



communiqué

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CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

The Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, introduced today, for First Reading in the House of Commons, an Act to Establish the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security.

The bill is intended to give effect to the Government's undertaking in the Speech from the Throne last December to create a publicly funded body dedicated to increasing Canadian knowledge on defence and arms control issues, as well as to the promotion of fresh ideas and new proposals in this field. It also follows on the Prime Minister's initiative seeking better East-West relations and international security arrangements.

The introduction of this bill reflects Canada's and the Government's long-term commitment to the search for increased world peace and security as well as the deep and abiding interest and concern of Parliament and the Canadian public in these subjects.

The Institute will promote and foster informed public discussion and deepen Canadian expertise on international peace and security issues. Its emphasis will be on defence, arms control and disarmament in both a Canadian and global context.

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The Institute will collect and disseminate information and ideas and act as a central resource for Canadian interest, activity and work in this area; encourage public discussion of international peace and security issues through the promotion and holding of seminars and conferences as well as through publications; promote scholarship in matters related to international peace and security; and foster, fund and conduct research on issues of particular interest to Canadians or to the Government of Canada.

The Institute will not duplicate the extensive work already being done abroad on international peace and security, but will bring a distinctive Canadian perspective to these issues. It will help expand Canadian understanding and expertise and examine specifically Canadian concerns in this area. The Institute is not intended to impinge upon the work of, or reduce funding available to, existing groups or organizations involved in these subjects in Canada, but rather to complement and assist their efforts. It will cooperate closely with these groups and organizations, as well as develop contacts with institutes of a similar nature abroad.

The Government wishes to be able to tap this new source of knowledge and ideas and shall request, on occasion, advice and research from the Institute.

The Institute will be governed by a Board of Directors composed of a Chairman, and Executive Director and not more than 15 other directors, of which the Chairman, Executive Director and at least eight other Directors must be Canadian citizens.

The Institute will be financed on an annual basis by appropriations from Parliament and will be funded equally by grants from the Departments of External Affairs and National Defence. Financing for fiscal year 1984/85 is projected at \$1.5 million rising to \$5 million by 1988/89.