

visitors – and to increase their awareness and appreciation of the capital as a national symbol as well as of Canada's cultural heritage. At present many of these institutions, the National Museums and the National Gallery most particularly, suffer from what could at best be described as inappropriate accommodations, which do not permit them to display their collections properly – or to protect them adequately.

There have been many comments made that the conditions prevailing in the National Gallery are, shall we say, inadequate. I do more than share this view. I am at present working hard to resolve this problem. And I can say that I am now optimistic about a solution.

Tonight, I have tried to draw up a kind of balance sheet of the past year, and to express to you my intention to be an aggressive and determined attorney on behalf of Canadian arts. But I do need your partnership and your support....

S/C