

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

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APPOINTMENT OF DOUGLAS J. ROCHE

AS AMBASSADOR FOR DISARMAMENT

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced today that Mr. Douglas J. Roche has been appointed to the position of Ambassador for Disarmament.

The previous Ambassador for Disarmament, Mr. George Ignatieff has informed the Government that he welcomes Mr. Roche's appointment. When Mr. Ignatieff was named in August, he indicated that because of his obligations as Chancellor of the University of Toronto, he would be in a position to carry out the responsibilities of the position only on a part-time basis. The Secretary of State for External Affairs and Mr. Roche are most grateful that Mr. Ignatieff has volunteered to provide advice to them on the full range of arms control and disarmament issues, and related foreign policy questions.

As Ambassador for Disarmament, Mr. Roche will represent Canada at international meetings concerned with arms control and disarmament, particularly the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations Disarmament Commission in New York. He may also attend meetings of the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva from time to time, although Mr. J. Alan Beesley will remain the Canadian Permanent Representative to the Conference. Mr. Roche will also be the principal point of contact for Canadian non-governmental organizations and persons interested in arms control and disarmament. As such he will undertake cross-Canada speaking engagements to explain Canada's position and the work done in the international forums where he represents Canada.

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