

called the third sector. There is, in all of our communities, no shortage of work that could be done. At the same time, there are large numbers of unemployed people who are searching for meaningful employment.

The third sector is one key to bringing them together. We must redefine what we mean by work, and then find innovative ways of rewarding workers in this new field of employment by paying them a social wage. We must look at new forms of work distribution, work sharing and community entrepreneurship.

New Ways of Governing — Empowering Communities and Individuals

This puts a premium on re-defining the role of government and its relationship to its citizens. In the new economy in which technology has put increasing power into the hands of the individual, it is clear that old top-down central bureaucratic modes of government will no longer work.

In the broadest possible sense we must ensure that public money is used to "feed people and not bureaucracies." At all levels of government, we must target assistance to those in need as directly as possible, and let them choose their own path to employment.

At the heart of our reforms to Canada's social programs will be a fundamental rethinking and restructuring of our system, to ensure that greater power is given to local communities and individuals. This will be done by shifting both resources and decision-making authority to those closest to the people being served by social programs. Already this has started. As a case in point, my own community of Winnipeg boasts a single-parents' resource centre run by and for single parents.

The Information-Based Economy: Ensuring All Share in the New Wealth

We also must look seriously at the issue of who benefits from the wealth generated by the new economy. There is a sea-change occurring in the underlying basis of Canada's economy and culture. Technology, in the form of fibre optic cables, networks of computer terminals and increasingly interactive television screens, has created an ever-smaller world. An army of people are on-line, engaged in every facet of political, social and economic life.

In Canada and around the globe, technology affords enormous advantages to those who ride its wave. Currently, the top 30 per cent of workers in industrialized countries represent "the new technological aristocracy." The remaining 70 per cent, as Abe Rosenthal described them recently in a *New York Times* column, are "the foundering, searching, angry, anxious people."