

and important foundations of commerce and economics to the delicate and more volatile issues of peace and security. Of necessity, Japan's role on the international stage will grow until it matches the country's economic importance. It is the responsibility of like-minded countries like Canada to share their experience on the stage in encouraging such growth.

This way is not easy, for it requires the breaking-down of reticence and, often, deep misunderstandings on both sides. Nevertheless, I firmly believe that it is worth while pursuing. I am convinced that Canada has only begun to strengthen its economic relationship with Japan and that opportunities of immense potential exist today in the areas of trade, investment, joint ventures and technological exchanges. However, as Prime Minister Trudeau pointed out while in Tokyo last year, it will be up to the private sector to a large extent to follow this path. The Framework for Economic Co-operation is an invitation to those of you gathered here today, and to your Japanese counterparts, to seize the manifold opportunities for advantage our two governments have identified. The Canadian Government, through its offices in Ottawa and its Embassy in Japan, is prepared to assist you in seeking these new opportunities. I believe imaginative persistence on your behalf can foster generous rewards in the future.

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