



THE JOHN MCKAY REPORT

**Member of Parliament
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A GLOBAL NETWORKS STRATEGY : WHAT AND HOW TO CHANGE

There are two fundamental objectives for Canada in the world:

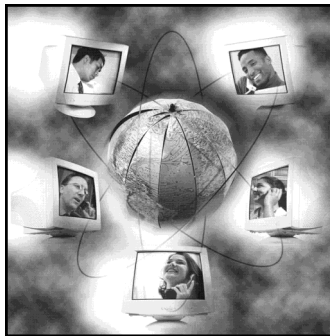
- ◆ **Secure Canada's prosperity for the long term by creating the jobs of tomorrow, engaging with the world confidently and creatively today; and**
- ◆ **Make the world a safer and more secure place, by contributing to rising living standards for all, environmental responsibility and respect for human rights.**

Improving the lot of others is the right thing to do. But it's also smart. We'll prosper in a more equitable world. Our children will prosper if we don't sap the planet's ecosystems of their ability to support future generations.

Peace also matters to Canada. Most Canadians who are part of global diasporas chose Canada for its peace, stability and prosperity. Canada, also has interests in preventing conflict and instability abroad in order to maintain our own security. Hatred and violence can cross borders and oceans rapidly, so our security depends on stability elsewhere.

HOW CAN WE DO THESE THINGS?

A Liberal government would cut across what previous governments have treated as the separate silos of diplomacy, trade, defence,



overseas development and culture. Leveraging Canada's strengths will require leveraging our opportunities in networks. But leveraging networks is a task that demands not only the exercise of traditional responsibilities. It's a task for those who have explored the world, and understand it.

To achieve real results in today's networked world, the federal

government must be prepared to act in collaboration with many more partners than it has in the past, a new willingness, and new capacities, to connect and collaborate with partners in the private sector, other governments, civil society, academia and the full range of international counterparts.

The network approach is about how to exercise leadership that reflects a solid grasp of how the world is changing, and how to harness that change.

PRIORITIES IN THE GLOBAL NETWORKS STRATEGY

- ◆ New bilateral accords with China and India;
- ◆ Revitalized engagement with the United States and Mexico;
- ◆ A new, inclusive approach to Canada's North and the international Arctic region;
- ◆ Reversing Canada's recent drift away from Africa;
- ◆ An integrated approach to human development, based on Canada's strengths in defence, diplomacy and development. Canada's military will serve this human development agenda through Canada's return to United Nations-backed peace operations;
- ◆ A muscular approach to renewing Canadian multilateralism;
- ◆ A Branding Canada program, to make Canadian strengths more widely known in foreign markets;
- ◆ Regaining credibility for Canada in energy and climate change.

This is the second 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

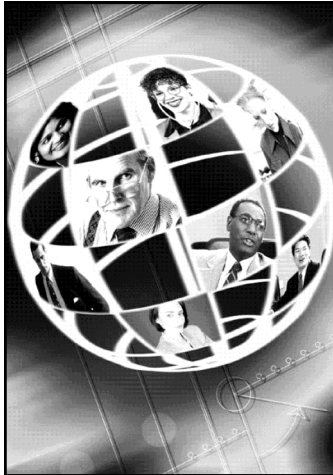
Lester B. Pearson invented United Nations peacekeeping. But we have gone from its leading practitioner to the world's 56th ranked contributor to peace operations today. During that shift, the practice has become vastly more complex – and dangerous - than in its earlier decades. Is Canada a peacemaker 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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