

increasingly necessary if cooperation is to develop. For our relationship to mature, we must bring wider circles of decision makers, opinion formers and experts in touch with each other.

You will discover that, because of our climate and geography are similar to yours, we have worked out solutions to problems of development that may be applicable in the Soviet Union. We are interested in sharing these with you just as we wish to learn from you. We believe that the common characteristics of our two countries provide the basis for closer relations.

Our trade is already important. The Soviet Union is Canada's fourth largest trading partner. We recognize that the structure of our trade needs attention. We must, while continuing to develop our important trade in commodities, move ahead in the manufacturing sector and in the modern technologies of industry and agriculture.

In seeking closer cooperation, we must recognize that we are not going to change the nature of each other's country or systems, and that there will inevitably be differences between us. We, in Canada, believe that, in spite of our differences, as well as because of them, it is important to continue to talk to each other, to visit each other's country and give to our bilateral relationship greater breadth, both for our mutual benefit and as part of a contribution to better East/West relations.

For all these reasons I welcome your visit, and I would like to propose a toast to your own very good health and that of Madam Vorotnikova, to the further development of Canadian/Soviet relations in the interest of our peoples and governments, and to a renewed sense of purpose in the search for peace in the world.