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Gone Again

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'Humble and genuine'

Eki Syachrudin, former ambassador of Indonesia to Canada, passed away in the early morning of June 28 in Jakarta from sudden cardiac complications.
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Tsunami Cash

There's lots of tsunami cash in the banks, but complaints are rising about how slowly it's being spent. Page 3

Piece of the Pie

Canada's private sector talks to NGOs about ways to get involved in tsunami redevelopment projects. Page 3

New U.S. Ambassador on

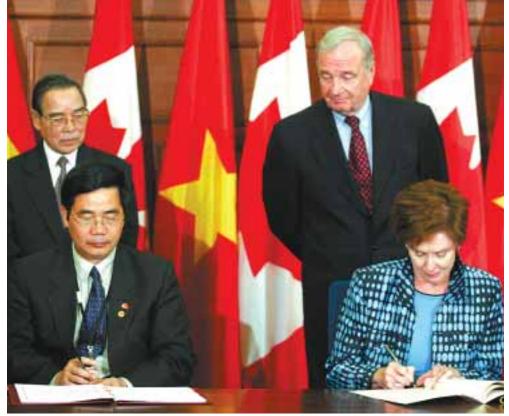
David Jones on how David Wilkins will have presented his credentials to the Governor General and is ready to party. Page 7

Gwynne Dyer on Iran's **Election**

There's no point in pretending that Ahmadinejad didn't really win.

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The First Official Visit



Vietnamese Prime Minster Phan Van Khai (back left) arrived in Canada on June 25 and will stay until June 30. He is the first Vietnamese head of state to visit Canada. While in Ottawa, Mr. Van Khai signed a number of memorandums with CIDA Minster Aileen Carroll (front right) as well as the long expected foreign adoption agreement. His trip includes stops in Quebec City and Toronto.

THE PIONEERS OF SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

While the Netherlands and Belgium were first, Canada's gay marriage law is the least restrictive

By Christina Leadlay

The Tuesday night vote to give same-sex couples the right to marry makes Canada one of only three countries in the world to permit conventional marriage for gay and lesbian couples along with Belgium and the Netherlands. While numerous countries around the globe have varying degrees of recognition for same sex relationships, only the Netherlands and Belgium use the definition of marriage. However, Canada's Bill C-38 offers the least restrictive marriage

rights for homosexual couples anywhere in the world. Gay spouses in the Netherlands and Belgium face some minor limitations.

The Netherlands was the first nation to open marriage to homosexual couples in April 2001, after a special parliamentary commission investigated the possibility of same-sex marriage between 1995 and 1997, concluding that civil marriage should be opened to all couples regardless of sexual orientation.

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Visa Applicants No Longer Need To List HIV-AIDS Status

By Sarah McGregor

HIV-positive visitors to Canada are no longer required to disclose their medical status to get a temporary visa after health advocates argued there's no reason for the federal government to collect the highly sensitive information.

The move comes after a foreign businessman infect-

ed with HIV complained to health activists that a Canadian consular official demanded he provide detailed information about his medical condition. He was planning a round trip to Canada for just a few days.

The announcement comes ahead of the International AIDS Conference in Toronto in the summer of 2006, easing fears that conferencegoers suffering from the infection would be denied entry visas to Canada.

'Certainly it is very critical to the success of the International AIDS conference that the people living with HIV - whether from developing countries (or elsewhere) who are devastated by the disease – that their voices are heard in these international forums. We can't have a discussion in isolation without them," said Joan Anderson, a senior advisor to the Toronto Local Host, the non-government organization organizing the massive six-day summit.

However, there is still concern about the discretionary power of Canadian visa officers abroad who

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Happy Birthday UN, You Don't Need As **Much Reform As** The U.S. Says

By Gwynne Dyer

he great force on which we must rely is the hatred of the cruelty and waste of war which now exists. As soon as the war is over the process of oblivion sets in...," Lord Robert Cecil wrote as the war drew to an end.

"It is only, therefore, while the recollection of all we ve been through is burning fresh that we can hope to overcome the inevitable opposition and establish...a new and better organisation of the nations of the world." Cecil, a member of Britain's Imperial War Cabinet, wrote that at the end of the First World War, and the organization he hoped could prevent another such war was the League of Nations. It failed, of course, and so we got the Second World War, which killed five times as many people. By the end of that one, nuclear weapons were being dropped on cities — so the victors had no choice but to clone the League, making some significant improvements, and try again.

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EMBASSY

Talking Points

Britain 'Not Open For Business'

On June 22, British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw chided the African Union for failing to recognize "the scale of horror" in Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe. But on June 27, British Prime Minster **Tony Blair** announced that he would not offer blanket asylum to Zimbabwean refugees. Mr. Blair was responding, in part, to a plea made by Bulwayo Archbishop Pius **Ncube** when he received the *Robert* Burns International Humanitarian Award in Scotland on May 20: "It saddens me that the British government since September last year has embarked on forced repatriation of Zimbabweans who are asylum seekers. They fled from harassment, torture, and a threat to their lives and they will be made to suffer when they are returned... I plead that you be patient with Zimbabweans till the situation normalizes," said the archbishop. Mr. Blair said the danger of halting all deportations was that a signal would be sent around the world "that Britain is open for business, ' the BBC reported, even for failed asylum seekers.

Two New Ambassadors

Governor General Adrienne Clarkson is expecting to accept the credentials of two new ambassadors to Canada on June 29. David Wilkins, the much anticipated new Ambassador of the United States of America, and Robert Hans Tippenhauer will present his letters of credence, becoming Haiti's Ambassador to Canada.

Maestro Of Maestros



Finnish conductor Jorma Panula, mentor and teacher of many highly successful conductors including National Arts Centre Music Director Pinchas Zukerman, has been holding master classes for conductors at the NAC. A string quintet of professional musicians from l'Orchestre de la francophonie canadienne, and pianist Jean **Desmarais**, are playing for the ductors in the sessions. Following the workshops, all participants will have the opportunity to conduct the NACO in rehearsal, and four will be chosen to conduct the orchestra in a public concert. Local and visiting musicians and patrons of the NAC had an opportunity to meet Maestro Panula as guests of Finnish Ambassador Pasi Patokalio at a reception in his residence on June 22.

Human Rights in Yemen



PHOTOGRAPH BY JORDAN MICHAEL SMITH, EMBASSY

Canadian Minister of Justice Irwin Cotler met with Yemen's Minister of Human Rights Amat Al-Aleem Alsoswa June 28 to discuss development and democracy in Yemen. "Canada needs to develop more tangible ways to work together to promote development and literacy," Mr. Colter said. "At a time when there is much talk about democracy in the Middle East, here we have a shining example." Ms. Alsoswa is the second Minister of Human Rights in Yemen, the only position of its kind in the Middle East. "Canada is an example to us, of what we strive for," said Ms. Alsoswa. No formal initiatives were proposed in the meeting, but Mr. Cotler said he would look into increasing development assistance to Yemen.

Court: Mugesera Should Be Deported

Canada's Supreme Court ruled unanimously June 28 that **Léon** Mugesera, a former leader of Rwanda's ruling political in 1992, should be deported from Canada. Mr. Mugesera in a now infamous speech told a crowd of 1,000 partisans: "Do not be afraid, know that anyone whose neck you do not cut is the one who will cut your neck. Let me tell you, these people should begin leaving while there is still time and go and live with their people, or even go to the [cockroaches], instead of living among us and keeping their guns, so that when we are asleep they can shoot us." Canada has attempted to deport Mr. Mugesera since 1995. Yesterday's decision reverses a Federal Appeals Court ruling in 2003 saying he did not deliberately incite the murder of more than 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus. Before returning Mr. Mugesera back to Rwanda, Canada may first seek a pledge from Kigali that he will not be executed if convicted of inciting genocide.

Diplomatic Appointments

On June 24, Minister of Foreign Affairs Pierre Pettigrew announced several new diplomatic appointments. Robert Collette, currently Canada's Chief of Protocol, will be Ambassador to Switzerland, with concurrent accreditation to Liechtenstein. Yves Boulander will be Ambassador to Ethiopia; Anne-Marie Boucier, Ambassador to Finland; Matthew Levin, Ambassador to Colombia; and Latvia (with concurrent accreditation to Lithuania). Several new Consuls General were announced: **Stephen Brereton**, to Buffalo (USA); Christopher Brown, to Cape Town, South Africa; Jean-Yves Dionne, to Rio de Janeiro (Brazil); **Jean-Marc** Duval, to Sao Paulo (Brazil); Marcy **Grossman**, to Miami (U.S.); Margaret Huber to Milan (Italy); Marc LePage to San Francisco/San Jose, (U.S.).

