

ever been. The modern purpose of Canadian nationalism is to express ourselves, not to protect ourselves.

And that again brings me back to our primary foreign policy challenge: our relationship with United States.

Our Government has made no secret of its determination to restore a spirit of goodwill and true partnership in our dealings with the United States.

Much of the discussion on the policies of the new Government has singled out particular programmes - changes in the National Energy Program or in FIRA. There will be changes in those programs - the details will come after we have completed consultations with Canadian provincial governments and other Canadian groups that are affected. However, rather than speculate on what we will do, I would like today to talk about why we will do it. I want to open a debate, not close it. I want to indicate some of the assumptions on which I, as a Minister in the new Government, am acting and to invite you and other Canadians to propose practical alternative ideas that would allow Canada to excel - not just to survive and certainly not to diminish, but to excel - in a changed and a changing world.

The attention we are giving to programs like the NEP and FIRA do illustrate a point. I need not remind this audience that Canadians who live in small towns like those of the Pembina oil field tend to judge the success of the NEP less by the television commercials of Petro Canada, and more by the exploration jobs and the service jobs that were lost here. The same is true elsewhere across Canada. If you are a Development Officer in Scarborough or Longueuil, you tend to see foreign investment in terms of jobs, not sovereignty. The people in the Pembina field or in Longueuil or in Scarborough may be mistaken, but on September 4th they were pretty emphatic. They think that the programs that I have mentioned are wrong for Canadian reasons - not for foreign reasons, but Canadian reasons. And that is the point. Often those changes will influence our relations with other countries, but that is a secondary consequence. They do not work effectively as Canadian policy, and our Government has a mandate - in our view an obligation - to change programs that have not worked.

I want also to underline our commitment to the world beyond North America. One risk in giving such early priority to relations with our largest trading partner is that the suspicion can grow that we are ignoring our other opportunities and our other obligations in the world. Our actions will continue to demonstrate that this priority is neither exclusive nor excessive. We have a commitment to the wide world - to the GATT, to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, to relieving the drought and famine in Africa, to markets in Asia and Europe and the Middle-East. Those and other issues require, and will receive, active Canadian attention. Part of the job the Prime Minister gave me is to