

imperative (not to destroy the resource base).

Human Rights

Questions

- 1. How can Canadians best promote human rights in Asia. Where.*
- 2. Are there human rights pay-offs with economic development and trade.*
- 3. How can Canadians strengthen the voice and participation of Indigenous Peoples.*
- 4. Can Canada act alone in promoting human rights. How can Canada work best with like-minded countries in promoting human rights.*

The human rights discussion revolved around eight observations and recommendations that the group developed to aid in the enhancement of Canada's role vis-a-vis the Asia-Pacific region. There was a significant level of consensus reached regarding the importance of domestic diversity and patterns of inclusion within Canada to provide the appropriate setting for valuable contributions to the human rights debate.

Observations and Recommendations

1. Issues should be addressed when representatives from minority groups are present and can contribute. eg. indigenous peoples, people of colour, women etc.
2. Indigenous peoples perspectives need to be incorporated into the contemporary foreign policy and human rights frameworks. The role of indigenous peoples needs to be incorporated and expanded upon in foreign and human rights policy and become an integral part of the "Canadian approach". As well, organizations like APEC should include and consult indigenous peoples from member countries in order to deepen understanding on various issues.
3. There must be a recognition that Canadian credibility and efficacy particularly in relation to indigenous peoples depends on Canada's domestic response to related issues.
4. While human rights have universal applicability, they also have a cultural context and therefore, a Canadian response must be context sensitive. And, as the civil, political, and economic spheres are not separate, but interdependent, strategies aimed at issues concerning human rights should not be targeted at one sphere, but