

## Conclusion

The future prosperity of Canada's North will be influenced by our capacity to work with our regional partners to develop a common strategy for the sustainable development of the circumpolar region. Within Canada and the circumpolar region, there is recognition that future security and prosperity are closely connected with our ability to effectively manage northern issues. This is why we are taking a proactive stance in managing the issues, together with our northern communities.

Declaratory foreign policy is not enough to safeguard and promote Canadian interests and meet Canada's obligations. This Northern Dimension of Canada's Foreign Policy reinforces the federal government's commitment to the North and to northern peoples. In circumpolar affairs, Canada has been regarded as an important player. Arctic nations are cognizant of our record and ascribe to us an important role in leadership and diplomacy. The Northern Dimension of Canada's Foreign Policy demonstrates Canada's continuing commitment to maintaining this role. 20