



125 promenade Sussex Drive Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2

January 17, 2000

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to invite you to a roundtable on Civil Society and Governance in the Americas to be held **January 28, 2000, in Victoria, from 8:30am to 4:30pm, Ocean Pointe Hotel, 45 Songhees Road, Executive Lounge**. An informal reception will be held the 27th in the evening (7pm to 9:30pm) at the hotel.

In the context of this summer's OAS General Assembly and in preparation for the Summit of the Americas in 2001, this roundtable will provide expert advice on current issues related to Civil Society and Governance in the Americas. Topics for discussion include governing systems (parliaments, local government, how to connect with these in the region, how to strengthen them and make them more accessible), corruption (how to deal with problems associated with corruption and governing systems) and the "Threats to Democracy" (specifically in Latin America). How might these problems be dealt with in a regional approach?

We hope to assemble experts from a number of sectors including; universities, business, NGO's, labour, government and youth. Attached you will find the agenda, background paper as well as information regarding your travel and reimbursement. We also invite you to visit the following Web sites where you will find some interesting information : www.americascanada.org/
<http://www.icclr.law.ubc.ca/html/publications.htm>
www.georgetown.edu/pdba/

I look forward to seeing you on the 28th of January.

Sincerely,

Steven Lee
National/Executive Director