

Consul General Austria Meets with Minister Chow of British Columbia's Ministry of State for Trade



17 August 2018, Vancouver – Consul General Maria Andrelita S. Austria (right) poses with Minister George Chow, B.C. Ministry of State for Trade.

17 August 2018 – Consul General Maria Andrelita S. Austria called on B.C. Minister of State for Trade George Chow at his office where they exchanged potential cooperation between the Philippines and the province of British Columbia in various areas, ranging from trade to backroom support and creative services to shipbuilding and ocean technology, agriculture and education.

Consul General Austria reiterated the Consulate's invitation for B.C. to send a trade mission to the Philippines, with the Minister joining the delegation. "B.C. is important to the Philippines as most of our trade goes through the province," she told the Minister. She informed him of the participation of a Philippine delegation at the Global Buyers Mission in Whistler in September, Canada's largest event dedicated to promoting value-added wood producers, where the Philippines hopes to link up with possible wood suppliers.

Citing B.C.'s busy film industry, Consul General Austria offered the possibility of contributing through its artistic pool of animators and graphic designers. She also expressed the hope that Canada would continue to tap the Philippines for the backroom operations of its major companies. She acknowledged Canada's leadership in shipbuilding and ocean technology and the Philippines' desire to benefit from their experience and expertise in the field.

For his part, Minister Chow conveyed his eagerness to enhance cooperation in agriculture, as B.C. is an important agricultural exporter, as well as in education, where Canada can offer competitive quality studies at leading academic institutions.