

## CANADA-US RELATIONS

### **Q. Is Canada's position on missile defence affecting our relationship with the US?**

#### **Suggested Reply**

- Canada and the US are each other's closest allies and most important trading partners.
- Canada and the US enjoy a unique cooperative relationship in security and defence. We have one of the most intense and connected defence relationships in the world.
- Canada and the US regularly consult on a broad range of important security issues, including missile defence. The frankness and openness of our exchanges is a good barometer of the health of our relationship.

### **Q. What is Canada's reaction to President Bush's May 1 speech to the National Defence University?**

#### **Suggested Reply**

- President Bush's remarks have helped clarify a number of issues surrounding his administration's plans for managing the existing security and defence environment, including missile defence.
- We expect to have a clearer picture of US intentions once the new administration's strategic and defence reviews have been concluded.
- We welcome the President's commitment to consultations with US allies, including Canada, and with other concerned states such as Russia and China. We look forward to discussions with the US in this context, both bilaterally and at NATO.