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CANADA MAKES CONTRIBUTION TO
UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR
INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced today that Canada had made a contribution of \$US 27,000 (equal to \$ CDN 34,020) to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations. The Canadian contribution is the largest one to date, by any country, to the U.N. Voluntary Fund.

The purpose of the Fund is to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the deliberations of the U.N. Working Group on Indigenous Populations which meets in Geneva. The Fund will provide assistance to groups which would otherwise be unable to attend sessions of the Working Group. The aim is to contribute to a deeper knowledge on the part of the Working Group of the problems affecting indigenous populations and to secure a broad geographical representation from throughout the world at the sessions of the Working Group.

The Canadian contribution represents a substantial increase in the resources of the Fund and should allow a significant increase in the number of indigenous representatives attending the Working Group from a variety of countries.

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures