

ISSUES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY THINK PEACE AND SECURITY

Welcome Address by Ambassador Edwards

Distinguished speakers and participants at this *Think Peace and Security* symposium, ladies and gentlemen,

Ohaiyou Gozaimasu, good morning, bienvenue à l'Ambassade du Canada.

Welcome to the opening of a symposium that promises both to enrich our appreciation of key issues we face in these early moments of the 21st century, as well as provide us with exciting new ideas for future bilateral cooperation.

Over the past years, Canada-Japan collaboration on peace and security issues has evolved from a seemingly improbable idea, to become an important and dynamic aspect of our relationship. We have seen our two countries cooperating closely on dramatic and important new undertakings, such as the hard fought and highly successful campaign to ban anti-personnel landmines. We have organized, together, initiatives in the ASEAN Regional Forum, touching on peacekeeping and the control of small arms. And, we have created and run a number of very successful, high-profile events, including our Symposium on Peacebuilding for Development in 1999, at the time of the visit of Team Canada to Japan, and two key bilateral symposia on peace and security cooperation in Vancouver and, last November, here in Tokyo.

En parallèle, bien que de façon moins visible, nous avons établi un mode de coopération au niveau de travail sur des questions d'intérêt commun, comme l'effort international pour contrôler et éliminer les armes de destruction massive. Ces échanges se sont étendus aux fonctionnaires de différents ministères - par exemple aux Affaires étrangères et dans nos agences de développement international et de défense - et aux membres des ONG, des universités et des centres de recherche. Nous avons fait des progrès constants et notre coopération bilatérale s'est enrichie.

It is in this positive spirit of Canada-Japan collaboration that we offer today a symposium designed to explore key peace and security challenges faced by both countries at the opening of the 21st century. In the Asia Pacific region we are experiencing a time of great change - regional balances are shifting, new powers and challenges are emerging. Today's *Think Peace and Security* symposium promises to examine these factors in a forward looking manner, with presentations by Canadian and Japanese experts that are both challenging and innovative.

The symposium will begin with a look at 'Perspectives on Asian Peace and Security in the 21st Century.' Professor David Dewitt, of York University's Centre for International and Security Studies, will develop for us his views on this issue, based upon a long and rich career focused on issues of Asian security. His remarks will be the subject of a commentary by Dr. Tomoyuki Kojima of Keio University.

Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Lloyd Axworthy, former Foreign Minister of Canada, and currently Director and CEO of the Liu Centre for the Study of Global Issues in Vancouver, who will direct us in 'Rethinking State Sovereignty and Security in the 21st Century.' Dr. Axworthy is a Canadian of international renown; a statesman who, while foreign minister, succeeded in convincing the world's governments and leaders of the need to treat as important the well-being not just of states, but of individual persons as well. Dr. Axworthy's presentation will be the subject of comments by Mr. Kazumoto Momose, Senior Writer with the Asahi Shimbun.

In the afternoon we will offer four sessions, each on a different challenge for peace and security. The first will look at 'International Institutions and Peace and Security: Future