

The fields of work and the functions outlined for the Institute in its Act would permit a vast range of diverse activities, all of them with particular appeal and possible utility. Indeed, in the first five years of rapid growth, we have experimented with activities across a very wide spectrum. As we enter the second five years, in an environment of abundant opportunities and scarce resources, the strategic challenge will be to choose – on the basis of past experience and future projections – the areas where the Institute can best concentrate its energies and resources to make the most impact in fulfilling its mandate. The responsibility for making these choices will rest on all of us who are on the Institute's Board – named by the Government after consultation with the parliamentary opposition parties and on the basis of nominations from the wider community. We will also have the benefit of many informed appraisals and proposals from interested groups and individuals across the country and overseas – and such views are being explicitly sought out during a series of visits and consultations in my first months here.

Meanwhile, as we prepare for the Institute's future directions, we are also bringing to a close a year of full activity in all of the Institute's programmes, as the following reports by their directors richly attest. Some of the Institute's important projects of long standing have now begun to bear fruit, with strong networks of collaborators across Canada and abroad. Research linkages and projects span the fields of the Institute's mandate with collaborative, commissioned and in-house endeavours, and research seminars of various kinds have become a major intellectual and policy resource in the field. Similarly, public programmes include a wide variety of ventures – from top-level scientific exchanges to youth participation and curriculum programmes – as

well as a publications programme of solid rhythm and impact. The Institute's mandate to "collect and disseminate information" is reflected in expanding outreach programmes and networks of library and database cooperation in Canada and internationally. The Institute's responsive grant and award and scholarship programmes, meanwhile, continue to be in demand from many different quarters. The system of a consultative committee review in the grants and awards processes have contributed to a thorough examination in what is, appropriately, a more and more competitive field.

As the Institute conducts its strategic review and strategic planning in this new international climate, we confront a wealth of opportunities in all areas of international peace and security, including arms control, disarmament, defence, conflict resolution and new frontiers in the field. Clearly, we also have a solid base of experience on which to draw as we set future directions.

BERNARD WOOD
Chief Executive Officer

