

BUT WHILE SEPARATISM IS THE MOST URGENT AND DIRECT THREAT TO UNITY IT IS NOT THE ONLY ONE. THE COMPREHENSIVE RENEWAL PROCESS SHOULD NOT BE DISTORTED OR COMPACTED INTO AN EFFORT THAT IS DIRECTED PRIMARILY AT THE SEPARATIST CRISIS. OTHER GROUPS AND OTHER REGIONS ALSO HAVE PROBLEMS AND DOUBTS. THE LARGER TASK IS TO EMBRACE ALL OF THESE, TO FIND MEANS WHEREBY WE CAN NOT ONLY LESSEN GRIEVANCES BUT MAKE THE ENTIRE FEDERAL SYSTEM MORE RESPONSIVE AND A BETTER INSTRUMENT FOR IDENTIFYING AND CARRYING OUT THE NATIONAL WILL.

AND THERE IS A NATIONAL WILL, A STRONG CANADIAN SENSE OF NATIONHOOD. IT IS SOMETHING MORE THAN THE DISTILLATION OF TEN PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT VIEWS, THE COMMON DENOMINATOR ACHIEVED THROUGH THE MELDING OF TEN OFTEN DISPARATE VIEWPOINTS, WORKED AND REWORKED UNTIL A CONSENSUS APPEARS. GIVEN THE COMPLEXITY OF OUR TIMES, SUCH EXERCISES IN CO-OPERATION ARE IMPORTANT, EVEN THOUGH NOT ACCORDED GREAT WEIGHT BY CANADA'S FOUNDERS, NOR ITS LEADERS DURING OUR FIRST HALF CENTURY.

THESE FOUNDERS WISELY CREATED A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, A GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT OF CANADA, TO REPRESENT AND SPEAK FOR ALL CANADIANS, THE CITIZENS OF ONE NATION. TODAY, JUST AS IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THAT GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT TO FIGHT SEPARATISM AND PROVIDE A COUNTER-WEIGHT TO EXCESSIVE REGIONALISM, IT MUST ALSO ARTICULATE NATIONAL GOALS NOT MERELY IN ECONOMIC AND MATERIAL TERMS BUT IN WAYS THAT WILL DEFINE MORE