capacity Building Program. Since 2008, Canada has helped provide chemical and explosives training to more than 1,000 Malaysian first responders. Since 2009, more than 80 Malaysian military officers have participated in Canada's Military Training and Cooperation Program.

In recent years, restrictions on religious freedom have been increasing in Malaysia. Canada, through its High Commission in Kuala Lumpur and DFATD's Office of Religious Freedom, engages with a diverse range of actors and groups within Malaysia to promote pluralism and religious freedom.

Following the 2012 closure of the visa section of the High Commission of Canada in Kuala Lumpur and subsequent shift of visa services to neighbouring Singapore, Canada opened a Visa Application Centre in 2013 in Kuala Lumpur to improve access. Malaysia does not require a visa for Canadian short-term visitors, and Malaysians do not need a visa to enter 153 countries, including the UK, France, Japan, Germany and New Zealand.

### **Trade and Investment**

In 2013, Canadian merchandise exports to Malaysia were valued at nearly \$783 million. Top Canadian exports for 2013 included fertilizers, electrical and electronic machinery and equipment, machinery and oilseeds. Imports from Malaysia reached approximately \$2.2 billion in 2013. Canada primarily imports electrical and electronic machinery and equipment, machinery, technical and precision instruments, and rubber from Malaysia.

According to Statistics Canada, stocks of Canadian investment in Malaysia were valued at \$712 million for 2012, while Malaysia had invested \$37 million in Canada for the same year. However, these figures may not include investments made through third countries and other specific situations, and thus do not capture the full scope of the bilateral investment relationship.

Several Canadian companies have been making major investments in Malaysia, having identified fewer investment barriers than with most other countries in the region. Talisman Energy, which provides more than 10% of the energy needs of peninsular Malaysia, recently concluded a \$1.5 billion joint partnership with Malaysian state-owned oil and gas giant PETRONAS in addition to its earlier investments. Other Canadian companies like Manulife, Sun Life Financial, Scotiabank, Celestica and CAE also have an important presence.

In 2012, Malaysian state-owned energy giant PETRONAS received approval to acquire control of Calgary-based Progress Energy Resources and its shale gas holdings in northern B.C. for an estimated \$6 billion, which is Malaysia's largest foreign investment anywhere in the world. PETRONAS has since purchased a Talisman Energy shale gas field in B.C. for \$1.5 billion, and has announced a planned LNG plant on Canada's west coast and a separate LNG infrastructure project. During the October 2013 visit of Prime Minister Harper to Malaysia, Malaysian Prime Minister Najib announced that PETRONAS would grow its investment in Canada to \$36 billion over the next 30 years.

#### **HIGH-LEVEL ENGAGEMENT**

Prime Minister Harper made an official visit to Malaysia in October 2013, the first bilateral visit to the country by a Canadian Prime Minister in 15 years. He was accompanied by Minister of Foreign Affairs John Baird, Parliamentary Secretaries Deepak Obhrai and Andrew Saxton, Senator Thanh Hai Ngo, and a delegation of Canadian business executives.

In 2011, Governor General David Johnston visited Malaysia, representing his first state visit abroad, and the first ever visit to Malaysia by a Canadian Governor General. This followed a private visit to Canada by the then-King of Malaysia in 2010, during which he visited several universities. Minister of International Trade Ed Fast visited Kuala Lumpur in early 2012.

## **Beach, Kara MTIC:EX**

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**From:** Eidsness, Greg MIT:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 4:38 PM  
**To:** Langdon, Sarah IGRS:EX  
**Cc:** Haney, Donald IGRS:EX; Gorman, Frances A IGRS:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Malaysia Backgrounder

Thanks Sarah – much appreciated!

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**From:** Langdon, Sarah IGRS:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 12:26 PM  
**To:** Gorman, Frances A IGRS:EX; Eidsness, Greg MIT:EX  
**Cc:** Haney, Donald IGRS:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Malaysia Backgrounder

Hi Frances and Greg,

Please find attached some background material on Malaysia, including:

- Country profile
- BC-Malaysia Trade Profile factsheet
- Canada-Malaysia commercial relations (from DFATD – updated Nov 2014)
- Canada-Malaysia political/bilateral relations (from DFATD – updated Nov 2014)

As well, here's the publically available profile on Canada-Malaysia relations (Nov 2014):

[http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/malaysia-malaisie/bilateral\\_relations\\_bilaterales/canada-malaysia-malaisie.aspx?lang=eng](http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/malaysia-malaisie/bilateral_relations_bilaterales/canada-malaysia-malaisie.aspx?lang=eng)

Thanks,  
Sarah

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**From:** Gorman, Frances A IGRS:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 9:34 AM  
**To:** Haney, Donald IGRS:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Malaysia Backgrounder

Hi Don,

Can you provide and is this possible? See Greg's request below.

Thanks in advance,

Frances

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**From:** Eidsness, Greg MIT:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 9:30 AM  
**To:** Gorman, Frances A IGRS:EX  
**Subject:** Malaysia Backgrounder

Hi Frances,

We received a request for information for Minister of Finance as he is going to Malaysia. I'm compiling some trade and investment background info, and I was wondering if you have a backgrounder that I could include? The timeline is very tight and I'd like to send this over this afternoon if possible. Do you have anything on file?

Thanks,

Greg