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APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE (IDRC)

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Dr. Mark MacGuigan, announced today the appointment of Dr. Maurice LeClair to the Board of Governors of the International Development Research Centre.

Dr. LeClair was born at Savabec, Québec, and educated at Collège Notre-Dame (Montreal), McGill University, and the Mayo Clinic, U.S.A.

He brings to the Board a wealth of experience in the academic and public sectors. Currently, he is Corporate Vice-President of Canadian National Railways. Former assignments include Secretary, Treasury Board; Secretary, Ministry of State for Science and Technology; Deputy Minister, Department of Health and Welfare; and Dean of Medicine, University of Sherbrooke.

The International Development Research Centre is a public corporation created by the Parliament of Canada in 1970 to enhance the research competence of scientists in the developing countries. It does so through support of research designed to adapt science and technology to the needs of the developing countries. The Act of Parliament establishing the Centre provided for a Board of Governors of 21 persons, to be appointed by the Government of Canada. Eleven of the Governors, including the Chairman, must be Canadian citizens. It has been the consistent practice to draw the other Governors internationally from persons, many of them in developing countries, who have made notable contributions in the field of development.