In addition to greeting Ambassador McNee, I would like to introduce our next resident ambassador, Mr. Daniel Marchand, as well as Mr. Denis Létourneau, who will be our chargé d'affaires until Mr. Marchand's arrival.

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In closing, I would like to thank Mr. William Zard, the owner of this magnificent building, for his ready co-operation.

I wish to welcome you all as our first visitors, and I am proud to inaugurate the Canadian Embassy to Lebanon.

Thank you.