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World View

“Una Gran Familia”

CANADA HOSTS THE AMERICAS

In April 1998, at the second Summit of the Americas in Santiago, Chile, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien talked about the countries of the Americas as having become “una gran familia.”

Starting this summer and for the next two years, Canada will be hosting the *familia* in an unprecedented number of important hemispheric events: the Pan American Games in Winnipeg in July; the Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas in Ottawa in September; the Americas Business Forum in Toronto in October; the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) Ministerial Meeting, also in Toronto, in November; the Model Organization of American States (OAS) General

image: Pan American Games Society



Assembly, in Edmonton in March 2000; the General Assembly of the OAS, in Windsor in June 2000; and the next Summit of the Americas, in Québec City in 2001.

Add to this list of events the fact that Canada will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of its membership in the OAS on January 8, 2000. Clearly our country is engaged in the hemisphere as never before, and we are one of the main and most active members of the family.

This fourth issue of *Canada World View* shows how important Canada's role in hemispheric affairs has become, and

how we value our relations with our 34 partners in North, South and Central America and the Caribbean. ●—

The Editors

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