

# REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



**T**HIS YEAR HAS BEEN ONE OF TRANSITIONS for the Institute for Peace and Security, as we have tried to follow, interpret, and contribute to, the dramatic transformations in the international community around us.

We have reached the end of the Institute's legislated "start-up" period of five years, and the assured funding base that was built in for that period. The Institute's Board will welcome a number of new members in the coming months, while adjusting to the retirement of its founding Chairman, William Barton, and a number of other valued veterans. I succeeded Geoffrey Pearson in the position of Chief Executive on 1 February, and was immediately immersed in the challenges and opportunities facing this Institute in the 1990s.

World trends set the context for our work – to increase knowledge and understanding on the issues of peace and security – and those world trends are generally more promising now than at any other time in living memory. The Institute is also charged, in its mandate, with bringing a Canadian perspective to these questions, and the current international climate has opened many new and exciting avenues for Canadian thinking and action.

This is one of those rare periods in history when good news is actually news, when a sense of possibility and human efficacy counters the weight of the problems faced by our species and our planet. Such openings must be seized and developed; the Institute's mandate, and its place in Canadian society, demand that it play a vigorous leadership role.

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*"It is inconceivable for the  
Institute not to be a  
participant in the  
defence policy debate ...  
Bernard Wood."*

JONATHAN MANTHORPE  
*The Hamilton Spectator*