with ways to use to Internet to diffuse hatred and to promote human rights. In "Creating Communities and Promoting Intercultural Understanding," presenters discussed the ways in which the Internet can be used to provide information, debunk myths and stereotypes and promote partnerships and community cooperation in the "global village." Whether the Internet is just another form of commercially driven media that promotes violence, sexism and propaganda, or whether it is qualitatively different, and the implications of the Internet for educators, parents and the media were explored in "Is the Medium the Message?" "The New Rhetoric of Hate" featured a discussion of the use of academic, and particularly psychological, socio-biological research and language by members of the far right and neo-Nazis to formalize and legitimize hate propaganda on the Internet and elsewhere. Police personnel and prosecutors attended a closed session which provided an overview of hate groups and hate activity in Canada, international connections, and implications for criminal investigations and prosecutions.

One of the highlights of the symposium was a PBS-style forum, held at the North York Council Chambers on Monday evening, September 8th. Moderated by Neil MacDonald of CBC Newsworld, and open to the general public, this program featured a lively and provocative "rapid fire" discussion about the problem of hate on the Internet and how to counter it. Panelists included Canadian and international experts representing a variety of philosophical perspectives and areas of professional expertise.

Networking and building relationships was a critical part of the symposium, and the "Networking Lunch" on the final day of the program was designated specifically for this purpose. In addition to meeting informally with old and new colleagues, delegates were able to visit material resource displays set up by community multicultural and race relations organizations, government agencies, the Canadian Human Rights Commission, civil liberties groups, and computer and media volunteer associations, in order to learn more about grassroots human rights initiatives, share resources, and develop partnerships.

Final Workshops and Closing Plenary

All participants had received a discussion paper by David Matas, entitled "Countering Hate on the Internet: Recommendations for Action" and were asked to review the paper and fourteen proposed recommendations prior to the final day of the symposium. The task of the workshops was to come up with constructive recommendations based on the deliberations of the previous days. The workshops, facilitated by participants with relevant expertise, dealt with four substantive areas outlined in the Matas paper, including: 1) legal/legislative regulatory measures; 2) voluntary non-regulatory measures; 3) role of police; and 4) educational/pro-active initiatives. The discussion of the recommendations of the workshop groups was restricted to points of clarification, and all recommendations were recorded as reported to the final plenary.

The following recommendations were presented by the four workshop groups at the closing plenary of the International Symposium on Hate on the Internet, hosted by the League for Human Rights and the Institute for International Affairs of B'nai Brith Canada, September 9, 1997:

4