

Enhancement of trade with the U.S. could strengthen our economic base and provide us with increased means to finance excellence in education, the arts, science and technology, social programs, and national defence. That would strengthen our sovereignty and reinforce our sense of pride as a people.

The increased prosperity resulting from larger markets and a more competitive economy would surely make us more able and willing to pursue political and social policies appropriate to our own conceptions, values, and needs. That is the essence of sovereignty.

Sovereignty is a dynamic, not a static thing. It is constantly changing. It is not an artifact to be kept under glass and protected from the intrusion of change.

Countries acquire their sovereignty gradually. They build it, maintain it, and strengthen it by confronting and overcoming problems. That is how Canada has done it in the past. That is how we should conceive of sovereignty now.