## **INTRODUCTION**

- Today, I thought I might speak to you about three things and then engage in a general discussion:
  - First, I would like to give you a bit of the context in which we have to operate in Ottawa these days;
  - Second, I thought I might speak to you about Canadian
    Foreign Policy directions and priorities as I see them for the coming months, and,
  - Third, I would like to share with you some of my thoughts about DFAIT as an institution and some of the things I think we ought to do.
  - I will conclude by a few comments on where you fit in that
    picture as heads of mission about to leave for your mission.