As Governments, we have already come a long way in discovering and understanding one another better. Now it is time to promote that same friendship and understanding among our peoples.

A programme of events will be organized in and around Calgary, Alberta to promote business, education and other non-governmental links between Canada and ASEAN.

We are working closely with your missions in Ottawa and through our posts in the region to develop a strong slate of participants and an attractive program.

Your Royal Highness, colleagues, it has been ten years since ASEAN Foreign Ministers have been inviting their counterparts from dialogue countries to these annual consultations.

I look forward to being able to reciprocate the hospitality which you have shown me over these last six years.