

"This event, however, transcends in its importance a simple declaration of successful Soviet-Canadian cooperation in sport. It attests that Canada and the Soviet Union are really Arctic neighbours and can combine their efforts in a spirit of growing mutual understanding and trust. The Transpolar Ski Expedition serves as both a symbol and a practical example of the progress under way in relations between our countries".

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR asked those present to convey his thanks to the Prime Minister of Canada for his friendly message, whose content and spirit are evidence that Soviet-Canadian relations have developed positively in recent times. Mr. Ryzhkov recalled that the people in the Soviet Union are anticipating the arrival of the head of the Canadian Government on an official visit.

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Page 3 (complete text)