

That is a tradition to remember and renew today. Particularly at the time when the world beyond our continent seems ever more troubled, and the illusions grow that we can hide out behind our power and good fortune, or that we can resolve threats by ignoring them.

For the sake of argument, that might have been possible in 1776, or even 1867. It isn't now.

The Canadian philosopher Marshall McLuhan called our world "A Global Village", and it is, not just in the news we receive, but in the direct way we are affected by events that once were foreign.

To take the most extreme modern case, terrorism respects no boundary.

We in Canada have mourned a young Alberta woman, and her infant child, whose only crime was to choose the wrong plane in the Middle East.

We have been to Dunmanus Bay in Ireland with the grieving families of the 329 victims of the explosion of Air India Flight 182.

And we have seen Embassy guards and officials shot in the quiet streets of Ottawa.

Terrorists, of course, move deliberately outside the law, as drug dealers do. But other events remind us how fragile the rule of law itself can be, and how contagious is violence.

In Iran and Iraq, in the Middle East, in southern Africa, rage is building. Extremism is taking root. And it affects all of us.

And if that is true of political developments, so is it of economics.

Brokers in Chicago go to bed looking at the Hong Kong and Tokyo Exchanges and wake up evaluating the results of the London Market. Bankers in Chicago have an acute interest in political developments in Brazil.

Your farmers have been as sensitive and indignant about the Common Agricultural Program of the European Community, as Canadian farmers are to your own Export Enhancement Program.