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**Message from the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney  
Prime Minister of Canada**

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A year ago, at the Annual Conference of First Ministers held in Halifax, the federal government tabled *A Progress Report on Economic Equality for Women*. During the course of that conference, federal and provincial governments collectively addressed the concerns of women. We pledged to work towards eliminating the barriers that limit the choices and opportunities of women.

I wish to take this occasion to renew the Government of Canada's commitment to social justice and economic equality for Canadian women. As a nation and a people strongly committed to social justice, we must all ensure that the women of Canada have the full range of choices to participate in all aspects of our society.

In our efforts to foster economic renewal and growth, we must also understand that only by encouraging the talents and abilities of all women and men will this country maintain and enhance its prosperity.

Throughout our history, we, as Canadians, have prided ourselves on our pursuit of freedom and social and economic justice for all members of our society. We must ensure that this tradition of social fairness and economic equality is offered to all the women of Canada.

Issues that affect women cross all jurisdictions and areas of responsibility. Governments at all levels thus must work together to improve the status of women. To succeed fully, the achievement of women's equality also requires a commitment on the part of every Canadian.

This document reviews the federal government's progress in its efforts on behalf of Canadian women and identifies new initiatives that will help maintain that progress. I hope it will serve as a catalyst for further action within all spheres, public and private, to promote the achievement of the equality that is the rightful due of all Canadian women.

