

When the discussion topic shifted to foreign investment, participants again showed clear evidence of an underlying concern about protecting the country against exploitive behaviour by other countries.

While the dominant mood seemed to be one of accord with the federal government's view that new foreign investment was required to stimulate economic growth, most insisted that "some strings should always be attached." Among the desired conditions mentioned in Toronto were that foreign companies should be "good corporate citizens," "should comply with Canadian regulations," "should create employment," and "should increase our GNP." In Vancouver, these conditions were again considered important but another concern seemed almost equally critical. Throughout the discussion, Vancouver participants continually exhibited a great deal of concern about the fact that so much of the economic activity in their province revolved around the depletion of natural resources. This concern seemed to be at the root of the range of views on the economic interaction between Canada and the United States generally.

A. Security

Most participants tended to indicate that they take our security arrangement with the United States pretty much for granted.

One of the apparent beliefs underlying attitudes in this area has to do with a perception that the U.S. has little choice but to be concerned about defending our borders from aggression. In this sense, participants seemed to feel that our geographic location was fortunate in that it permitted Canada to spend less time and money worrying about our own defense. While the nature of our security commitment will be discussed in more