

It is recommended then, that an Asia Pacific Foundation be established as an independent, non-profit, non-political organization; that it be devoted to cultural, economic, and other public affairs, as well as to the promotion of discussions and exchanges in areas of vital interest to the peoples of the Asia Pacific region; that it initiate, advance, and encourage a sustained program of study aimed at developing a more meaningful relationship between Canada and the countries of the Asia Pacific region based on mutual knowledge, appreciation and respect.

The federal government, therefore, should proceed expeditiously to establish an Asia Pacific Foundation in Vancouver, providing the necessary financial resources to permit it to begin operations without delay. Specifically, the Prime Minister should ask a small group of people, acting as an initial working board, to seek incorporation of the Foundation under the Canada Corporations Act. The federal government should also commit approximately twenty million dollars over three years as its share of an endowment fund for the Foundation, ten million dollars of that amount to be contributed immediately. This will provide an initial annual operating budget of approximately one and a half million dollars, which is considered the minimum amount required to launch the Foundation successfully.

It is essential as well, that the provincial and territorial governments be invited to play a significant role in the development of the Asia Pacific Foundation if it is to be effective. For one reason, many of them have expressed their genuine interest and willingness to do so; for another, no true Canadian institution can function without substantial regional involvement. In addition, the participation of Quebec, with its unique bi-cultural character, will be an important contribution to the over-all dimensions of the Foundation.