



# THE JOHN MCKAY REPORT

## Member of Parliament Scarborough-Guildwood

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### A GLOBAL NETWORKS STRATEGY : HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Under a Liberal government, an integrated approach to human development will make use of Canada's greatest strengths. In most troubled nations, the greatest need is stable governance, based on the rule of law and respect for human rights. Vast quantities of foreign aid provide no lasting change where a people cannot govern themselves. So aid must go together with the building of stable police, financial administration, justice and healthcare systems.

#### PEACE, ORDER AND GOOD GOVERNMENT

The basic concept will be "Peace, Order and Good Government" a highly practical doctrine that underpins Canada's own constitution. A Liberal government will create a capacity to coordinate and fund deployments of Canadian support and expertise, from both within federal agencies, and beyond – including other governments, retired professionals, the private sector and NGOs.

#### AFGHANISTAN

Canada's role with NATO in Afghanistan was the right mission at the right time. The mission remains an honourable one. The sacrifice of our troops and their families has been profound. Not only have 150 lost their lives, but many more face disabilities and post-traumatic stress disorder.



Canadian veterans deserve the best possible care and support once home, and the Veterans Charter must be adjusted to reflect the difficult situations they face today.

#### MIDDLE EAST PEACE

Before the current government came to office, Canada was known as a voice of reason in the Middle East, respected by both sides in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Harper approach has squandered our influence in the region and polarized debate in Canada for partisan reasons. Our political leaders must say the same

thing whether they are in a mosque in Calgary or a synagogue in Montreal. Otherwise, they are just playing politics. They also have a duty to discourage the importing of tensions and hostility into Canada.

#### OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

The Liberal human development thrust clearly goes well beyond traditional approaches to foreign aid. Modernizing the government's approach will provide the opportunity to remedy serious mistakes of the Harper government. *There is no room for ideology in development assistance.* Our objectives are best achieved by combining federal leadership with support for the networks in which Canadian NGOs, churches and other faith-based groups, women's groups, youth organizations, labour, academic institutions, individuals and government officials are working around the world every day.

#### YOUTH SERVICE ABROAD AND AT HOME

A Liberal government will implement a Canada Youth Service program, using the energy of Canadian youth by financially supporting their volunteer service, bringing this experience within reach for greater numbers of young Canadians both abroad and in Canada..

This is the seventh 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**

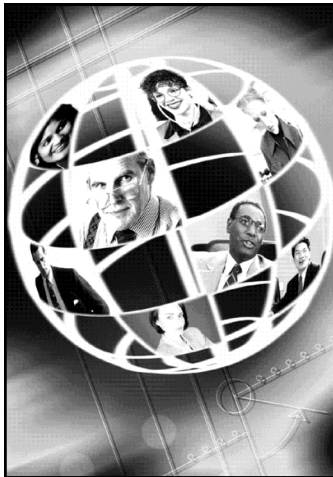
Lester B. Pearson invented United Nations peacekeeping. But we have gone from its leading practitioner to the world's 56th ranked contributor to peace operations today. During that shift, the practice has become vastly more complex – and dangerous - than in its earlier decades. Is Canada a peacemaker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