

Canadian education centres in the Asia-Pacific. This network, which will be run in association with the Asia Pacific Foundation, will introduce young Asians to the excellence of Canada's education and training facilities. It will establish a base of educational links in the Asia-Pacific that can serve the full range of Canadian economic and political interests.

On peace and security issues in the region, we are at once asserting the Canadian interest and assuming a reasonable share of the responsibility by supporting the non-governmental Canadian consortium on Asia-Pacific security, by actively participating in the development of official regional security and by encouraging policies and activities.

What counts in building success in the Asia-Pacific is, one, how effectively we weave our activities and policies together to common ends and, two, how effectively we work together: business with government, federal with provincial governments, academic institutions with private sector organizations.

Our tourism promotion will be more effective if we look at infrastructure development and visa requirements at the same time. Our efforts to encourage investment in Canada will benefit from entrepreneurial immigration or technology development. The development of new markets in such sectors as environmental industries, informatics and biotechnology, where Canada has much potential, will benefit from our willingness to engage in co-operation, consultation and joint projects with selected countries; to acquaint them with what we offer; and to build ties with key decision makers along the way.

If we succeed in getting the weave of initiatives right, we will establish a more comprehensive and balanced approach to our regional ties. If we continue the effort to work together effectively, as I firmly believe we can, we will make Team Canada more than a nickname for a visit; it will be an ongoing way of doing business.

In the coming months, we are undertaking a full examination of our priorities in the Asia-Pacific region and of the tools we need to pursue the objectives we set. As part of this process, we will be consulting Canadians across the country. The premise is that a good agenda for Canada and the Asia-Pacific will result from the engagement of all players in its design and implementation. I hope you will join us in the effort. The lower mainland and the province of British Columbia have always led the way for Canada to the Asia-Pacific; we expect we will continue to do so.

Thank you.