

backgrounds, the people of Latin America are the kind of people we should like to know better, with whom we should wish to work in the pursuit of common objects. For us, in short, Latin Americans are a vital and imaginative people who have done important things and are destined to do more. In a word, we wish to build upon the communion de coeur that already exists, but at the same time we wish to strengthen in a more systematic fashion the community of spirit that is so essential and necessary to our relations with one another.

It follows that Canada's role must be played on a broad front -- political, cultural and economic. We already share common goals. Like you, we wish to safeguard sovereignty and independence and to work for peace and security in the world. We wish to consult and work with you in pursuit of these goals.

Again like you, we wish to enhance the quality of life of our people. In this area, in which there is much room for true reciprocity, we hope to co-operate more and more closely with the Latin American countries. In the realm of the arts (both popular and professional) -- films, television and other audio-visual techniques, academic and practical disciplines, and science and technology generally -- there are great possibilities for fruitful exchange in the years ahead.

At the same time, both Latin Americans and Canadians face the growing problem of determining which of the new technologies they really need. This is an area in which of us could learn from the other. Arbitrary application of scientific techniques can have harmful long-term effects in developing areas such as certain parts of Latin America; research into real needs and selective introduction of methods suitable to the social and physical environment are essential. Canada has similar problems, and it would find helpful a closer relation with Latin America in this sphere. At the same time, we hope that Canada's International Development Research Centre will be of assistance to Latin American governments.

It is in the practical field of social and economic development that Canada and the Latin American countries may increasingly find opportunities for constructive relations. It is not generally appreciated that in many ways Canada's heritage is similar to that of Latin America. Each is a vast territory, rich in natural resources, much of it undeveloped or even unexplored. Our populations are mainly European in origin, with varying admixtures of indigenous peoples and of immigrants from other parts of the globe. For more than three centuries, each in his own way, most of us have been adapting to new surroundings and striving to build a new society in a new world. In some ways we have all signally succeeded but in other ways we have all markedly failed. Of this I am sure - we have a community of problems, a community of aspirations and, in the last analysis, a community of human resources. I believe, therefore, that what we have in common most of all is a need and a determination to make it increasingly possible for the ordinary man and woman to enjoy the good life and to provide such a life for their children. All our governments agree on this as a fundamental goal of public policy. In Canada we speak of promoting social justice and of fostering economic growth; with enhancement of the quality of life, these are the policy aims to which the Canadian Government now attaches the highest priority in its conception of the national interest. In hemispheric terms, such aims