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Mrs. Maryon Pearson and artist Charles Gagnon in conversation in front of the

mural unveiled in memory of L.B. Pearson on June 11.

## Mural salutes "Mike" Pearson - the man and his work

A 45-foot mural in memory of the late Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson was unveiled on June 11 in the Department of External Affairs headquarters building that bears his name.

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, President of the Privy Council Mitchell Sharp, Speaker of the Senate Renaude Lapointe, former Governor-General Roland Michener, Public Works Minister Charles Drury, former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker, a former Secretary of State for External Affairs, Howard Green, and over 200 guests, including former colleagues, watched as Maryon Pearson, the widow, unveiled the mural by Montreal artist Charles Gagnon.

The work, painted on a grey, blue and white background on three panels, incorporates quotations by and about Mr. Pearson. It relates, says the artist, "somewhat to an obituary in telex form with spiritual dimensions". The enlarged typeface is from Mr. Pearson's own typewriter, though the final oil painting was done by hand.

In the artist's words: "The medium, oil, plays a role because of its inherent quality of possible transluscence. The words are interwoven into the multispaces and play sometimes an active, sometimes a passive role but always are a link sustaining the 'inner light' quality I wish the work to have....What I felt needed to be achieved was a sense of spiritual timelessness which in essence is what art is, as are also the real thoughts and concerns of man. The value of a word is, that if meaningful spiritually, it is timeless and its true interpretation remains a personal experience, therefore, truly provoking and rewarding."

Lester Bowles Pearson, 1897-1972, a former Secretary of State for External Affairs, Prime Minister of Canada from 1963 to 1968, won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1957. Among his words on the mural are the following, which perhaps indicate his own depth of understanding: "Misunderstanding arising from ignorance breeds fear and fear remains the greatest enemy of peace."

Charles Gagnon, who has won several awards, has exhibited his art in Canada, the United States, Europe, Africa, South America, Israel and Japan.

## Canada/U.S.S.R. hockey series

Tentative agreement has been reached by representatives of the National Hockey League and the Soviet Ice Hockey Federation to play a series of games next winter, announced the NHL office on June 11.

Officials of the U.S.S.R. have returned to Moscow to seek final approval for two Soviet teams to play against four NHL teams in Canada in December and January.

U.S.S.R. team members will be chosen from Moscow Spartak, Moscow Dynamo, Soviet Army and Soviet Wings, all in the Soviet Union's major league. Canada's teams are not yet named.

The international tournament proposed recently by Health and Welfare Minister Marc Lalonde between national teams from Canada, the United States, the U.S.S.R., Czechoslovakia, Sweden and Finland, was not discussed at the meeting. Clarence Campbell, NHL president, has opposed the idea.

## **Bail reform survey**

The results of a survey, designed to gauge the operations of the Bail Reform Act, in effect since 1972, have been released by federal Minister of Justice Otto Lang.

The object of the Act is to reduce as much as possible – consistent with public safety and the efficient administration of justice – any interference with a person's freedom prior to his trial.

The survey, conducted by Statistics Canada, is the first of its kind and covered the period from January 1 to August 31, 1973.

Of the 12,698 persons included in the survey sample, about 90 per cent were released either by the police or by a justice or judge at some point prior to the disposition of their cases in court.

About 6 per cent failed to appear in court at some time.

The study cautions that the figures must be considered as a lower limit since they do not take into account persons who failed to appear in court more than one time — a problem in some localities. A completely accurate count was difficult to obtain due to a