

8.0 APFC CONCLUSIONS

This evaluation has generated evidence to suggest that:

1. **Rationale.** The rationale for the APFC is stronger than ever due to the rapid economic growth and rising influence of the Asia Pacific region, and the need to respond to the challenges facing Canada in the Asia Pacific. The APFC is uniquely positioned as a national non-governmental organization, supported by the provinces, to play a strong leadership role in providing knowledge, skills and awareness that Canadians will need to operate effectively in the region. Equipped with a broad mandate and the necessary resources, the Foundation is more likely to be able to respond with speed, economy and flexibility in areas where it is difficult for governments to operate effectively, due to their recognized constitutional and political restraints.

2. **Objectives Achievement and Client Satisfaction.** Over the past five years, the APFC has made significant progress in achieving its objectives, as set out in the APFC Act. This evaluation has demonstrated that the APFC's education program has been an outstanding success in achieving the objective of promoting mutual awareness and understanding of Asia Pacific languages and cultures. The level of client satisfaction with education program services is high. Other APFC programs have not been evaluated, however an interview survey of managers, stakeholders, and clients provides limited evidence to suggest that clients of APFC's other programs are satisfied with the services they received. This is supported by the fact that clients have a proven record of being willing to pay "cost recovery" for many of the services provided by the Foundation.

Based on the testimony of several media exchange jurors, we are led to believe that the Foundation's media programs, by consistently attracting high quality candidates, have contributed to the objective of promoting mutual awareness and understanding, along with the goal of disseminating information and ideas about the Asia Pacific region to a broad range of Canadians -- and about Canada to a broad range of Asians.

The Foundation continues to work toward its objective of collecting and disseminating more information, ideas and analysis about the Asia Pacific region through the efforts of its information resources unit and through the APFC's widely-distributed publications. Promoting scholarship and expertise in economic issues relating to the Asia Pacific in Canada is encouraged through the academic and analytical component of the Canadian PECC program.

3. **Impacts.** The APFC's programs have demonstrated measurable impacts in terms of promoting awareness and disseminating information about the Asia Pacific region, as exhibited in the increasing demand for its services from Canadians.

One program which has been examined in some depth, i.e. the education program, has already had measurable and high impacts in terms of numbers of Canadians studying