

I AM AWARE THAT SOME CONCERN HAS BEEN RAISED ABOUT THE INVESTMENT CLIMATE IN CANADA. IN RESPONSE I WOULD POINT TO THE SUBSTANTIAL CONTINUING INVESTMENT IN CANADA FROM OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH REFLECTS THEIR APPRECIATION THAT CANADA REMAINS AN ATTRACTIVE PLACE IN WHICH TO INVEST, SOMETHING WHICH I UNDERSTAND A LEADING JAPANESE BUSINESS MAGAZINE HAS ITSELF POINTED OUT AS A RESULT OF A RECENT SURVEY. CANADA IS GOING THROUGH A DIFFICULT PERIOD AND THERE IS CONCERN WITHIN THE COUNTRY AS WELL AS ABROAD ABOUT THE EVOLUTION OF CANADIAN FEDERALISM. LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT THE SOLUTION OF THIS DEBATE WILL NOT IN ANY SUBSTANTIAL WAY ALTER THE FUNDAMENTAL SOUNDNESS OF MY COUNTRY. IN 110 YEARS CANADA HAS BEEN CONFRONTED WITH MANY CHALLENGES AND IT HAS ALWAYS OVERCOME THEM IN A REASONABLE AND DEMOCRATIC WAY. I FULLY EXPECT THAT CANADA WILL COME OUT OF THIS DEBATE STRONGER AND MORE UNITED THAN EVER.

ONE POINT WHICH I HAVE TOUCHED UPON EARLIER IS THE NEED FOR CANADIAN BUSINESSMEN TO INCREASE CONTACTS WITH THEIR JAPANESE COUNTERPARTS. I HAVE MENTIONED SOME OF THE ACTIVITY WHICH OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE INITIATED TO FACILITATE SUCH CONTACTS. MUCH HAS BEEN DONE, AND I KNOW THERE ARE MANY IN THE AUDIENCE WITH EXTENSIVE CONTACTS IN JAPAN. HOWEVER, THESE EFFORTS NEED TO CONTINUE AND TO BE INTENSIFIED FOR THEY ARE CENTRAL TO THE SUCCESSFUL EXPANSION OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION. SEVERAL COUNTRIES HAVE FORMED VALUABLE BUSINESSMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS WITH JAPAN TO ASSIST IN THIS