Canada-Vietnam **Adoption Agreement**

Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew announced June 27 that a new agreement will allow Canadians to adopt Vietnamese children for the first time since January 2003. The signing took place in Ottawa following a meeting between Paul Martin and Vietnamese Prime Minister Phan Van Khai, establishing a safety framework so to ensure that intercountry adoption runs smoothly. Revelations of adoption-related corruption and child trafficking in August 2001 led the government to halt adoptions between Vietnam and Canada. In response, Vietnam implemented its own moratorium in January 2003.

More Support For 0.7%

On June 28, Parliament unanimously adopted NDP Foreign Affairs Critic Alexa McDonough's motion calling on the government to increase Canada's international aid to 0.7% of GNP. "If the prime minister doesn't act on this, he will have to explain to Canadians and to the international community at Gleneagles why he's ignored the unanimous voice of the Parliament when it comes to 0.7 per cent," said Ms. McDonough.

Canada, U.S. and Mexico

On June 27, Deputy Prime Minister Anne McLellan and Minister of Industry David L. Emerson met with Michael Chertoff, U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security; Carlos Gutierrez, U.S. Secretary of Commerce: Fernando Canales. Mexican Secretary of the Economy; and Carlos Abascal, Mexican Secretary of the Interior, to report on the progress of the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America which was signed by leaders of the three countries at U.S. President George W. Bush's Texas ranch. At the time of the signing, the leaders asked their senior ministers to assess progress of the report within 90 days. "Keeping North America safe and secure means taking steps to protect North America from external threats, preventing and responding to threats within North America and further streamlining the secure movement of low-risk traffic across our shared border," said Ms. McLellan.

In Memoriam: Eki Syachrudin

Eki Syachrudin, former ambassador of Indonesia to Canada, passed away in the early morning of June 28 in Jakarta from sudden cardiac complications. Mr. Syachrudin served as ambassador to Canada from June 2001 until Dec. 2004. He leaves his wife Titik Nurhayati, two children and two grandchildren. Mr. Syachrudin was much beloved by his friends and colleagues in Ottawa. "I am deeply saddened by the news of his passing," says Dennis Ignatius, High Commissioner of Malaysia. "He never let Protocol and the trappings of his office affect him. He was always humble and genuine," he says. "I never met anyone who knew him and did not like him. I think Indonesia has lost a great son and we have all lost a great friend." Independent MP David Kilgour expressed his sympathy, recalling how Mr. Syachrudin "worked endlessly to build the Indonesian-Canadian relationship throughout his period as Jakarta's Head of Mission in Canada. He was also an excellent spokesperson



for Muslims in Asia and for developing democracy generally. As a human being, he was a unique phenomenon who used his knowledge, sense of humour and wit to advance Indonesia's causes. He was a special friend to many and we will all miss him tremendously." A book of condolence will be open at the Embassy of Indonesia, 55 Parkdale Ave. from June 28 to 30 between 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Belize Mission Closed

 ${f F}$ oreign Affairs confirmed June 27 that the High Commission of Belize in Ottawa is closing its doors this summer due to budgetary reasons. High Commissioner Amalia I. Mai was unavailable for comment, and a visit to her office on June 28 concludes that the mission has already moved out. According to Belize City's Channel 5 News, Belize's Ministry of Foreign Affairs decided in Nov. 2004 to close its missions in Ottawa, Geneva, and two consulates in Mexico, as part of an "austerity move which Belmopan [the capital city] says is part of its 'home-grown' plan to return the country to financial health," with all remaining diplomatic offices being affected by budget cuts. "A government press release indicates that the closing will save over \$1 million per year," reports Channel 5 News. According to Foreign Affairs Canada's website, the high commission for Belize in Canada was closed in 1993. Channel 5 says it was reopened in 2003 by Ms. Mai, Belize's former ambassador to Cuba. Ms. Mai and her husband, Juan Rancharan, who was Counsellor at the high commission in Ottawa, have likely returned to Belize. Already, the government of Belize's website has omitted the high commission in Ottawa from its list of embassies and consulates abroad, indicating that the mission in Washington, D. C., headed by Ambassador **Lisa** M. Shoman – niece of Belize's former Minister of Foreign Affairs – is accredited to Canada. A spokesperson with Foreign Affairs Canada says that over the past 15 years, a number of missions in Ottawa have shut their doors, including Somalia (1990), Liberia (1994) Lesotho (1996), Nicaragua (1997), and Swaziland (1999), and that the missions for Burundi and Nigeria had closed on a provisional basis in the early 1990s, but both reopened in 1999. Also, in 2000, the Rwandan embassy was forced to close its doors because of budgetary reasons, but has since returned to Ottawa in Jan. 2005. – Christina Leadlay



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Complaints Roll In As Tsunami Aid Cash Wells Up

'You can't spend money like this in the snap of a finger'

By Sarah McGregor

The unprecedented outpouring of cash donations in the wake of the December 26 tsunami, one of the worst natural disasters on record, has left Canadian non-governmental organizations in an odd situation.

The massive bank accounts they accumulated over hours and days are collecting interest six months later. Meanwhile, some private donors are demanding to know why their generosity isn't flowing more rapidly to the 13 affected countries around the Indian Ocean. Some government aid agencies are also being scrutinized for holding onto millions of dollars in pledges. Private sector donations from individuals, corporations and other types of organizations are about \$5 billion, according to Reuters Tsunami Watch. In addition government and multilateral organizations have promised about \$6.9 billion. Of that amount, the 10 largest donors, including Canada, make up about \$5.2 billion in pledges. But as of this month only about 65 per cent (\$3.46 billion) had been allocated.

"There is pressure everywhere to spend money like this," said Jean-Philippe Tiki, snapping his fingers. Mr. Tiki, the National Deputy Director of Asia Tsunami Operations of the Canadian Red Cross, then tosses his hands in the air. "It's a long process, you know it takes planning." The Canadian Red Cross has dispersed more than half – about \$141 million of the \$270 million it collected – on shelter, food aid and steps to prevent waterborne diseases. About 12,500 homes in Indonesia and the reconstruction of six hospitals in Sri Lanka, including a program to train local medical staff,

are among their upcoming long-term projects.

This week solemn ceremonies marked the half-year anniversary of the massive waves triggered by an earthquake that wiped out coastal communities in Southeast Asia and Africa, killing over 240,000 people and displacing about one million more. Development agencies and non-profits working in the region provided updates on progress, showing that emergency relief efforts are just beginning to shift to long-term reconstruction.

Monwar Islam, of Save the Children Canada in Toronto, said that it could be the first time in his career that funding is awaiting project plans, and not the other way around. "At this moment money is not the problem. It's getting things done. And at the same time we're under pressure form the donors to show results," he said. Mr. Islam is working in India and said the Canadian International Development Agency speedily rubberstamped one his projects in just a month. The Canadian arm of Save the Children raised about \$5 million, and Mr. Islam said he's planning to use the remainder of the funds to support long-term infrastructure.

In Canada, International Cooperation Minister Aileen Carroll told reporters last week that she's approved two reconstruction projects valued at \$9 million, but that plans worth millions of dollars more will soon follow. Of the \$425 million over five years that Canada vowed to disperse, about \$159 million has been spent. That includes \$36 million in emergency relief and \$90 million in matching funds to NGOs whose proposals were authorized. "It's not just a question of writing a cheque," said Ms. Carroll, noting there's a

process to ensure efficient and effective delivery, monitoring and evaluation.

Margaret Arnold, head of the Hazard Management Unit of the World Bank, estimates that construction will take five to 10 years. She admits that doling out almost \$837 million in contributions and loans promised by the World Bank to India, Indonesia, the Maldives and Sri Lanka is tricky to keep out of corrupt hands. "There is so much money flowing in that it's difficult to get all the monitors in place to make sure it flows properly," she said. She added the affected communities want to moderate the pace to ensure every step includes local participation. However, donor agencies are saying "there is no time to waste. Programs that don't include [grassroots buy-in] have high failure rates," she warned.

Crucial to the reconstruction process is securing land ownership. Even in regions where land titles exist the waves wiped out clear markers and in some cases the geography has changed dramatically. Donor coordination to prevent overlap and duplication is also a major headache. An influx of aid agencies to the regions has added to the confusion, particularly among those with a long-time presence in the region. Reconstruction has also been hampered by civil strife in Sri Lanka and Indonesia's Banda Aceh region, bureaucratic inertia and other political problems.

Leigh Wolfrom, a Canadian trade commissioner in the International Financing Division, said that among the hardest hit countries only Indonesia has finalized its reconstruction plan that is still being translated into English. Sri Lanka has prepared a draft.

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Private Sector Takes A Look At Tsunami Reconstruction – And The Billions Behind It



PHOTOGRAPH BY SARAH MCGREGOR, EMBASSY

Mia Vukojevic, humanitarian coordinator for Oxfam Canada

Billions of dollars in financing to restore the livelihoods of those affected by December's tsunami are in the hands of donor governments and aid organizations. And as they draw up plans on how to allocate the funds toward long term reconstruction, the private sector is keen to show off goods and expertise they believe could be useful in recovering from the crisis.

