

- 10 YEARS MAY BE TOO SHORT A TIME TO JUDGE OUR REAL ACHIEVEMENTS WHILE WE MAY HAVE STARTED WELL, WE SHALL BE JUDGED ON THE TANGIBLE RESULTS WE ACHIEVE.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, WIDESPREAD CONCERN ABOUT OUR MANAGEMENT OF THE PLANET'S RESOURCES HAD PRODUCED A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT STUDIES: THE BRANDT COMMISSION REPORT, THE WORLD CONSERVATION STRATEGY, THE OKITA REPORT, GLOBAL 2000. THESE STUDIES, DIVERSE AS THEY ARE IN THEIR ORIGINS AND CONCEPTS HAVE RECORDED A REMARKABLE CONSENSUS IN IDENTIFYING THE ISSUES BEFORE US. THEY ALSO ARE UNANIMOUS IN ONE IMPORTANT RESPECT: WE HAVE THE MEANS OF OUR OWN MANAGEMENT; WE ARE NOT DOOMED TO FAILURE BY FATALISTIC FORCES; WE CAN INDEED ACT TO ENSURE OUR OWN SURVIVAL. THIS IS A POSITIVE NOTE ON WHICH TO COMMENCE THE NEXT DECADE. BUT TO GET POSITIVE RESULTS WILL REQUIRE KNOWLEDGE, WIDE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING, POLITICAL WILL - AND MONEY!

THERE IS, SURELY, NO LONGER ANY REAL QUESTION ABOUT THE INEXTRICABLE LINKS BETWEEN THE HEALTH OF OUR ENVIRONMENT AND OUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, OUR "ECODEVELOPMENT". THEY ARE NOT, EXCEPT POSSIBLY IN THE VERY SHORT TERM OR THROUGH FAILURE TO ASSIGN TRUE COSTS, ANTAGONISTIC BUT COMPLEMENTARY. THE POLICY PAPER ENTITLED "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR CANADA IN THE 1980'S" STATES IT VERY BLUNTLY. EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO SUSTAINABLE GROWTH