

I believe we have all based our assumptions about Canada on facts which have changed. Our country has changed, but our vision of it hasn't, and often our institutions haven't. Consider some examples.

In 1955, over 80% of immigrants to Canada came from Europe or the United States. In 1988, that was down to 29%. 43% of our immigrants came from Asia. 14% came from Central and South America. And 14% came from Africa and the Middle East. For 12 years, we have drawn more immigrants from Asia than from Europe and that is reflected in the daily life of most of our communities. Yet there are only two people from visible minorities in the House of Commons, and a disproportionately low percentage in positions of leadership in business and government. In some voluntary and community fields the performance is better, but we are still running a diverse society on assumptions that time has passed by.

In 1960, 28% of Canadian women worked outside the home. In 1989, that figure had risen to over 58%. Discrimination against women remains systemic and strong. In my own Department of External Affairs, I am ashamed to admit that during the last round of appointments to executive level positions, only 2 of the 30 promotions to that level were women. In the entire history of Canadian diplomatic representation in the major "Group of Seven" countries, the only woman ever to serve as Head of Post was Jean Wadds in London. The abortion and childcare debates in Canada have reflected a sharp division between male and female attitudes. That division also arises on other important questions, including attitudes to issues of war and peace. Our national institutions simply do not reflect our population.

Those facts report a failure of our institutions to mirror the new social reality of Canada. There is another type of failure, a failure to recognize the nature of our prosperity and hence the requirements for success in the future.

Some Canadians, including prominent politicians, continue to behave as if we had a closed economy, as if the Canadian economy was not tied to trade and to the wider world. 30% of the Canadian economy is now dependent on trade. That represents 2.4 million direct jobs. For Canada, trade is not an option; it is our life blood.

Throughout the 1970s, there was wonderful rhetoric from Canadian leaders about Canada's membership in the global village. But those same leaders went out and put up walls around Canada. They invented a Foreign Investment Review Agency and a National Energy Program. They incurred a horrendous level of debt. They had reasons for these actions and I will not dispute the sincerity of their motives, but they behaved as if Canada could stand apart from the changes that were transforming the world.

Those attitudes are still around. You find them in debates about international trade. Throughout the debate over the Free-Trade Agreement, critics told the Government that we should rely on the GATT, the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs, rather than on a Free-Trade Agreement. But in recent months, when the GATT has ruled against Canada - on salmon