

successful summit

will the Summit be productive. Major efforts are under way to see that it is, and to ensure that it sets the stage for progress on key issues. And playing central parts are two of Canada's top diplomats.

Peter Boehm

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"The Third Summit of the Americas will reinforce the progress that

countries throughout the Hemisphere have made on their shared commitments to stronger democracies and stronger economies," says Peter Boehm. "The prospects for enhanced hemispheric co-operation are highly promising." He certainly ought to know: since 1997 he has been Canada's Ambassador to the Organization of American States (OAS), and currently he is also National Co-ordinator for the 2001 Summit of the Americas process.

At the OAS, Ambassador Boehm has sought consensus on common approaches, particularly during his time as President of the OAS Permanent Council last October to December. Along the way he has highlighted Canadian priorities such as human rights and democratic development, and civil society involvement in OAS initiatives. In the past year, Peter Boehm was appointed Canada's Special Ministerial Envoy to Peru; in that capacity he contributed to the successful OAS mission that helped Peru strengthen its democratic system.



Ever since Canada was chosen to host the Third Summit of the Americas, Ambassador Boehm has worked with other participating governments, mapping out the way to build on the achievements of the 1994 summit in Miami and the 1998 summit in Santiago, Chile. He and his counterparts from other countries are defining the issues to be discussed by the leaders, and identifying action plans on which they might reach consensus.

At the OAS, Peter Boehm has been able to draw on his extensive experience, especially in Latin American and Caribbean issues. He joined Canada's Foreign Service while finishing a PhD in history at the University of Edinburgh, and served in Canada's embassies in

Havana and in San José, Costa Rica. He has also held the post of Director of DFAIT's South America and Inter-American Division. In 1992 he received a Canadian Foreign Service Award recognizing his role in developing peace plans in Central America while in San José.

The Ambassador is equally experienced in the task of organizing summits. He was Canada's Co-ordinator for the G-7 and G-8 Summits in Naples in 1994, and in Halifax in 1995. In 1998 he was policy adviser to Prime Minister Chrétien for the Santiago Summit of the Americas. ●