

At the same time I foresee a future where young Canadians will grow up learning naturally about Japan and our other Pacific partners. And Japanese about Canada. Where Canadian education systems will encourage immersion in Japanese as a logical third language. Where our business, academic and legal communities will study, absorb and internally integrate into their Canadian nature a greater knowledge of Asian cultures and languages.

Will we be able to meet the challenges of this future I foresee? To find the fortitude and the wherewithal necessary to make it a reality. I believe we will.

It will take imagination, energy, and commitment. I can assure you that the Government of Canada will do its part. I am sure that every one of you here today, you who have an intense interest in the Canada-Japan partnership and in the success of Canada's Pacific policy, will take up your part of our collective challenge.

Your Imperial Highnesses, distinguished guests, "Place Canada" is a great symbol of tomorrow. It is a statement of partnership - between Canada and two great Japanese companies, Shimizu and Mitsubishi. "Place Canada" will be a showcase for Canadian high technology and cultural excellence. It will project an image of Canada's industrial spirit, efficiency and natural beauty. It represents, above all, a forum in which to pursue our dreams, our hopes, and our promises to the generations of young Japanese and young Canadians who will partake of the future that we must now build.

Thank you.