

completion. A group of Canadian businessmen will travel to the Ukraine in October to identify possibilities there. A Canada-USSR Business Council has been formed led by such companies as Olympia and York, McDonald's Restaurants, Lavalin, Foremost, Fracmaster and Alta Genetics. More than 100 firms should be members of this organization before its first meeting in Moscow in November. More joint ventures can be expected in the Baltic States as new opportunities are identified. The training of managers and the planned follow-up undertaken by Enterprise York are precisely the kind of private initiatives we want to encourage.

In November, the Prime Minister will visit the Soviet Union. He plans to take with him a delegation of business people who are keen to identify commercial opportunities. While some of them will find a ready market for Canadian products, many will be looking to the longer term. They will be particularly interested in areas which are likely to enjoy greater freedom to make economic decisions and already have skilled labour forces and a strong work ethic. They should be encouraged to look to the Baltic States.

President Gorbachev has shown increasing understanding of the necessity to permit the countries of East Europe to find their own way. In the case of Poland, we have every reason to rejoice in such a decision. That country's problems will not end now that a partially democratic election has been held. But it is already apparent that the people have a new sense that, just maybe, there is hope that the Party will share power with the people and that a way can be found out of the political and economic dilemma which has faced the country for so many years.

The decision by the Party in Hungary to permit multiparty elections offers hope for that country as well.

Canada and the West will have to seek creatively new methods of encouraging those trends in East European countries which offer a real chance for the people to participate in the decision-making process. At the same time, we must stimulate other East European countries whose leaderships have not yet inhaled the reform spirit to acknowledge that the world has changed and they are out of step.

Canada has played a constructive role in creating the atmosphere of reduced East-West tensions which in turn has contributed to greater freedoms in the USSR, in the Baltic States, and in East Europe. Whether on arms control issues, confidence building, Alliance building, or in the CSCE process, the voice of Canada carries weight and conviction. We have a reputation for telling frankly those countries in the Warsaw Pact whose human rights record is wanting, that they cannot be fully accepted as reliable members of the international community until they live up to their commitments.