

ALL OF THEM. FEDERALISM HAS BEEN TO US WHAT FOOTBALL IS TO YOU. IT IS OUR BLOOD SPORT, OUR TRADE MARK, AND OUR DIVERSION FROM SERIOUS BUSINESS.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT HAS A DEEP RESPECT FOR THE FEDERAL SYSTEM; WE HAVE DEFENDED AND HELPED PRESERVE IT, BOTH IN PARLIAMENT AND IN THE QUEBEC REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN. WE BELIEVE A FEDERAL SYSTEM IS THE ONLY ONE THAT CAN WORK IN A COUNTRY LIKE CANADA, BUT THAT IT NEEDS LEADERSHIP FROM THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO MAKE IT WORK. PRIME MINISTER MULRONEY SPEAKS OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. THAT IS MORE THAN A PHRASE; IT IS A CONDITION PRECEDENT TO CANADIAN RECOVERY, AND THE PLACE TO BEGIN IS TO HAVE OUR VARIOUS GOVERNMENTS WORK MORE CLOSELY TOGETHER.

WE CANADIANS, LIKE OTHER LIVELY PEOPLE, WILL HAVE OUR DIFFERENCES AT HOME, BUT WE DO NOT WANT THEM TO LIMIT OUR EFFECTIVENESS IN THE WORLD. THERE ARE REPRESENTATIVES OF CANADIAN PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS IN THIS ROOM TONIGHT, AND I AM CONFIDENT THEY WOULD AGREE WITH ME THAT IT IS TIME FOR OUR GOVERNMENTS TO USE OUR DIFFERENT JURISDICTIONS AS INSTRUMENTS OF COOPERATION NOT CONFLICT. THAT IS THE MOOD IN CANADA TODAY; IT WAS THE MESSAGE OF OUR VOTERS EVERYWHERE, ON SEPTEMBER 4TH; AND WE EXPECT IT WILL LEAD TO A MORE COHERENT VIEW OF CANADA IN THE WORLD.