

NOTING that the Joint Declaration adopted at the EU-Canada Summit on 19 June 2005 further refers to the EU and Canadian leaders' intention to renew, reinforce and broaden the scope of the Agreement Renewing a Cooperation Programme in Higher Education and Training, ratified in 2001, notably through the addition of cooperation on youth, to strengthen academic cooperation and transatlantic exchange between our citizens;

CONSIDERING the full respect for the responsibilities of the Member States of the European Community and for the legislative powers of the provinces and territories of Canada in the fields of education and training, and the autonomy of the higher education and training institutions;

CONSIDERING that the adoption and the implementation of the 1996 and 2001 Agreements on Higher Education and Training realise the commitments of the EU-Canada Declarations; and that the cooperation has been highly positive for both Parties;

ACKNOWLEDGING the crucial contribution of higher education and training to the development of human resources capable of participating in the global knowledge-based economy;

RECOGNISING that cooperation in higher education, training and youth should complement other relevant cooperation initiatives between the European Community and Canada;

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of taking into account the work done in the field of higher education and training by international organisations active in these fields such as the OECD, UNESCO and the Council of Europe;

RECOGNISING that the Parties have a common interest in cooperation in higher education, training and youth, as part of the wider cooperation that exists between the European Community and Canada;

EXPECTING to obtain mutual benefit from cooperation in higher education, training and youth;