"We do know there's a lot of work to be done," said Edward Farren, a private consultant in Saint John, New Brunswick, whose niche is to oversee that large construction contracts are built to contract specifications and with proper materials. "But one of the problems is that so many people rushed in to help. Only now are the plans being put forth, and we're trying to figure out if there could be opportunities."

Dozens of business executives from mostly Eastern Canada, Quebec and Ontario gathered in Montreal last week for the "Partners in Reconstruction Conference," tag-lined "Do YOUR share to help natural disaster victims!" The purpose of the one-day session, organized in part by International Trade Canada, was to educate businesspeople about the humanitarian side of disaster recovery. But it was also designed to introduce aid agencies that received large volumes of cash, such as the Red Cross, Oxfam and World Vision, to corporations hoping to sell products or win contracts.

"I think that we've been largely ignoring each other until now," said Mia Vukojevic, humanitarian coordinator for Oxfam Canada. "It's just that for us, it's the people first. And we need them to understand that even though we may need some of their products we are not profit driven. We don't think like that." She

mock confided: "We don't really trust them."

Ms. Vukojevic said that copious corporate relief in the wake of the tsunami is appreciated, but that it should come with an understanding that there are no strings attached. "I'm not sure that many of them understand that just because this is Canadian money doesn't mean that the money will stay here. If it's not as effective to purchase here in Canada than we won't do it. And in most cases it's hard to see why we'd buy Canadian when we can boost economic development by getting it [in the affected communities] and it's going to be cheaper. Even if it's from China you can ship it for less."

Still, businesses are putting out their feelers. Ron MacDougall, owner of MacDougall Steel Erectors in Charlottetown, P.E.I, is shopping around the layout for homes made from a special fibre product native to the island province that, he says, stands up in any weather conditions. He learned from an early age that the private sector has a big role to play in developing nations. He grew up in Africa with his father, a missionary, who built hospitals from materials purchased from private suppliers. "Someone has to get paid for the materials, even if they are donated later along the line," he said.

The market potential for Canadian business is almost impossible to analyze but International Trade Canada is preparing market studies, said Leigh Wolfrom, a trade commissioner with International Trade Canada, and its point person for corporate Canada's involvement in post-tsunami relief.

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OPINION

By Richard Gwyn

Dresident George W. Bush made a most perceptive comment the other day, almost certainly without realizing what it was he was actually saying.

Bush's remarks were part of a counterattack by the Bush administration against rising calls for the U.S. to pull out of Iraq. In fact, there is not the slightest possibility Bush will do this.

There are his deep-rooted convictions about the war on terrorism. There are the strategic considerations. The jihadist terrorists would win a huge moral victory; the U.S. would suffer a massive loss to its prestige and credibility.

There are also the political considerations. Increasingly, these are as important as either of the other factors. By admitting so huge a misjudgment — greater than even the Vietnam War because Islamic terrorism isn't happening an ocean away -Bush would be condemning himself to history's trash can. He would be consigning the neocons, his neo-cons, to political irrelevancy. Although it's not going to happen so long as Bush is in the White House, there is now a real debate going on about whether the U.S. should cut and run from Iraq or hang in at the cost, if not of getting hanged, then of getting seriously wounded for no gain at all.

There are already the human wounds - more than 1,700 U.S. soldiers dead since the start of the war. As a consequence of this, military enlistment is plummeting. In April, recruiting goals were 43 per cent below target. The U.S. military machine, its principal source of imperial power, is beginning to wear down.

The conventional political costs are mounting. Support for the war is down to 56 per cent, its lowest ever. Almost as many people now want the troops to come back as support staying.

It's still far from the scale of the opposition to the Vietnam War. The numbers of dead are comparatively small, although there are thousands of wounded, many of whom will spend their lives as cripples. But protests against Vietnam began slowly and — the real comparison over time - began to influence policy in Washington long before they reached their peak. So Bush is out to reassure Americans and to regain their trust. He addressed the subject in a recent weekly radio broadcast. "Some may disagree with my decision to remove Saddam Hussein from power," he said, "but all of us can agree that the world's terrorists have now made Iraq a central front in the war on terror." There Bush was blurting out the exact, bitter, and terrifying, truth — without realizing it.

Once the enemy in Iraq was a murderous, but mentally unstable and militarily weak, dictator. Bush has turned this sideshow into a "central front" in the war of terror. And it's a front that the U.S. may lose. Not militarily, but politically, psychologically and morally. Which, in the end, is how Vietnam was lost. The insurgency is as bad as ever. The new Iraqi forces have had few successes and their losses are horrendous. Because Iraq is indeed a central front, it's attracting suicide bombers from all over the Middle East and giving them training.

The U.S. will probably have to stay in Iraq for 10 years to actually win. Its military machine will continue to wear down and the financial cost will mount inex-

How to get out of it? For the next three years, there'll be no But change. with Republicans' reputation shredded, some Democratic presidential candidate will be able to change the debate. He — or she — will say: "China matters, not some ragtag fanatics in a flyblown country." If not Bush himself, some of those around him are smart enough to know this. But they also know Bush can't say it. He's stuck.

Bush Mired In Quagmire The Iranian Surprise

By Gwynne Dyer

It doesn't make sense. In the previous Itwo presidential elections, in 1997 and 2001, Iranians voted more than two-to-one for the reformist candidate, Mohammed Khatami. It did them little good, of course, because the Islamist clerics who have veto power over the elected parts of the Iranian government blocked his attempts to liberalize the system. But it seemed clear that younger Iranians in particular were fed up with clerical domination of politics and the corruption, incompetence and oppression it fostered.

Since the 2001 election, unemployment has got worse (officially 16 per cent, but really about 30 per cent) and the poor have got poorer. So why have Iranian voters now elected the hardest of hard-liners, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, to the presidency with a two-thirds majority?

Ahmadinejad is a staunch supporter of the Islamic state, an instructor in the Basij, the voluntary youth militia that monitors people's dress and behaviour, and a close associate of the Supreme Ruler, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. He is definitely not a "reformer," though he does promise to attack corruption. Why did he win?

Iran's partial democracy first came under serious attack in last year's parliamentary election, when the ruling clerical elite concluded that the reformers were growing too popular. The Guardian Council disqualified 3,000 parliamentary candidates from running on the grounds that they were not Islamic enough, including 80 sitting members of parliament (out of 290). President Khatami's feeble protests were ignored, parliament fell under Islamist control — and Iranians who oppose the regime began to lose faith in electoral politics.

The Guardian Council tried to pull the same trick with this year's presidential election, disqualifying all the reformist candidates, but the opposition responded by threatening to boycott the election, which would have reduced it to a farce. Ayatollah Khamenei intervened, and two reformist candidates were allowed to run together with one "moderate" (Rafsanjani, formerly president in 1989-97 and a cleric himself) and four hard-liners.

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was one of the hard-liners, but only three weeks ago the opinion polls gave him a scant 5 per cent of the vote. Then suddenly, a miracle: he was ahead of all the other hard-liners and catching up with Rafsanjani and the reformist candidates.

On June 17, Rafsanjani came first, with 21 per cent of the votes, but Ahmadinejad came a close second with 19.5 per cent. There may have been some skullduggery at the polls, but the main reason is that the Islamic authorities, fearing that no proregime candidate would make it into the run-off, ordered their loyal supporters in the armed forces, the Revolutionary Guard and the Basij militia to swing all their votes, and as many more as they could influence, to Ahmadinejad.

Appalled at the prospect of a radical Islamist as president, the defeated reformers urged their supporters to hold their noses and back Rafsanjani in the second round. Yet it ended in a landslide victory for Ahmadinejad. What happened?

It was actually a very small landslide. Back when Iranians believed that electing a reformist president could bring change, voter turnout was huge, but it has been plummeting as they lost hope: from 83 per cent in 1997 to 67 per cent in 2001, 62 per cent in the first round of voting this month — and only 47 per cent in the second round. Ahmadineiad's "landslide" was less than 30 per cent of qualified voters.

His votes came from religious radicals, but also from the "pious poor" who back him because he is devout but NOT one of the clerics who have used their power to enrich themselves. He played up to their hope that he would sweep the corrupt out of government while trying to reassure more sophisticated voters by promising to concentrate on economics, not dress codes — "The country's true problem is unemployment and housing, not what to wear," he explained — but he is nevertheless the Supreme Leader's choice as president, and most people know it. That's why they didn't vote.

The hard-line Islamists now control every branch of Iran's government, appointed or elected, and for a while they will have their way. But what really happened last week was that a majority of Iranians abandoned the electoral path to reform as hopeless. At some point in the future, therefore, they may try the path of non-violent revolution that has succeeded in so many other places recently — and they might win.

The Islamist regime knows this. It also knows that the only thing that could now restore its credibility is an American attack. It may be tempted to provoke Washington in the hope of getting some American bombs dropped on Iran.

