

CLEARLY TO OURSELVES AND TO THE WORLD WHAT CANADA IS AND WHAT IT STANDS FOR. ONLY THROUGH SUCH WIDELY SHARED UNDERSTANDING CAN WE STRENGTHEN THE NATIONAL WILL STILL FURTHER AND SHARE A COMMON PRIDE IN THE WHOLE OF CANADA WHILE FOSTERING AND DRAWING STRENGTH AND SATISFACTION FROM THE POSITIVE ELEMENTS OF OUR REMARKABLE DIVERSITY. IN THIS CONTEXT, WHILE THE PROVINCES MAY BE REGARDED AS THE BRICKS OF CONFEDERATION, THE GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT OF CANADA PROVIDE THE MORTAR THAT BINDS THEM INTO A SOLID ENDURING STRUCTURE. THUS, WHILE THE WHOLE IS THE SUM OF ITS PARTS, IT ALSO HAS A SHAPE AND FORM OF ITS OWN. TO PREVENT EROSION, FORMAL MECHANISMS ARE ESSENTIAL; HENCE THE NEED FOR RENEWAL AND FOR PERIODIC REVIEW AND REFORM. BUT THESE ALONE WILL NOT INSURE A STRONG CANADA. CANADIANS CANNOT RELY ON THEM ENTIRELY BUT MUST ALSO POSSESS THE WILL TO CONTINUE LIVING TOGETHER AND TO CONTINUE SAYING WITH PRIDE "I AM A CANADIAN".

A PERSONAL DECLARATION

I BEGAN WITH A DECLARATION OF SUCH PERSONAL PRIDE AND OF MY COMMITMENT TO WORK FOR NATIONAL UNITY. HAVING EXPERIENCED ONE IDENTITY CRISIS IN MY LIFE, I HAVE NO WISH TO CONTEMPLATE ANOTHER. CANADA, ALL OF IT, IS NOW MY HOME AND NO MAN COULD ASK FOR BETTER. I HAVE COME TO REALIZE THAT A VARIETY OF CIRCUMSTANCES, NOT ALL OF OUR MAKING, HAVE BROUGHT TOGETHER ON OUR HALF OF THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT, A UNIQUE