

And so I say to you, Mr. Gorbachev, as you tour our fortunate and varied country -- as you see Canadians enjoying the transformation of spring which heralds a new beginning in the life-cycle; as you see our agricultural potential and the care and love which so many Canadians give to their land -- take the message home, that Canadians, like Soviet citizens, care about life, care about peace, care about détente; convey the message that we are determined to see a new beginning in international cooperation, that no one has a monopoly on peace but that together we can make peace a reality.

Mr. Gorbachev, may I propose a toast to you and your Delegation. I extend a very sincere welcome to our country; I wish you a safe and fascinating journey. May this be a visit to strengthen the bonds of friendship and confidence between our two great nations.