



June 1999

Dear Minister,

As part of our commitment to public partnerships and transparency, it is a pleasure to present the 1998-99 annual Report of the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development. Together with the 1997-98 Report (attached) and our first annual Report for 1996-97 (still available on our website), this provides a complete overview for our first three years.

Roundtables that bring together leading academics, NGO experts and others, with senior officials from across the Department of Foreign Affairs, are now a major activity. As well as policy development needs, these roundtables often address urgent problems. It has been especially valuable that you, your colleagues Ministers Chan and Kilgour, and your advisors have participated.

At your request we have undertaken several major projects including the 1998 National Forum on Canada's Circumpolar Relations, the 1999 National Forum on the United Nations and Human Security and our growing work on Hemisphere relations. In the coming year there will be a series of cross-Canada roundtables on policy themes that can contribute to Canada's OAS and Americas Summit interests. In partnership with the United Nations University and leading Canadian academics, we will examine the new international environment influenced by the Landmines Treaty, the International Criminal Court and the growing role of NGOs and civil society in international affairs. Plans also include attention to conflict prevention and international law, post Kosovo.

As new annual activities, we build on the success of the first annual Graduate Student Seminar and the first annual Academic Roundtable to make these landmark events in Spring 2000.

Reporting directly to you, all these activities are undertaken with a view to provide you and your officials with advice and ideas from outside government, to help engage Canadians in thinking about and contributing to foreign policy at a time of renewed international activism and to provide youth and young scholars opportunities to participate and thus strengthen international relations capacity in the next generation.

Many Canadians in every region of the country are enthusiastic to participate and contribute to foreign policy making. I look forward to working with you, and many others, in widening the engagement of Canadians in the continuing development of Canada's foreign policy.

Best wishes,

Steve Lee
National Director