Secretary of State for External Affairs



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APPOINTMENT OF NEW IDRC PRESIDENT: KEITH A. BEZANSON

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today announced the appointment of Keith A. Bezanson as President of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). He will succeed Ivan L. Head who has completed his term after having served as President for 13 years. Mr. Bezanson, who is concluding a tour of duty as Administrative Manager with the Inter-American Development Bank, will take up his new duties shortly.

The International Development Research Centre was created by an Act of Parliament in 1970. Its objective is to initiate, encourage, support and conduct research into the problems of the developing world as well as research into the application and adaptation of scientific and technical knowledge to the economic and social advancement of the developing world.

The Centre reflects Canada's interest in cooperating with developing regions in programs particularly attuned to their most pressing needs. In accordance with the IDRC Act, the members of the Board of Governors are drawn from 10 foreign countries in addition to Canada. The President is appointed on the recommendation of the Board.