



5. This leads to the fifth recommendation - the need for improved relations and more open communication between NGOs, government and civil society. It was acknowledged that Canada's multicultural make-up means that the nation is full of international "experts" in the form of new citizens, ethnic community organizations, and others who have a first-hand understanding of the countries or factions of various societies in conflict.
6. It was also recommended that the Canadian government use the international connections already in existence, i.e. economic links, NGO networks, youth exchanges and education consortia to help facilitate confidence-building between people within, and between nations.

Additional comments from Group #1:

- more discussion on what the terms "Canadian values" and "civil society" mean was needed in our group in looking to existing international networks for assistance in confidence-building;
- the Government should be encouraged to support these networks, as well as utilize them;
- confidence-building could also mean re-establishing confidence in Canadian peacekeepers by Canadians, and by people in areas of conflict. This should also mean an increase in support for non-military interventions that are creatively thinking of ways to work at establishing trust, through the involvement of civilians in the peacemaking/peacekeeping proces;
- regarding public education, one method which could be employed is public consultation. For example, if the Government is serious about expanding the definition of peacekeeping to include non-military and alternative processes, it should consult working groups made up of concerned Canadians, who could provide a

number of ideas, suggestions and policy options for peacekeeping.

Peacekeeping Interventions, Group 2

Group #2 began with an appreciation of the unpredictable environment and the differing challenges, issues, and events that the Government will likely continue to face in the future. This said, the group agreed that we need to begin with a broad definition of what we mean by "peacekeeping intervention". This led us to consider a number of matters, namely the extent to which intervention may require a civilian contribution, from the RCMP to NGOs, and not simply a military presence; the extent to which the type of politico-economic climate faced by the Government in terms of increasing demands but limited resources may demand a greater role for other kinds of contributions; and the extent to which the Government is responsible for increasing public awareness; consulting interested Canadians (in forums like these); and when Canada intervenes in the world.

Members of group #2 individually, and at times as a whole, recognized that Canada's youth remains an untapped resource; that global results can be achieved through local action; that international action requires domestic justification, sometimes crudely put in terms of some type of "return" for Canada; and that intervention in part, is an acceptance of a contested view of sovereignty. The group was also moved by the remarks of one member of the group as she related her experience of having left Saryevo and finally "feeling safe" in Canada. There was a general consensus in the group that Canada has a responsibility to remain engaged--leading, at times, to intervene in the world.