

MESSAGE FROM THE AMBASSADOR OF CANADA



Kenneth Sunquist

t is my pleasure to welcome the publication of "Indonesia - Canada, Into the New Millennium". Together with the Indonesia Canada Chamber of Commerce, the Embassy takes great pride in releasing this book in order to highlight the range and complexity of Indonesia and Canada's relationship.

As you read through this book, you will see not only the deep and long-standing investment and trade links between Indonesia and Canada but will also find many other aspects of our relationship that may surprise you. For example, despite the long distance between our two nations, countless Indonesians have studied in Canada and Canadians in Indonesia. Minister Ariwibowo provides a first hand description of what it was like for a young Indonesian arriving in Canada for studies.

While many readers may know about the programs of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), for others the range of programs may be new. For readers not aware of the cooperation in the field of fashion, I recommend that you read the cultural section. While everyone knows Indonesia has an almost immeasurable coastline, how many are aware that Canada is bordered on three sides by oceans? Ambassador Djalal's article on the law of the sea provides an excellent summary of how Indonesia and Canada cooperated on this important international agreement. Numerous other articles highlight other aspects of our complex bilateral relations which have also been enhanced in multilateral for a such as the United Nations, APEC, the WTO and the ASEAN Regional Forum.

As we move into a new century, I am confident that the opportunities for the citizens of our two nations to cooperate are expanding. Our current and future business relations remain in the hands of the companies and people dedicated to building the business linkages. As my Prime Minister has said, Canada stands ready to build on our existing relations in order to work for "...prosperity for the people of both countries."

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