

The Government of Canada promotes respect for workers' rights and labour standards both at home and throughout the Americas. In 1999, for instance, Canada shared with the OAS the key developments and changes it has made over the past 10 years in labour legislation — mostly in the areas of employment standards, industrial relations and occupational safety and health.

Canada is working to improve the participation of Aboriginal people in Canadian society. In 1998, the Government of Canada launched *Gathering Strength: Canada's Aboriginal Action Plan*. Through the Plan, the federal government is promoting self-sufficiency and economic development; developing labour and training programs to help Aboriginal people prepare for, find and keep jobs; improving access to health care; and supporting Aboriginal education and language programs. Canada also plays a key role in promoting indigenous issues at the international level — bilaterally and multilaterally — through institutions such as the UN and OAS.

Conclusion

Since the First Summit of the Americas held in Miami, Canada has worked to address issues dealt with in the Summit mandates, both at home and in the Hemisphere. Canada is committed to monitoring the implementation of Summit plans of action and to reporting on their activities. While many efforts are already underway, new strategies have been and are being developed and pursued in response to the evolution of the Summit process.

Canada is proud of its achievements in working at home and in the Hemisphere and of the contribution that the Summit of the Americas process has made to improving the quality of life for Canadians and for the peoples of the Americas.