LETTERS

Torres Is Wrong About Cuba

Re: "The Other Trade" (Embassy, June 22), I would like to clarify some points. It is untrue that Cuba's economy is bankrupt. Despite the tightening of the economic blockade imposed by the United States on Cuba and the loss of our main trade partner and market in the early '90's, our economy has steadily recovered during the past years. Let's provide some figures: the GDP has grown three per cent annually. Tourism revenues have increased eight times, and the number of visitors six times. Oil production has increased almost five times and nickel production has increased by 63 per cent. Since then, our foreign

trade has doubled. In 2004, Cuba achieved the first surplus in a decade due to growth in tourism and the high price of nickel in the world market. There also have been alternative to the U.S. governmany sound social achievements.

The Bolivarian Alternative for the Americas, ALBA (acronyms in Spanish), stands for mutual benefits to meet the social and economic needs of the Cuban and Venezuelan people, but it goes beyond that: it is also a new effort, in this new century, to carry on the work of all Latin American independence war heroes in order to unite our countries and to preserve our independence, sovereignty and cultural identity.

We have set in motion the ALBA on the basis of cooperation and no competition among countries as an ment's FTAA hegemonic initiative. We are confident that this new South-South integration mechanism could become a very effective way for the sustainable development of Latin American countries and Cuba. As part of this region, Cuba will always be willing to help to achieve this.

> Ismary González Embassy of Cuba of Cuba



Press Attaché Ismary González Press Attaché Embassy

OPINION

Civil Society Finally Gets A Hearing At The UN

The Timorese stated that

the very presence of his govern-

ment at the General Assembly

was due in good part to the

support of human rights NGOs

and the ongoing pressure of

many civil society organizations

on behalf of his people.

UN General Assembly makes global economy key theme of September Summit

By John Foster

As the UN celebrates 60 years, the General Assembly placed a marker in its long under-developed relations with civil society. It convened two days (June 23-24) of "informal interactive" sessions with representatives of NGOs, civil society organizations and private sector organizations. Their purpose was to elicit contributions to the preparation of the Summit General Assembly in September, as well as a response to NGO outrage at the almost total failure to find a way to integrate non-governmental groups in the GA sessions, even as observers.

Opened by Deputy-Secretary-General Louise Frechette and closed by Secretary-General Kofi Annan, and chaired by GA President Jean Ping of Gabon, the sessions included more than two dozen carefully-selected key speakers, 200 participants who also had a chance to speak and several hundred observers. The meetings in the General Assembly and the ECOSOC chamber were packed, with enthusiastic applause greeting many of the NGO and some of the government interventions. Three Canadians were able to speak: Gauri Sreenivasan of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation, Zonnibel Woods of the International Women's Health Coalition and myself in the final session.

The concluding session which dealt with the UN reform agenda and more systematic issues ranged through the proposals in the Secretary-General's In Larger Freedom report and in the draft conclusions for the September General Assembly. The theme of the importance of reform, particularly in economic governance, was interwoven with frequent references to the need to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

My own brief intervention began with a call to note that behind the pressure for reform of UN structures was a growing demand for democratic representation and accountability among global institutions. Whether through interaction with civil society as many speakers had noted or through enhanced engagement

with national parliamentarians, as for example in the global standing committees on key global challenges proposed by the recent panel of eminent persons headed by former Brazilian President Cardoso.

The urgent need to bring the international financial institutions (IFIs) and the

World Trade Organization fully into the United Nations, into a more representative policy-making process, into more universal and transparent accountability, and into the framework of UN norms in human rights, environment and other fields was repeated by a number of speakers with a variety of emphases. Further, the need to take the commitment of the Monterrey Conference on Financing for Development to enhance the participation of developing countries in the IFIs was cited, but governments were encouraged to embody this in reforms to voice, vote and quotas.

The need for a more effective body to coordinate economic, social and environmental policy, replacing the ECOSOC or being a reformed version of it, was cited, with several alternatives mentioned including an Economic. Social and Environmental "Security" Council or Global Council, an executive body of the ECOSOC or utilizing the General Committee of the General Assembly. The idea of an L-20,

leader's group may be useful if brought clearly within the broader tent of the UN.

General and warm support was voiced for the Secretary-General's proposal for a Peace-Building Commission slightly more and guarded consideration for the Responsibility to Protect.

There was enthusiastic welcome for the profile given to human rights in the Secretary General's report and proposals. I emphasized that this was a matter of respect for norms as well as of structural change. We will not meet the challenge of the Millennium Development Goals and the scourge of HIV/AIDS in particular, if we do not assert the priority of the human right to health of all over the private privileged protection of intellectual property of a few corporate giants.

While the majority of speakers favored the proposed Human Rights Council, there was also limited but sharp opposition. A representative of an indigenous people's network cautioned against jettisoning the many elements of the current Commission structure which have offered means for the representation and concertation of native peoples as they see respect and recognition of their rights, of the investigatory and policy-development work of the Sub-Commission on Human Rights and of the various instruments and mechanisms of investigation, monitoring and reporting which have been developed by the Commission itself.

Near the conclusion of the session the representative of East Timor added a special note to the voices of German, Swedish, Mexican and other governments who had lauded the participation of civil society and urged a continuation of the format in future years. The Timorese stated that the very presence of his government at the General Assembly was due in good part to the support of human rights NGOs and the ongoing pressure of many civil society organizations on behalf of his people.

The session heard from many organizations, some familiar to Canadians like Amnesty International or the Baha'i Faith, as well as other groups better known in Africa, Asia or Latin America. Among speakers in the final session were Christiane Overkamp of CIDSE (whose Canadian member organization is known as Development and Peace), William Pace of the World Federalists, and Paul Tennassee, representing the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and the World Confederation of Labour.

– John W. Foster is principal researcher at The North-South Institute in Ottawa.

The G-8 Debt Deal Has Several Flaws

With considerable fanfare, the Group of Eight (G-8) Finance Ministers announced a plan for multilateral debt cancellation on June 11. The deal promises 100 per cent cancellation of debts held by some multilateral creditors - the IMF, World Bank and African Development Fund – for 18 of the most impoverished countries that have completed a program of controversial economic reforms mandated by the institutions. Up to 20 other countries are now in the process of completing steps in the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative (HIPC), and would, according to the G-8 statement, be accorded the same cancellation when they do.

The deal has elicited a wide range of responses: while some have reacted with unqualified praise, others, especially Southern-based movements and organizations have rejected the agreement as insufficient. Jubilee USA Network believes that the agreement represents a first step - which we will work to build upon in the years ahead which will allow countries to retain their own resources for development and which sets a potentially very important precedent. But tnere are also serious limitations and snortcomings of the initiative. This briefing paper is an effort to provide perspective on the agreement, which will inform policymakers, the media, and grassroots supporters.

What Was Achieved

The G-8 deal on debt announced on June 11 is a significant first step. It is a testament to the efforts of people of faith and conscience across the US and globally as well as their allies in governments, for it is clear that the G-8 would not have taken up this issue without pressure and public attention. In the case of the 18 chosen countries, a central demand of Jubilee USA's campaigns of recent years - 100 per cent cancellation of debts to the IMF, World Bank, and African Development Fund - has been achieved.

- The agreement means that beneficiary nations will be relieved of more than \$1 billion in annual debt service payments and these resources may be spent on health care, education, clean water, and HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment. Already, the Zambian government has indicated that funds released from debt cancellation will be used to provide life-saving AIDS drugs to 100,000 Zambians living with HIV/AIDS; The deal represents the first time the G-8 has
- approved 100 per cent debt stock cancellation of multilateral debts, including those held by the IMF, an important precedent that campaigners can use in future advocacy.

Limits and Shortcomings of the Agreement

The deal suffers from several flaws. The agreement remains rooted in the failed, condition-laden HIPC Initiative, suggesting no end to the requirement that countries implement harmful economic policy conditions in order to qualify for debt cancellation. Beneficiaries are limited to countries that are currently part of this Initiative (18 countries with the potential to rise to an additional nine-20 HIPCs). The agreement does not cancel debt to other significant creditors such as the Inter-American Development Bank. Jubilee USA will work to build on the G-8 agreement to include more countries and creditors in the months and years ahead. This report finds that some limits of the agreement include:

- The deal immediately applies to only 18 countries, less than a third of countries that need full cancellation to meet the Millennium Development Goals, and well short of the countries which require cancellation of odious/illegitimate debts;
- It has taken 18 nations nine years to qualify for debt cancellation; at current rates of progress it could take a decade for the 20 potentially eligible HIPC nations to benefit from 100 per cent cancellation and this must be avoided;
- The amount of debt stock to be cancelled by the agreement – \$56 billion – represents only 10 per cent of the amount of debt stock cancellation required for nations to meet the MDGs, goals which themselves are only a first step towards poverty eradication;
- Because the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has been excluded from the deal, four of the 18 nations - Bolivia, Guyana, Honduras, and Nicaragua - are scheduled to pay \$1.4 billion in debt service over the next five years to the IDB.
- The significant burden of odious/illegitimate debt held by nations across the South remains completely unaddressed

The Challenge Ahead: Expand the List; Cut the Conditions

For civil society in the 18 countries, the task now will be to monitor the cancellation to ensure it happens, that no new economic conditions are introduced in the process, and then to hold their governments accountable for how they make use of the savings - to ensure that proceeds benefit the people who need it most. For Jubilee USA Network, the challenge now is to build on the precedents set by the June 11

agreement to win debt cancellation for countries excluded from this deal, as well as work to eliminate harmful economic conditions.

