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Dept. of External Affairs  
Min. des Affaires extérieures

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One of the greatest pleasures I have experienced in serving as Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs is to discover how well regarded Canada is internationally.

It has been 60 years since the Statute of Westminster formally recognized Canada's independence in international relations. There has been a consistency to our world view over those years that leaders in other countries have told me they consider remarkable.

Like other nations, Canada has sought to enhance its security and prosperity. But I know of no other nation that has placed as much emphasis as Canada has on the means required to achieve those goals: an appreciation of the need for social and economic justice, respect for the rule of law, and a belief

that diversity does not have to mean division — either at home or abroad.

This marks my second opportunity to introduce an edition of *Canada Reports*, a magazine designed to keep you up to date on Canadian foreign policy.

The theme of this issue is the international challenges that face our country — and the world — in the years ahead. I was able to comment on some of those challenges at the December conference celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Statute of Westminster, as well as in an interview for *Canada Reports* shortly thereafter.

This issue includes that interview and some of the highlights of the Toronto conference. It also touches upon domestic and international matters important to

Canada at this time: Canadian constitutional reform, our country's response to the political and social transformation of the Soviet Union, my governments's attempt to forge a new partnership with Canada's aboriginal peoples, and Canada's concerns and initiatives with respect to the fragile global environment.

There is also an article on peacekeeping. Canada's efforts in this area are renowned, and we hope they are symbolic of our world attitude. Canadians don't brag much, but I think we share a quiet pride as to how well we have fitted into world affairs over the past 60 years. ♦

The Honourable  
Barbara McDougall,  
Canada's Secretary  
of State for External  
Affairs

