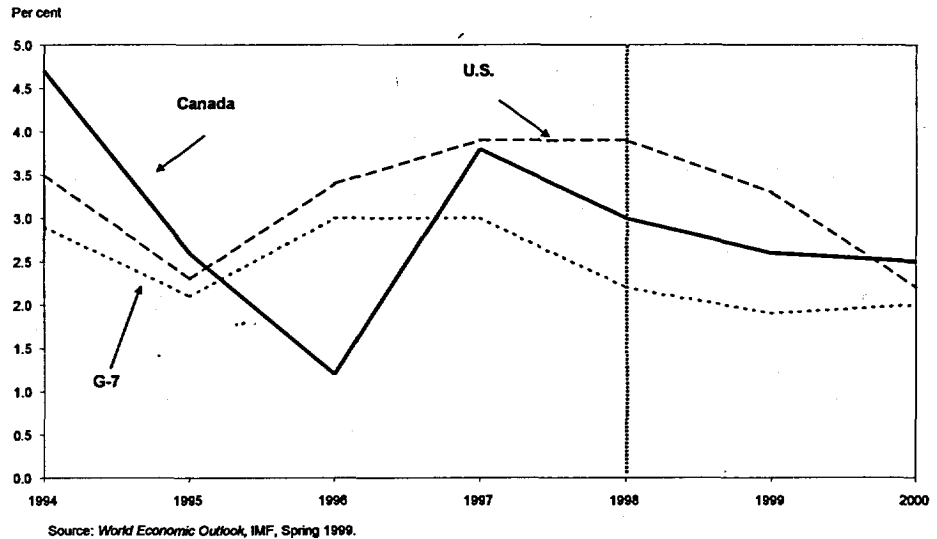


# COMPARATIVE ECONOMIC CHARTS

## CHART 1

### REAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT GROWTH, 1994-2000

Canada's commitment to balanced budgets or better and to low inflation has paid off. The pace of growth picked up in the second half of 1996 and continued through early 1998. Growth moderated in 1998, reflecting the deterioration in world economic conditions. The International Monetary Fund forecasts that Canada will register the second strongest growth in the G-7 in 1999 (2.6 per cent) and will be well above the G-7 average in 2000 (2.5 per cent).



## CHART 2

### CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION, AVERAGE RATE FOR 1994-98

Canada's inflation performance since 1994 has been excellent, reflecting solid productivity growth and the virtual absence of cost pressures. On average, over 1994 to 1998, Canada had the second lowest inflation rate in the G-7. Solid economic growth will not put upward pressure on inflation in the near term as the Canadian economy continues to operate below its long-run potential. The IMF forecasts that Canada's inflation rate will be 1.2 per cent in 1999.