In the short-term, we call on the G-8 to:

- (1) Avoid delays in providing cancellation to those countries who qualify for the cancellation;
- (2) Expand the list of countries to include all impoverished nations and countries in crisis - at least 62 nations require full cancellation to meet the MDGs and 50 nations are in the JUBILEE Act, for instance;
- (3) Cut all economic conditions countries must meet to qualify, as these policies have failed to increase growth and reduce poverty; and
- (4) Include all creditors begin by canceling 100% of debt of impoverished nations to the Inter-American Development Bank and Asian Development Bank. In the medium to long-term, Jubilee USA Network will redouble its efforts to work with global South partners to highlight and advocate for the cancellation of odious and illegitimate debts and debts to other creditors. It is also clear that cancellation of debt is only one of many nec essary steps to eradicate poverty and reverse economic injustice. Jubilee USA Network will also work with partner organizations and campaigns towards our broad Jubilee vision which includes both freedom from debt as well as the establishment of right economic relations between nations. It is clear that the G-8 agreement is an important first step on a long journey towards freedom from debt.

-Excerpts from a June 24th

Jubilee USA Network briefing paper

NGOs Skeptical Of CIDA's New Innovation Fund

Carroll defends suspension of NGO Project Facility

By Celeste Mackenzie

 $T^{\text{he development agency's Innovation Fund}} that shares the cost of poverty alleviation projects with Canadian NGOs is "under-subscribed" in that just 16 proposals have been received, according to International Cooperation Minister Aileen Carroll.}$

If approved, they would account for less than half of the \$5 million dollars available.

Appearing before the June 22 Parliamentary Sub-committee on human rights and international development, Ms. Carroll encouraged NGOs to put forth projects proposals reflecting the goals of the government's International Policy Statement (IPS), announced in April. The Canadian International Development Agency's priority sectors include basic education, governance, health, private-sector development, and the environment.

"The partners with whom we work and with whom we treasure working, you need to come along with us. Your proposals and projects that we join together have to be a part of that. They have to be a part of those countries' focus, they have to reflect those sectorals," Ms. Carroll said. "I want to benefit from all the creativity you can bring, but I can't herd cats and deliver an international policy statement."

The Partnership Branch fund makes up to \$200,000 available to support Canadian NGOs' one-time initiatives overseas. The Minister said the fund could be replenished if the \$5 million is dispersed.

CIDA announced the Innovation Fund following the abrupt February suspension of its NGO Project Facility and the Environmental and Sustainable Development Program (ESDP). Almost \$15 million was available annually through the two popular funds that accounted, Ms. Carroll said, for less than one per cent of the agency's total budget. The Minister also ordered they be evaluated, arguing she had noted problems with the funds, including excessive bureaucracy to access them, and overdependence on them from some NGOs in developing countries.

Although she has been criticized for suspending the funds prior to completion of an assessment, Ms. Carroll continues to defend the decision, saying it made sense to have an evaluation rather than simply renew the funds. Multi-year programs still underway did not see their funding affected.

Paul Carrick, CEO of the Alberta-based NGO, CAUSE, said there is a feeling of



PHOTOGRAPH BY OWEN EGAN, COURTESY OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY

International Cooperation Minister Aileen Carroll

"malaise" towards CIDA among many organizations that have them wary about applying to the Innovation Fund.

"Yes, there is a new fund, but the old ones were taken away. Morale within the NGO community is very low, and there is skepticism due to funding changes that are symptomatic of a larger policy shift away from civil society and NGOs," Mr. Carrick said during a telephone interview. "CIDA is becoming difficult and fickle and has alienated a very big group of NGOs who are really wondering if it is worth the effort to deal with it and come up with proposals."

In CAUSE's case, Mr. Carrick said it received 53 per cent of its budget from CIDA two years ago; last year that dropped 26 per cent, and he predicts it will sink to just 12 per cent in 2006. As CIDA funding criteria becomes more restrictive, Mr. Carrick said, Canada will see the role it plays as "informal ambassadors" drastically diluted as they turn to private and multilateral funding, as has CAUSE. Funding to CIDA's partnership branch is to fall in 2006 although CIDA's budget is to increase overall from \$3.2 billion in 2005, to \$3.6 billion next year.

The evaluation of the NGO Project Facility and the ESDP was supposed to be posted on the agency's website late yesterday afternoon. (See the sidebar for details.)

"We have learned some tough lessons about CIDA's role in these partnerships. In fact, the evaluation concluded that changes must be made to both programs and that retaining the status quo is not an option," Ms. Carroll said.

In keeping with CIDA's call for more transparency within the agency, Jennifer Benimadhu, vice-president of Partnership Branch, said Innovation Fund criteria has also been posted on the website.

"That hasn't always been the case in the past. We're committed to being more forth-right and more forthcoming and transparent in the future, so that everybody knows exactly the rules of the game and just what the objectives are of the fund," Ms. Benimadhu said.

Ms. Carroll also noted that the panel of Canadian and international experts to be appointed to advise her on policy issues and implementation of the IPS should begin work this summer. Its members, from the voluntary, private and public sectors, will not be announced until its selection has been finalized.

Gerry Barr, President and CEO of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation, said he welcomes the group's appointment, noting the Minister needs to expand her circle of advisers.

"It's something we have pressed for in principle, but I don't think its mandate is clear," Mr. Barr said. "It's good that they are canvassing both Canada and developing countries, but good and bad ideas are available everywhere. Its success will depend on how its reflections are connected to real policies within the institution."

CIDA Evaluation

The following is an excerpt from the overview section of an evaluation of CIDA's NGO Project Facility and the Environment and Sustainable Development Program funds. The report was supposed to be released late yesterday afternoon, and is available at www.acdi-cida.gc.ca.

Over one-third (34 per cent) of the NGO's currently funded by NPF/ESDP provided responses to the survey. For the respondents, the extent of community support for their developing country partner is the most important factor determining if their project will succeed or fail. Over 75 per cent of the organizations felt their partners had, as a result of the project, significantly improved their ability to have a successful development experience and significantly improved their leadership skills. Over 88 per cent felt their partners had either significantly or slightly improved their ability to analyze and respond to gender considerations, prepare project proposals, increase their level of independence and sustainability, and increase the participation of women in leadership as a result of the project.

In assessing their projects, over 60 per cent felt they had been very successful in improving the standard of living of the target population in general and in improving the standard of living for women in particular. When the 'fairly successful' organizations are added in, it is quite clear that all of the NPF/ESDP-funded projects have significantly improved the standard of living in general in the community (96 per cent) and for women in particular (91 per cent).

The high turnover in CIDA staff was identified as an issue more than once. Over 64 per cent of the respondents had worked with more than two program officers over the last three years. In their view, there has been a marked decline in the helpfulness of program officers during this time from 90 per cent to 60 per cent. Several respondents wanted more clarification on the role of the program officer and many more emphasized the need for program officers to actually visit projects.

There was a clear split between respondents – about 66 per cent were satisfied with the information they received from their program officers about a variety of issues; while another 24 to 42 per cent (depending on the issue) were not satisfied.

UN Has Survived Three Times Longer Than Its Predecessor

Continued from Page 1

Sixty years ago last Sunday (June 26), the Charter of the United Nations was signed by 50 nations in San Francisco.

There was not a single idealist among the men and women who signed the Charter. They were badly frightened people who had lived through the worst war in human history and who feared that an even worse one lay in wait for their children. They were so frightened that they were even willing to give up the most important aspect of national sovereignty: the right to wage war against other countries. Six decades later, how is their organisation doing?

Two things cannot be denied: the UN has already survived three times longer than its ill-starred predecessor, and the great war it was meant to prevent has not happened. In the various crises that might have ended with the superpowers sliding into a nuclear war—the Cuban crisis of 1962, the Middle East war

of 1973, and so on — the United Nations Security Council was an essential forum for negotiations, and the Charter provided a new kind of international law that the rivals could defer to without losing face when they wanted to back away from the crisis.

So why is the United Nations so widely disdained today? One reason is that Lord Robert Cecil was right: "the process of oblivion sets in" quickly, and later generations cannot remember why it was so supremely important to create an organisation to prevent further great-power wars.

Besides, the UN isn't really all that widely disdained.

