

# News Release

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## APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced the part-time appointments of four new members to the Board of Directors of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development. Maureen O'Neil, the Honourable Jean-Pierre Saintonge, the Honourable Iona Campagnolo and Stanley Wood will join the Board of the Montreal-based Centre, which works to foster human rights and freedoms throughout the world by promoting democratic institutions and processes.

Maureen O'Neil is currently with the Institute on Governance. She has served as President of the North-South Institute, Deputy Minister in the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Secretary General of the Canadian Human Rights Commission and Co-ordinator of Status of Women Canada. She is on the Board of Governors of Carleton University and is a member of the board of Directors of the Institute for Women, Law and Development in Washington and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Research. In addition, Ms. O'Neil is a member of the Program Advisory Board of the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University and of the Overseas Development Council in Washington.

The Honourable Jean-Pierre Saintonge has served as President of the Quebec National Assembly and as member of the legislature for the riding of Laprairie and subsequently La Pinière. He served as President of the International Assembly of French-speaking Parliamentarians and was president of the Jean-Charles Bonenfant Foundation.

The Honourable Iona Campagnolo is currently the Chancellor of the University of North British Columbia. During her distinguished career in public life she has served as MP for Skeena, as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Secretary of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport) and as the first woman President of the Liberal Party of Canada. Ms. Campagnolo has worked for CUSO in Thailand, Jamaica,



and a number of countries in Africa. She acted as observer for OXFAM during the Namibian independence elections and during the first non-racial elections in South Africa. In 1990 she participated in the Interchurch Committee on Human Rights in Latin America's investigation of human rights abuses in Peru.

Stanley Wood worked 17 years for the Manitoba Human Rights Commission. Before that, he was employed by the Manitoba Department of Education in a program that developed native education programs, and in various other provincial government departments working on services and policies involving natives.

The independent Centre, established by an Act of Parliament in 1988, provides persons and organizations in other countries with training, advice and research services to promote the observance of human rights and the full participation of all citizens in the democratic process. Ten of the 13 members of the Centre's Board of Directors are appointed by the Government of Canada. Three nationals of developing countries are appointed by the Board itself.

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