



## Messages

# COSMOPOLITAN CANADA:

## *A modern state with a human face*

### **A functional, flexible federal structure that adapts to changing circumstances**

The Canadian Parliamentary system is fully capable of adjusting and evolving to meet the changing needs of all its citizens.

The Constitution Act of 1982, which includes the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, is the foundation of the modern Canadian federation.

In recent years, the provinces have been allowed to take over responsibilities in areas such as labour market training and mining and forestry development.

### **A government responsive to the needs and concerns of citizens, and a public sector that offers them efficient service**

Canadians continue to believe in a strong role for government.

The public sector continues to be important to the functioning of Canada.

Innovation and improving efficiency are the key features of the Canadian public sector.

The Canadian approach uses innovations to continuously enhance the flexible federalism at the core of our domestic political system.

One of the world's most electronically connected countries; already all schools and libraries are linked to the Internet

Canada ranks among the world leaders in terms of the percentage of population on-line.

Canada became the first country to have all its public libraries connected to the Internet.

### **A champion of democracy, human rights and the rule of law**

Canada believes in a new kind of global politics, with governments, civil society and non-governmental organizations working together to effect positive change for people.

Canada is committed to a fair, open global trading system reflecting the same principles that protect human rights and allow individuals to realize their potential, free from persecution or discrimination.

### **A committed internationalist, as shown by its humanitarian initiatives, including its human security program**

On a global level, Canada believes in a team approach when promoting culture, values, policies and interests.

Canada maintains a strong presence in multilateral forums such as the UN and the World Trade Organization.

Canada and the United States enjoy the benefits of having the world's largest bilateral trading relationship.

Canada's flexible, multi-faceted approach to international relations enables us to assist developing countries and countries in transition.

We have achieved much progress by focussing attention on the quality and security of human lives.