It gets a bad press in the United States, but that is mainly because it acts as a brake on the untrammelled exercise of American military power. It's still quite popular in most of the world, although it continues to annoys nationalists in all the great powers — and at the other extreme, it frustrates and infuriates all the idealists who want it to be

about justice and democracy and maybe even brotherly love.

It's not. As Henry Cabot Lodge, a Republican senator and ambassador to the United Nations, said in 1955: "This organisation is created to keep you from going to Hell. It isn't created to take you to Heaven." For all the fine words of the Charter, the UN is still mainly about preventing another major war between the great powers (and as many other wars as possible).

Does the United Nations need to be "reformed"? Certainly. It has acquired some bad habits, and its structures have not kept up with the realities of a rapidly changing world. The current main focus of reformers is on the Security Council, whose permanent, veto-wielding members are still the five victorious great powers of 1945. Three-quarters of the countries that now comprise the UN were not even independent then, so clearly some adjustment is overdue.

However, the only imaginable solution is an expansion of the number of permanent members, because demoting any of the existing permanent members is unthinkable (and would simply be vetoed). But then come the questions — how many new members, and which ones, and do they get vetoes too? —

so reform may not happen soon.

Is the UN still more or less functional the way it is? Yes. Its various specialised agencies, from the World Health Organisation to UNESCO, do much good work, and its core, the Security Council, is there for when it's needed. Most of the time it is not — but when a crisis hits, it still usually manages to rise to the occasion. It has done particularly well in the last few years, bending its own rules to support a decisive US response to terrorism in Afghanistan, but then withstanding enormous pressure to do the same over the Bush administration's misbegotten invasion of Iraq.

The United Nations is an attempt to change the way that international politics works, because the only alternative was to accept perpetual war, and by 1945 that was no longer an acceptable option. But not even the optimists imagined that it could succeed in less than a century or so.

Sixty years on, it may not yet be even halfway to its goal. No need to despair. As its most influential Secretary-General, Dag Hammarskjold, used to say: "None of us are ever going to see the world order we dream of appear in our lifetime. Nevertheless, the effort to build that order is the difference between anarchy and a tolerable degree of chaos."

Canada Day **Around the** World

The Molson flows from barbecues to fashion shows on July 1





PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF CANADA CHINA BUSINESS COUNCIL, SHANGHAI

The Canadian Consulate in Shanghai, China, celebrated Canada Day 2005 on June 25 with delicious food (top) and a variety of activities ranging from a soccer tournament featuring consulate staff (below) to a watermelon-eating contest.

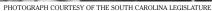
By Christina Leadlay

The streets of Budapest might not be flooded with people painted red and white on July 1, and there may not be fireworks in Paris that day either, but chances are there will be Canadians partying in style this Friday. As the 138th anniversary of Canadian confederation approaches, Canada's missions overseas are gearing up for a variety of events.

Down in **Washington**, **D.C**. Ambassador Frank McKenna is set to host his first Canada Day as head of mission. He's invited all Canadians in the American capital to the embassy on July 1 for a barbecue meal of Alberta beef, followed by strawberries and ice cream, as well as a concert with Alberta artist Ann Vriend. Another concert is scheduled for July 9, with the Manitoba-based band The Duhks performing at Birchmere. Coincidentally, the Toronto Blue Jays baseball team was in town days prior to Canada Day for a three-game series against the (former Montreal Expos) Washington Nationals, and the final game on June 26 had a Canadian theme, with the first pitch thrown out by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's Cpl. Bill Finley.

Barbecues are always a popular choice at Canadian missions abroad for July 1st. Not only is the Polish Canadian Chamber of Commerce hosting one in the garden of the Canadian Embassy in **Warsaw** as will be done in **Kyiv** the same day along with entertainment by the Ukrainian Armed Forces Band, but a large-scale barbecue is also planned in Beijing on July 2 at the Chateau Regalia, just a half hour drive from the city centre. Canadians and their friends should bring their swimsuits to enjoy the outdoor swimming pool, and bring their appetites for the hotdogs and hamburgers to be served along with Molson beer, which has apparently been especially imported for this event.









Independence Day over the years: Clockwise left to right, The U.S.'s new Ambassador to Ottawa, David Wilkins; Paul and Jan Cellucci, Independence Day, 2004 and (deep from the archives) Ambassador Edward Ney and wife Judy greet columnist Allan Fotheringham during the administration of the first President Bush.

Stuffed Like A Goose With Briefings, The New U.S.Ambassador Makes His July 4th Debut

By David Jones

On Monday, July 4, U.S. Ambassador David Wilkins will have his Ottawa "coming out" party. For the past month, he has been briefed in Washington. He has endured the ambassadorial "charm school" course replete with all of the technical information that the Department of State believes an ambassador should know. He has met a full range of Washington's movers/shakers at State, Justice, Commerce, Homeland Security, DOD and the like; these sessions were not designed to resolve bilateral problems with Canada so much as to put some flesh and blood into the future voice on the phone or the dispassionate telegram.

And the ambassador has been briefed to a fare-thee-well. As well as the standard assortment of briefing books, he had a "drink from a fire hose" opportunity with a day of presentations and commentary from Canadian and U.S. experts on June 24. Ambassador Wilkins must feel stuffed like a Strasburg goose.

But now he is here; he has presented his credentials to the Governor General — and he is ready for a party. And, while the Fourth of July is a serious recognition of the independence of the United States of America, it is also the opportunity for a good party, and there is no happier an occasion than at U.S. diplomatic establishments around the world. Although it is a "working day" for U.S. diplomats, it is also an opportunity to reach out to the host nation and offer a sample of our "best foot forward" that is not regarded as a shin kick. At a moment, when polling suggests that the positive image of the United States has slipped globally (and Canada remains one of the few countries that view the U.S. positively albeit less so than in the past), our Independence Day celebration in Ottawa and elsewhere across Canada promises to be an "up" day on the U.S. government's calendar. Moreover, as it connects with Canada Day across the bridge of a weekend, it provides the opportunity to be enjoyed rather than being stuffed into the middle of a full working week.

Consequently, while an invitation to the

U.S. July 4 celebration is usually a "good ticket" in Ottawa, it will be of particular interest this year with its associated opportunity to see "the elephant" (or at least a significant GOP political leader now come to Canada). Reportedly, there are 1,700 guests invited for this year's festivities (each will probably have one "you really need to know" piece of information to impart to the ambassador). We prefer to be inclusive, concluding that occasionally access to otherwise restricted property with its well-tended grounds and striking view (although not the interior of the residence) is helpful in demythologizing what is "really going on up there.'

As one might imagine, this is not a spur of the minute affair. Our national birthday party is planned throughout the year and is the largest embassy event. Plans range from the obvious updating of invitation lists to providing for an honour guard, organizing the regular display of antique automobiles, and scheduling the official commemorative remarks; it is an exercise in patient exactitude. The guest list is one that expands and contracts like an accordion as expenses rise (and each attendee requires review and justification by sponsors within the embassy). Obviously, it is easier to add attendees than subtract them. Traditionally, MPs receive an invitation; however, the proximity of Canada Day and Independence Day usually means that only the most local of parliamentarians take advantage of the invitation which devolves as a little "bennie" for office staff. Although parliament has been delayed rising this year, it would still be the rare MP who is not in his/her riding for Canada Day.

Nevertheless, even if next year Ambassador Wilkins invites the residents of South Carolina to the embassy's July 4 celebration, it will not match Ambassador Blanchard's casual suggestion that Michiganders come for the affair. Some Michigan residents took up his invitation; however, South Carolina is further

Money is the "mother's milk" of this event. Recognizing that Independence Day is going to be the most expensive representational event of the year and would bankrupt the embassy representation budget (or a less-than-wealthy ambassador's personal savings), individual embassies and consulates are authorized to raise money from private sources for the celebration. These funds are restricted solely to the July 4 celebration; amounts raised can be considerable. For the Ottawa embassy, the focus traditionally has been on U.S. firms doing business in Canada. Recalling personal experience in Canada, for example, the 1995 Independence Day reception had 38 sponsors ranging across the Big Three (GM, Ford, Chrysler), aircraft manufacturers (Boeing, Lockheed, Hughes, Sikorsky, Bell Helicopter), and various producers of eatables (Coke, Stroh Brewery, Anheuser-Busch, Oscar Mayer, Sara Lee, Ben and Jerry). A discreet little menu identified these sponsors — and the cuisine was very good. The point from the selection of food being that this event was not a diplomatic banquet, but rather the equivalent of an American backyard barbeque writ large.

One basic problem in the post-9/11 world remains security. Far away from the minds of most Canadians, but all-too-topical for U.S. diplomats is the potential for terrorism at an obvious target: large numbers; known date; precise location. Consequently, normal precautions will be compounded. As a result, this celebration will never be a "come one; come all" event. Restrictions on parking and the dimensions of the residence grounds are now magnified by security concerns.

