

would be balanced to include other views to produce a multisectoral approach. John Foster of the University of Saskatchewan sounded a note of caution about economic integration, agreeing with other previous speakers that a thorough evaluation of NAFTA and its impact is required to see exactly who are the beneficiaries. Too little attention has been given to the roles of civil society, the building of accountability, transparency of processes, and environmental sustainability. He noted that the two background papers for the five national workshops had little to say about Canadian aid policies. If the impact of NAFTA upon Canada remained unclear, the negative results in Mexico were disturbing. The Partido Institucional Revolucionario (PRI) is melting down; Mexico is a haven for the international drug trade and hot money; and corruption, inefficiency, and lack of national integration remain serious problems.

In conclusion, the Edmonton Consultation reflected a broad variety of opinions about Economic Integration and Free Trade. Delegates mentioned the creation of the proposed Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), but the slowdown in the pace of hemispheric integration seemed to remove the immediate relevance of this topic. References to the Organization of American States (OAS) when they did occur seemed to underscore a general view that the organization continues to lack meaningful importance and roles in the major issues of the day.

#### **Recommendations Presented on Economic Integration and Free Trade:**

- 1] The Canadian government should commission evaluative studies on the impact, benefits, and detriments of NAFTA that will assist planning for future initiatives toward economic integration.**
- 2] In order to balance and to make the Canadian delegation to Santiago more representative, delegates from the NGO and Labour sectors should**