

A twenty-fifth anniversary is a very special occasion. It is a time both for reflection and for looking at the future. Characteristically, the Pugwash Movement will, I feel certain, tend to look ahead, as I propose to do today.

I am delighted to join with you in commemorating the first Pugwash Conference held here in Pugwash, Nova Scotia in 1957 at the invitation of Mr. Cyrus Eaton. I commend the initiative of Mrs. Eaton and the Canadian Pugwash Group in convening this silver anniversary meeting. Today, as never before, people throughout the world are increasingly concerned about the spiralling arms race and are looking not only to governments but to groups such as yours to generate possible new approaches to the complex issues of arms control and disarmament.

The founding of the Pugwash Movement anticipated this increased public interest. The manifesto issued by Bertrand Russell and Albert Einstein called on governments to renounce war rather than to follow a course which could put an end to the human race; the core of people's concern today is exactly that. As Prime Minister Trudeau put it at UNSSOD II, the people of the world "are reminding political leaders that what is at stake is the crucial matter of the life or death of mankind."

The manner in which the Pugwash Movement has spread to embrace distinguished individuals in many countries reflects its importance. In Canada its influence continues to expand in what I consider to be a most significant way, because it is reaching out to the young men and women of our country. I am referring to the birth a year ago of Canadian Student Pugwash, which held a well-organized and successful first conference in Ottawa and, a few weeks ago, an Atlantic Regional Conference in Halifax. The Canadian Government was pleased to offer assistance for both of these conferences, as it did for your conference in Banff last summer.