Unfortunately for all of the planning and organizing, the event is still at the mercy of the weather. Ottawa is not Vancouver (where one observer commented that it rains 400 days per year), but any given July 4 could see miserable weather — either thunderstorms or an all-day drizzle. Although there are good size tents available, they are insufficient for a full crowd. Crossed fingers and even lighted candles in the local cathedrals have been a generally lucky combination. But whatever the weather, we hope for participants with undampened enthusiasm.

David Jones is a former U.S. diplomat and a Washington-based commentator on Canada-U.S. relations.

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G8 GLENEAGLES SUMMIT

The U.S. Faces Pressure On Climate Change

By Sarah McGregor

Leaders of the Group of Eight should clearly acknowledge in a joint statement next month that greenhouse gas emissions are a major cause of global warming, and insist on prompt actions to reduce them, according to Canada's Environment Minister.

"There is a lot of evidence that climate change is linked in large part by the emission of greenhouse gas, and we need to have a reduction of greenhouse gases," said Stéphane Dion, in an interview on Parliament Hill last week.

Environmentalists fear that specific proposals, timetables and targets to regulate manmade pollutants will not be included in a final declaration at the Gleneagles Summit, July 6-8.

At minimum, many hope a strong political consensus emerges that wealthy nations must take stronger actions on climate change. The U.S., the globe's largest polluter, is the only G-8 member that isn't a signatory to the Kyoto Protocol. The treaty sets out legally binding targets to lower greenhouse emissions. The G-8 consists of France, Germany, Italy, the United

Kingdom, the U.S., Canada, Japan and Russia

Last week, it seemed that the Bush administration might succeed in weakening the G-8 statement to reflect its lingering uncertainties about climate research and its reticence to adopt mandatory pollution caps.

Media reports cited a leaked draft that had been heavily edited by American negotiators. It omitted key phrases and added words that played down the link between human activity and rising world temperatures. Most scientists agree this phenomenon is contributing to the retreat of glaciers, catastrophic weather patterns, higher ocean levels and ecosystems on the brink of disaster

Canada officially believes the relationship is undeniable, said Mr. Dion.

Last week, Prime Minister Paul Martin and British Prime Minister Tony Blair decided during a 45-minute call to exert pressure on U.S. President George Bush to "bring (the U.S.) along the climate change road," according to Mr. Martin's office.

The cornerstones of Mr. Blair's yearlong presidency of the

G-8 is to rally world leaders around limiting global warming and alleviating poverty in Africa. He was in Washington on a solo mission earlier this month to get support for the twin objectives but failed to reach a strong deal on either.

Mr. Dion said that American cooperation is being sought through partnerships in the energy technologies sectors. He also said he hopes one day the U.S. will become involved in creating an international carbon market. The idea behind it is to develop an emission-trading system that would give economic incentives for businesses to reduce harmful pollution.

In Canada, this year's federal budget devoted \$5 billion over five years for environmental protection and curbing climate change. In addition, the government is chairing a massive post-Kyoto strategy conference in Montreal this fall that will bring together 10,000 environmental experts and journalists for almost one month.

Still, some argue Canada has been slow to pony up resources and unroll plans to meet its obligations under the Kyoto accord.



Environment Minister Stéphane Dion.

PHOTOGRAPH FROM THE HILL TIMES FILES

Environment Minister Says There Is "A Lot Of Evidence" That Links Greenhouse Gas Emissions To Climbing Global Mercury

Embassy's conversation with Canada's Environment Minister Stéphane Dion

Q: The national science academies of 11 nations, including Canada, declared recently the world is getting warmer and that reducing the level of greenhouse gas in the atmosphere could halt or reverse that trend. Is Canada 100 per cent supportive those findings?

A: Yes. The climate is changing (and) greenhouse gas emissions are a large part of this explanation. So human activities are not the sole cause, but they are a significant one.

Q: U.S. President George Bush has called climate change "a serious long-term issue that needs to be dealt with" but said that he needs to see more conclusive evidence of its cause. Do you believe that more comprehensive scientific study is needed?

A: I think the scientific evidence is strong, but it is always good to have more scientific research. I don't dispute that. I'm not criticizing the scientists (that hold) another view. The sole point that would I make as a decision-maker (is that) I have received the mandate from the prime minister to come with a climate change plan because we cannot take any risks. There is a lot of evidence that climate change is linked in large part by the emission of greenhouse gas, and we need to have a reduction of greenhouse gases. And this is what my role is.

Q: Is it worrisome that Mr. Bush seems to be questioning the fact that human activity is at least partly to blame for rising world temperatures? A: I would like to see the Americans accepting to be part of the carbon market that we are creating internationally. I think it would be a great asset. I would like to see more and more U.S. states sharing this view (and some are already involved). This being said, I'm very willing to work with the Americans for what they are doing regarding the technology. They are investing significantly to invent better technologies to decrease greenhouse gas emissions and other sources of pollution.

Q: Draft statements being circulated in advance of the G-8 Summit show brackets around key phrases that the United States' negotiators believe are at odds with its stance on climate change. What political pressure has Canada been asserting to get that aggressive language back in?

A: You know I will not comment on possible changes of drafts. I will only comment on the final declaration.

Q: Prime Minister Paul Martin and British Prime Minister Tony Blair agreed this week to "form a common cause... in using our unique joint influence on the U.S. to bring them along the climate change road," according to the Mr. Martin's office. What does that mean?

A: I will not comment on the phone call between two leaders. I just want to say to Canadians that we have a great comprehensive plan from last April (known as Project Green. It set up two federal funds and outlined industry and

individual emissions reduction targets required to live up to Kyoto). We have a tremendous challenge to face because we have 270 megatonnes to cut. Each of us must do our own share. We need to work with all our neighbours, including Americans and at the international level. And it's why we'll welcome the world in Montreal at the end of the year. They will have different approaches, different views. It's good to have different approaches because climate change is a problem that we have difficulties understanding. It's a new phenomenon (and) how to deal with it is a learning process. I still hope the Americans will come. We think that the institutions that Kyoto has created - the carbon markets, the clean development mechanism - it would be great if they come.

Q: UN Environmental Director Klaus Toepfer has called for a top up in the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in light of the G-8. Do you intend to announce more money for this environmental fund or others like it?

A: It's true that the international funds that we have are under-funded. If the leaders of the G-8 find a way to agree about that it would be very good. It's something that I would like to see improved before or in Montreel

Q: Industry Canada used to be the lead department of the Kyoto file, but your department has recently picked up the torch. Can you discuss the change?

A: It's a file for the government as a whole. But it's true regarding the plan of last April. We work as a team, and I have tremendous responsibilities to meet. We need to start this carbon market. We need to have a system of credits. Each time you will decrease emissions if you are a company or municipality... you will receive a credit for it that you will be able to sell within the market that we create. So you will have an emissions trading system. The purchaser of these credits will be the industry but also the government of Canada through the creation of a Canada fund. This Climate Fund will be a revolution in Canada. It's true the Minister of the Environment has a lot on his shoulders because of this plan.

Q: Will Canada be satisfied with the G-8 final declaration if the essence of the following statements aren't adopted?

The world is warming:

A: The exact wording I don't know. But the idea that you have climate change must be in the declaration.

The link between greenhouse gas emissions/manmade pollutants and global warming:

A: It's the point of view of Canada that greenhouse gas emissions are a cause of climate change and we are hoping it will be in the declaration.

Strong language to take action:

A: We need to take action and we hope this (political) will, will be clearly expressed in the declaration.

Embassy Asks G-8 Member Countries: "How Will You Curb Climate Change?"

British Prime Minister Tony Blair has put climate change as a top priority as he chairs the Group of Eight. In advance of the G-8 meeting from July 6-8, *Embassy* asked the G-8 members' missions in Ottawa to outline their objectives to curb global warming. The following responses have been edited for length. The missions of France, the United States and the United Kingdon were unable to respond.

Russia



As you know, the Russia Federation ratified the Kyoto Protocol in 2004. While regarding it as the first important step on

the road of diminishing the anthropogenic load on climate, the Russian Federation considers that to ensure the effectiveness of the measures to prevent a global change of climate it is necessary to seek a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by the efforts of the entire world community. We count on cooperation being deepened in the matter of carrying out significant projects for Russia with all interested countries and organizations, and Canada is among our closest partners in this field.

The importance of Kyoto and post-Kyoto issues also grow in importance for us in light of our upcoming presidency in G-8 in 2006. We are looking forward to discussing them with our G-8 partners at the Gleneagles Summit, as well as at the UN Climate Change conference in Montreal in November-December 2005.

