

throughout the Carribean and throughout Latin America as well.

That tradition is more than history, it is more than the private property of a church or a service club or an individual. It has created deep within the Canadian community, a desire and a capacity to respond to international crises. We have demonstrated that twice, dramatically, in the last six years. First in the response to the boat people, and then with the famine in Africa.

The challenge for leadership is to draw more regularly upon those Canadian instincts to act in the world. The opportunity this review process offers is to open a more permanent relation between government policy and citizen interest. The Canadian citizen response to crisis has been magnificent. But that partnership between government and citizen should surely not be confined to time of crisis.

In 1979, the world confronted the tragedy of the boat people - people who were spurned by their homelands and set quite literally adrift. There was an instant reaction of alarm and concern among Canadians, so my government sought to harness that public concern rather than simply administer it in a bureaucratic way. We announced a partnership program between people and government - a program whereby the government would sponsor one new Canadian among the boat people for every person brought into the country by church groups, individuals, town councils, clubs, neighbourhoods. The response was overwhelming, as the response was overwhelming last fall when Canadians responded to the crisis of famine in Africa.

Again we acted in partnership. We appointed The Honourable David MacDonald to coordinate our response with the non-governmental organizations, many of which were already established in Ethiopia. There was no need for the government to go in and set up something new, because Canadian organizations or international organizations with which Canada was connected were already there. So we set up that partnership. We established a system of matching grants to match dollar for dollar what Canadians were giving.

Donations flooded in and they rose beyond 35 million dollars. More than 500,000 individual Canadians contributed at a time of quite difficult economic conditions here at home. And the average donation was twice the normal amount that had been