

Our partnership is constantly growing in many fields. Indonesians and Canadians have found common ground on many international issues. In terms of trade between two countries both sides have seen growing volumes of exports and imports. Canadian investments also play an important role in Indonesia's national development. Clearly these have been productive years for both Indonesia and Canada, and the potential to do more remains enormous.

Many prominent Indonesian citizens who are pillars in their respective communities have studied in fine Canadian Universities. To mention a few, Indonesia's Minister of Marine and Affairs and Fisheries, Dr. Rokhmin Dahuri, obtained his doctoral degree from Dalhousie University, as did the late Mr. Tungki Aribowo, former Minister for Trade and Industry, from the Technical University of Nova Scotia, while former Minister for Religious Affairs, Prof. Mukti Ali was a graduate of McGill University.

Several major events have just been successfully undertaken in Canada - among others, the second annual bilateral human rights dialogue held in Ottawa last August. The Indonesian delegation was led by the Minister for Justice and Human Rights, Dr. Yusril Ihza Mahendra. There he engaged in fruitful dialogue with the Canadian delegation led by the Minister for Justice Irwin Cotler.

Last week, in implementing the Joint Statement between our two Foreign Ministers, the Indonesian delegation, consisting of high ranking officials from the office of Coordinating Minister of Political and Security Affairs, the Department of Defense and the Indonesian National Police paid a visit to Toronto and Ottawa to meet their Canadian counterparts to discuss ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in dealing with CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear) issues as they relate to international terrorism.

The two delegations committed to strengthening bilateral and multilateral cooperation to respond to terrorism. In this particular matter, I really appreciate Canada's enthusiastic response to build a better network in combating terrorism.

Last but not least, as I have mentioned above, to enrich our relationship, a collection of personal stories written by real people who have lived and worked in one another's countries make up the contents of a beautiful commemorative volume entitled "Friendship Beyond Borders." This book has been published last year by the Indonesian Embassy in close cooperation with DFAIT. We hope it