Secretary of State for External Affairs



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DEATH OF ANDREÏ SAKHAROV

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today expressed his deep sorrow at the untimely death of Andrei Sakharov.

"The death of the Soviet physicist, human rights activist and Nobel Peace prize winner Andrei Sakharov will come as a profound shock to all Canadians."

Earlier this year, in the company of his wife Yelena Bonner, Dr. Sakharov paid a visit to Canada, during which he was honoured for his work in promoting individual freedoms. Mr. Clark had the privilege of meeting with Dr. Sakharov on that occasion and of conveying to him his best wishes for the continued success of his work.

"Dr. Sakharov's distinguished place in history is assured: his legacy lives on in the processes of reform and democratisation of Soviet society which he played such an important part in initiating."

Mr. Clark has written to Dr. Sakharov's wife, Yelena Bonner, to add his condolences to those expressed to her by the Prime Minister.