

It is really this idea – the idea of building a new kind of institution – that has caught the imagination of those who are interested in establishing the Foundation. Several political leaders, on the West Coast in particular, called for a bold new venture in Canada's relations across the Pacific. For them, the creation of an Asia Pacific Foundation for this generation, is like the creation of the Fathers of Confederation: the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway which connected the whole country. They see in the creation of the Foundation, the building of a new infrastructure to connect us once again to a larger community – the extension of our communication tracks across the Pacific.