

Petro-Canada and more by the Canadian drilling jobs and the Canadian service jobs that were lost in your own community. If you are a Development Officer in Scarborough or Longueuil, you tend to see foreign investment in terms of jobs, not sovereignty. The people in the Pembina field or in Longueuil or in Scarborough may be mistaken, although on September 4 they were pretty emphatic. They think that the programmes that I have mentioned are wrong for Canadian reasons. Not for foreign reasons, but Canadian reasons. They don't work effectively as Canadian policy, and our Government has a domestic mandate - and in our view a domestic obligation - to change programmes that haven't worked. Often those changes will influence our relations with other countries, but that is a secondary consequence.

The second precision has to do with the world beyond North America. One risk in giving such early priority to our relations with our largest trading partner is that the suspicion can grow that we are ignoring our other opportunities and our other obligations in the world. Our actions will demonstrate that this priority is neither exclusive nor excessive. We have a commitment to the wide world, to the GATT, to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, to markets in Asia and Europe and the Middle East that require, and will receive, active Canadian attention. Part of the job the Prime Minister gave me is to ensure that Canada continues to see the world whole, and I will do that.

Now let me come back to the question of Canadian self-confidence, and the world in which a self confident Canada has to operate.

If I were a real expert on what is happening in Canada, I would be a Consultant, not a Foreign Minister. But I have been active in my country over the last two decades, in positions that have required me to keep my eyes open, and I believe we have moved quietly into a new maturity as a nation. We have been a young country for a long time, and, somewhere between Jean Lesage and Marc Garneau, we have become more sure of ourselves. Part of that had to do with a sense of equality in our regional communities. There has been a dramatic evolution of self-confidence in Québec and, for different reasons, in my own region of Western Canada, and that is bound to influence the people raised there. But quite apart from our geographic and cultural communities, these last few decades have seen a burst in Canadian accomplishment - in literature, science, investment, invention, painting, sport - you name the field. Even our chefs excel. So much so that the Americans are grumbling.

Confidence and accomplishment nourish one another, and I am arguing that we are better able to stand on our own than we