

News Release

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FIRST DIRECTORS APPOINTED TO BOARD OF INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced today the first persons appointed to the Board of Directors of the recently-formed International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development. Among those named by the Government are the Chairman of the Board, Dr. Gisèle Côté-Harper, Quebec; Mr. Marcel Massé, Ottawa; Mr. Del Anaquod, Regina; Dr. Irving Breecher, Montreal; Mr. David Daubney, Ottawa; Ms. Julie Davis, Toronto; Mr. Ron Ghitter, Calgary; Ms. Kay Nandlall, Fredericton; and Dr. Norma Walmsley, Wakefield.

They will join the Honourable Edward Broadbent, whose appointment as President of the Centre was announced previously. "This distinguished group of parliamentarians, academics and active citizens are all recognized as advocates of fundamental rights and freedoms. I am confident they can lead the Centre towards strengthening those values where they are the most fragile", Mr. Clark said.

The mandate of the Centre, established by an Act of Parliament on September 30, 1988, is to help advance human rights and freedoms throughout the world by promoting democratic institutions and processes. Independent of the government, the Centre will provide persons and organizations in other countries with training, counsel and research services to promote the observance of human rights and the full participation of all citizens in the democratic process.

Supervising the Centre's activities will be a Board of Directors totalling thirteen persons. Ten are appointed by the Government of Canada. The remaining three are appointed by the Board itself and must be nationals of developing countries.

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