



# THE JOHN MCKAY REPORT

**Member of Parliament  
Scarborough-Guildwood**

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## A GLOBAL NETWORKS STRATEGY : ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY

An important priority policy area for the Global Networks Strategy is energy and environment. Leadership on clean energy, conservation and energy efficiency is the key to the jobs of tomorrow, as well as the foundation for a more credible approach to Canada's international obligations to fight climate change.

### WORKING TOGETHER

To break the inertia which now paralyses advancement, a new government must work with all Canadian provinces, various sectors of the energy industry, our counterparts in the United States, and the international community, and well-informed players in civil society. It is, of necessity, a multi-faceted and outward looking approach, in contrast with the head-in-the sand denial of the current government.

### CANADA COULD LEAD THE WORLD

Responsible development of Canada's rich variety of energy resources and potential should anchor a larger ambition: to earn recognition around the



world as a leader in the responsible development of natural resources in general. Though Canada's economy is increasingly diversified, natural resources will continue to play a key part in our prosperity.

### INNOVATION IS ESSENTIAL

But in the global economy, yesterday's strength means little tomorrow without constant innovation. Global markets are demanding ever higher environmental standards for

resource-based products, as well as new technologies for environmentally sound management of natural resources. There is no reason for complacency, but Canada is meeting that challenge. One example is that of the Canadian forest industry, which has undergone transformation in its practices and partnered with former opponents to protect forest environments. There are other world-leading success stories, as well as areas in which Canada still has much work to do.

### HARVESTING NATURAL RESOURCES WELL CAN BE A KEY FACTOR IN OUR PROSPERITY

Still, our ability to lead the world in responsibly harvested natural resources, as well as the technologies and expertise required for modern resource management in emerging markets, can be a key driver of long term prosperity for Canada in the years ahead.

This is the tenth in a series of twelve articles on the Global Networks Strategy which is part of the Liberal platform. Other articles in the series are available on request from my Constituency Office.

- 1 - Why change is needed
- 2 - What and how to change
- 3 - Agreements with China and India
- 4 - Partnerships in North America
- 5 - The Arctic region
- 6 - Partnership with Africa
- 7 - Human development
- 8 - Canadian Multilateralism
- 9 - Branding Canada for success
- 10 - Energy, environment and economy
- 11 - Federal government capacity
- 12 - Liberal commitments



## A GLOBAL NETWORKS STRATEGY: OPENNESS TO THE WORLD

**Canadians embrace the world with confidence, optimism and a blend of new-world idealism and old-fashioned practicality. Doing well in the world, and *with* the world is part of who we are. We want to contribute to progress, leave things better for our children, and right wrongs where we can. A modest population spread across a vast geography, Canadians understand those ambitions require working with others, beyond our borders. Blessed with the prosperity of a developed, Western economy, but unburdened by any history of conquest, we are welcomed by many, often envied, but seldom resented.**

This is what we tell ourselves. We see ourselves this way because of our past. But in a rapidly changing world, it is now essential that Canadians re-examine our role, our manner of contributing, our way of pursuing our interests and applying our values.

### **WE NEED TO ADAPT TO CHANGE**

The world has changed in ways to which we have not yet adapted, and at a pace that we have yet to confront. It is not that our history in international affairs, of which we are justifiably proud, is irrelevant. But it is the past, and its lessons must now be applied to the future with fresh thinking to move beyond old debates and answer the next decade's questions.

### **CANADA AND PEACEKEEPING**

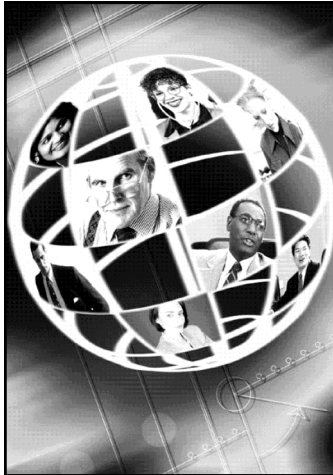
Lester B. Pearson invented United Nations peacekeeping. But we have gone from its leading practitioner to the world's 56th ranked contributor to peace operations today. During that shift, the practice has become vastly more complex – and dangerous - than in its earlier decades. Is Canada a peacemaker and conflict preventer of the future? If so, how should we go about it in the years ahead?

### **CANADA AND CHINA**

Pierre Trudeau led the world's opening to China, with Canada crafting a careful diplomatic recognition in 1970 that was emulated by other countries in subsequent years. Since that time, China has gone from an isolated, backward economy to a global powerhouse, forecast to become the world's largest economy in the next two decades. Will Canada again be a leader in innovative engagement with China, or continue sliding off the radar screen of Asia's emerging giants?

### **CANADA AND APARTHEID**

Brian Mulroney put Canadian values into practice when he played a leading role in the



Commonwealth to end Apartheid in South Africa. Those efforts contributed to the high regard many Africans have for Canada, and yet the current government has removed a number of African nations from among its priorities, reduced commitments to African development assistance, and shifted its limited attention elsewhere.

### **CANADA AND THE WORLD'S POOREST**

Does Canada still care enough to stand with the world's poorest in the years ahead, and partner with a changing Africa? If so, should the debate be

about the right amount of money to devote to aid, or is it about finding innovative new ways to build capacity and eradicate poverty?

### **QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED**

These are the kind of questions to be answered as Canada looks to the future, and rethinks its objectives, interests, values, challenges and advantages in an ever more complex world. Canada was once a credible player in the world's debates, a source of knowledge and fresh thinking. Canadians want to play such roles again, and we can.

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