



Toronto, Edmonton

3. In partnership with business, the Government should establish a voluntary code for corporate conduct, especially for those companies participating in Team Canada trade missions, that would balance economic objectives with social concerns and underscore Canadian values such as respect for human rights. (Edmonton)
4. National frameworks are increasingly limited. Canada should lead the development of safeguards through international regulations where appropriate. Although there was much debate, some felt that Canada should support international efforts to develop standards, controls and safeguards on offensive content, including hate literature, sexual exploitation of children and electronically-communicated crime. (Toronto)
5. The increasing concentration of ownership of Canadian media and its impact on Canadian values should be addressed by new and tighter telecommunications regulations. Government policy should include a commitment to promoting the diversity and balance of foreign media. Local ownership and control of communications technology is essential to allow for regional, cultural, ethnic and religious diversity. (Edmonton)

## Policy Development Process

1. The National Forum on Canada's International Relations should mark the beginning not the end of the process. The Government should extend existing mechanisms for public input in foreign policy-making and widen the circle of participants in the consultative processes.

Policy-making efforts of relevant government departments (domestic and international) should be coordinated. The Government should provide detailed feedback to participants, keep participants informed of subsequent consultations and decisions and demonstrate the intention to respond to recommendations with action. The Internet should be used to develop an alternative stream of interactive consultation which would be more accessible, more direct and less expensive.

2. Participants supported the development of the Canadian International Information Strategy and recommended that such a strategy should endorse and promote diversity, inclusivity and popular creativity in all areas of public communication and cultural expression. To this end, Canada should renew its commitment to the UN declaration on communication as a universal right.

The design and implementation of the strategy should draw on positive experiences within the Canadian domestic context, including successful public-private cooperation programs in research and development, local community-building and international trade negotiations. (Toronto)