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Attention: Steven Lee

Dear Steven;

### Canada Trip Report

At long last here is our report from the trip to Ottawa in March. We apologize for the great delay in getting this to you. Both Sarah and I have been pulled by our respective programs and unfortunately this ended up on the back burner.

On behalf of the delegation we would like to thank you for making this trip possible. There is no doubt that your Centre greatly impressed the delegation as did the openness of the system in general - from the politicians themselves, and in particular the Prime Minister - to the buildings themselves- the fact that the House of Commons was filled with school children.

As team leaders we enjoyed the fact that no matter who we spoke to, everyone each in their own way reinforced the principles we try to teach here in the region: that democracy is a process that needs continual and careful nurturing; political parties need to constantly be in touch with their voters, and that good public policy requires consultation with citizens.

In the end we both were grateful that you were able to provide a "working laboratory of democratic behavior" which our delegates were able to learn from. As you read their accounts of the trip you can see for yourself how the Canadian approach to democracy touched each member of the delegation and in a real way changed how they think about democracy.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Gainer & Sarah Jenkins

