

Canada will remain a place where business has the ear of Government and where useful initiative by the private sector will be enthusiastically supported.

Your conference will probably identify aspects of cooperation that call for some reaction by governments. Rest assured that the Government remains prepared to listen carefully to the views that your conference may wish to address to it. Like the views of the business community of this country, those of the German business community will continue to be of interest to us. The views of foreign firms on Canadian policies affecting their presence in this country are important for us to know. Only in this way can we maintain an enlightened dialogue which, even if it does not produce total identity of views, will ensure that communication lines are kept open and free from misconceptions and misperceptions.

It is on this invitation to maintain a fruitful dialogue that I wish to close my remarks. I understand that the German expression "unter Vier Augen" (pronounce Unter Feer Owgen which means straight in the eyes) applies to frank discussion but is also what one does in Germany when raising his glass. I ask you all to join me in proposing a toast to the success of the work that is ahead of you.