

- (ii) That continuing consultation be conducted with the federal Departments of Finance and Agriculture, and with the appropriate regional development agencies to design and implement effective tax reform measures to encourage woodlot management;
- (iii) That assistance and encouragement be provided to foster the development of woodlot owner organizations across Canada, with a view to using them as effective vehicles for delivery of woodlot management initiatives.

*It can be truly said that Canada is a forest nation!*

To an extent not always well appreciated by Canadians, the forests of Canada are both the pillars of our prosperity and the essence of our environment. No other of our natural resources combine in such measure both the credits and the conflicts of *environmental and economic values*, as are to be found in our forests.

Therefore, the federal role in the future of Canada's forests must surely begin with a commitment to help ensure that environmental and economic values *persist in balance*, indefinitely into the long-term future.

That is what the concept of *sustainable development* is all about: the resolution and reconciliation of our frequently differing economic and environmental values. That is why it has become the theme for mankind's very search for a better environment on earth. If this concept of sustainable development is ever going to be put into successful practice in Canada, it *must begin with our forests!*

For those reasons, and because the new *Department of Forestry Act* (S.C. 1989, c. 27) is the first legislation in Canada ever to contain the words "sustainable development" in its terms of reference, our Sub-committee on Forestry has decided to address that principle as the foundation for the future mission of the Department of Forestry (Forestry Canada) as it begins its second life in 1990.