FOREWORD

An editorial in the Calgary Herald November 30, 1990 stated, "The testimony at these hearings... will not be pretty... But it is a necessary process if trust is to be nurtured and understanding established." Those words were proven prescient in the course of the hearings conducted from January to March, 1991.

The Committee appreciates the support shown by the 35 Members of Parliament from all three national parties, who in one manner or another, participated in this set of hearings. Their commitment to our common good was critical to the constructive result here achieved.

The Committee is greatly indebted to several individuals who provided guidance, direction and coordination to the work of the Committee. The clerks, Martine Bresson and Normand Radford, both exhibited loyal and committed service in the face of great challenges. Martin Kalson joined the team and provided very astute advice in his capacity as Senior Legal Counsel with the Office of the Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel. Teressa Nahanee took time from her law studies to provide valuable insight into the issues we faced. Rolande Soucie provided an essential research and support role in her quiet, capable and thorough manner.

For the fifth report in a row, this Committee had the good fortune to have Wendy Moss to lead the research and drafting work. Her effort, commitment, unswerving dedication and good judgement have served this committee in the best possible manner, not only with this report, but also for the previous two years.

In closing, perhaps it would be helpful for all Canadians to recall the words of Mohandas Gandhi

> "To understand nonviolence one must first understand violence and its two distinct aspects—physical and passive.
>
> Passive violence in the form of discrimination, oppression, exploitation, hate, anger and all the subtle ways in which it manifests itself gives rise to physical violence in society. To rid society of this physical violence, we must act now to eliminate passive violence."