

THE FOREIGN SERVICE INSTITUTE EMBODIES OUR DEPARTMENT'S COMMITMENT TO THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF OUR EMPLOYEES. THE STAFF OF THE INSTITUTE, WORKING WITH EXPERTS BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENT, HAVE DEVELOPED NEW TRAINING COURSES DIRECTED TOWARDS ALL EMPLOYEES. ITS ULTIMATE GOAL IS TO PREPARE EMPLOYEES TO SERVE CANADA AND CANADIANS WITH THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF EFFECTIVENESS. AS A RESULT IT WILL SERVE NOT ONLY OUR DEPARTMENT BUT WILL ALSO BENEFIT OTHER DEPARTMENTS WITH EMPLOYEES ON ASSIGNMENTS ABROAD, PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND INDEED ALL CANADIANS.

EARLIER THIS MORNING I SPOKE TO A GROUP OF HEADS OF MISSIONS WHO, WHEN THEY LEAVE HERE TO TAKE UP THEIR ASSIGNMENTS ABROAD, WILL BE BETTER EQUIPPED TO MANAGE THEIR POSTS THAN WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE IN THE PAST. THAT, TO ME, IS THE ESSENCE OF WHAT THIS BUILDING REPRESENTS.