Germany

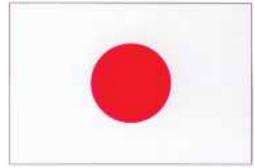
Innovative policy instruments such as emission trading and other flexible mechanisms according to the Kyoto Protocol are on top of the political agenda in the field of international climate change policies. First of all, the different sectors have to be included such as industry, energy, private



households and traffic to mention the most important ones. Second, various stakeholders and actors from the political and business level, but also from non-governmental and civil society organizations and the scientific community have to work together in order to provide sustainable solutions to the problem. And last but not least, global climate change cannot be solved locally. Therefore, policy approaches have to include the global, regional, national and local levels. With respect to international agreements this also implies the need to further include developing countries, and countries such as the United States and Australia. It is obvious that further efforts are needed in order to

meet the targets agreed on until the period 2008-2012. In addition, medium and long-term perspectives have to be developed, because climate change will continue to be a problem after 2012.

Japan



Japan announced a new Kyoto Protocol Target Achievement Plan on April 28. Along with this plan, we will accomplish our goal of a six per cent emission reduction through an extensive package of multifaceted measures, and a nation-wide mobilization of all actors and stakeholders. Japan has spearheaded energy conservation and energy efficiency for a long time, and we will do this more vigorously.

Japan will also contribute to create the long-term process beyond 2012. It is important for us to promote further implementation and international cooperation under the participation of all industrialized and developing countries. The "Post Kyoto" agenda must not punish those who genuinely make efforts, but rather reward them with help and assistance. It also must encourage and reward investment and the transfer of science and technology. G-8 countries should take the initiative in showing renewed resolution towards further promotion of climate change countermeasures. Japan is contributing to the G-8 Gleneagles Summit through various proposals, including the 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) Initiative which promotes an emission-reduced society.

NGOs Hope Lagging Kyoto Pact Will Get A Boost From The G-8

Climate change has the greatest impact on the poorest nations

Even without U.S. recognition that climate change poses a "clear danger" the other Group of Eight leaders shouldn't back down from using strong language next month at the Gleneagles Summit in Scotland, said Elizabeth May, executive director of the Sierra Club of Canada

"Bush has to be isolated," said Ms. May, in an interview this week. "We can say that we agree to disagree. The main thing is to have a concluding statement from at least seven leaders that the science on climate change isn't debatable... and to look toward solutions. The other leaders have to stand firm."

The second phase of an international effort to crackdown on global warming is in urgent need of political endorsement at the G-8 meeting next month, said John Bennett, Executive Director of the Climate Change Action Network (Canada).

Mr. Bennett said it took eight years to negotiate emission-reduction targets in the Kyoto Accord. The treaty managed to awaken decision-makers to the global threat but didn't do enough to tackle it, he said. The accord, only ratified in February, sets out national targets for 141 signatories to limit emissions by 2012. Under the pact, Canada is supposed to reduce emissions to six per cent below 1990 levels.

But leaders must immediately start planning how to dramatically surpass those modest objectives in order to chop emissions in half over the next few decades, said Mr. Bennett. His network has devised a target for Canada to hit 368 megatonnes of emissions by 2030 from 727 megatonnes in 2004. Canada's Kyoto plan seeks to cut 270 megatonnes of emissions by 2012.

"Kyoto was seen as a way to get things started. But it was never intended to solve the problem," he said. "If we take as long to complete the next round the world will have gone to hell in a hand basket before we get around to it."

Mr. Bennett said that the scheme should be twofold: household and work-place energy conservation measures and the use of cleaner energy sources. Most scientists agree that carbon dioxide released by burning fossil fuels, used to power cars, homes and industries, contributes to global warming.

"You want to send a signal to all industries right now that you're serious about turning that around," said Mr. Bennett.

In advance of the G-8 Summit next month, the network, which represents they key players of Canada's environmental movement, shot off a letter to Prime Minister Paul Martin pushing him take ownership over the climate change agenda in Scotland.

The central aim is to convince the American administration that "the science is real," and to quicken the tempo of the world's large polluter, the U.S., in taking concrete action, said Mr. Bennett. U.S. President George Bush has questioned the link between greenhouse gas emissions and rising global temperatures.

"Even a few subtle changes in the rhetoric coming from the White House would cause a positive movement," said Mr. Bennett.

One specific proposal in the letter is to impose an aviation fuel tax or carbon tax on pollutants such as oil and gas. ""The cost of climate change should have a price tag (for consumers). Right now it's cheaper to pollute than not to," he said.

Overall, the costs tend to be higher for

the most vulnerable and poorest communities, according to Walt Reid, the head of the UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. He led the massive study, released in March, which determined that an increase in the average world temperature of 1.4 degrees Celsius this century would cause significant harm to ecosystems in most parts of the world.

"Without question the assessment shows that the degradation of ecosystems right now is having the greatest harm for the poorest people," he said, in an interview this month.

One of the most critical threats of climate change is in extremely dry regions such as sub-Saharan Africa. These economies mostly depend on natural resources to prosper. But the upswing in world temperatures is causing erratic weather patterns, changing growing seasons and leading to lower food production, he said. The twin objectives of the G-8, led by its rotating president and British Prime Minister Tony Blair, are to curb climate change and lift Africa from poverty. Those goals must happen in concert, said Mr. Reid.

"If you're wealthy you can buy your way out of these conundrums," says Mr. Reid. "But the poor are directly dependent on those resources, and they can't afford it."

Mr. Reid said that the political debate over climate change primarily focuses on the economic impact, and is clearly a concern to leaders in the industrialized world. "Over the last 20 years attention has dropped, but we are now seeing basic food production dropping, water quality diminishing (and so on). People are now rearing their heads for more information," he said.

—Sarah McGregor

Italy



Italy ratified the Kyoto Protocol by means of legislation on June 1, 2002. The ratification law also illustrates the National Plan for greenhouse gas reduction. Italy's reduction goal is 6.5 per cent with respect to 1990 levels. Italian companies will play a fundamental role in the implementation strategies of the Kyoto Protocol. In Italy, in fact, emissions attributable to the industrial and energy sectors represent roughly 52 per cent of the total emissions (against the 33 per cent represented by the civil and transportation sectors.) At the present time, considering both the policies in this area and the data regarding Italian emission tendencies, additional corrective measures will most likely be required by national authorities.

— Compiled by Jordan Michael Smith

At First Controversial, Same-Sex Marriage Now Accepted in Belgium & Netherlands

Continued from Page 1

The progressive liberal government of Prime Minister Wim Kok began tackling the issue in 1998, with the final legislative draft going to parliamentary debate in Sept. 2000. It won a majority of votes in the lower house of 109 against 33. The only real challenge to the bill was by minor right-wing parties including the Christian democrats. Since April 2001 same-sex couples living in the Netherlands or of Dutch nationality have been allowed to marry; however, they are restricted when it comes to adoption: they can only adopt Dutch children.

In the first six months after the legislation passed, same-sex marriages made up 3.6 per cent of the total number of Dutch marriages, peaking at around six per cent in the first month, followed by around three per cent in the following months, according to provisional figures from the Netherlands Central Bureau of Statistics. Four years later, same-

sex marriage has become an accepted practice in the Netherlands.

"It's fair to say that this is really not a hot issue at the moment," says Anne van Leeuwen, a spokesperson at the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Ottawa. "It is really not a disputed part of legislation. It's really well accepted as part of the Dutch practice of the day."

"In Belgium there is a distinction between a religious wedding and a civil wedding," says Bert Versmessen, First Secretary at the Embassy of Belgium in Ottawa. "A religious wedding on its own does not have any legal value, so you have to have a civil wedding before you have a religious wedding," he says, prefacing his comments on how his country began its journey to same-sex marriage legislation in 1999 when the coalition government under liberal Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt agreed to look into the issue.

"Gay groups in Belgium had been asking for this for a number of years. The legislation was finally adopted in Feb. 2003 and entered into force in June 2003," Mr. Versmessen says, noting that the free parliamentary vote resulted in 91 in favour, 22 against, and 9 abstentions. "A compromise was reached over the issues of adoption and descendents, excluding those from the legislation. Normally, for instance, if there are two women who are married, and one gives birth, then under normal marriage legislation, the other one would be automatically considered a parent as well, and so that is not the case yet," says Mr. Versmessen of the only limitation to same-sex marriage in his country. "There was some opposition in Belgium, as you see here [in Canada]. It's a debate that, depending on where you stand towards these issues, can be quite divisive. A compromise was found among the majority parties which include both left and right by excluding – for the moment – adoption and descendents from the gay marriage. But it is

now again on the table, and I'm sure they will find a solution," he says, adding that Belgium's divorce laws changed concurrently when the marriage law was amended.

"The first wedding received quite a bit of attention, but by now it has become a normal procedure, which is not such an issue any more," says Mr. Versmessen, noting that in the first four months after the law took effect, about 140 gay marriages were concluded – roughly four per cent of all weddings in that period. "At first, gay marriage was only open to Belgian people or to people residing in Belgium... to avoid [couples going] back to their own country having a marriage which is not recognized. We took a rather careful and prudent approach in opening up the traditional marriage to gay people as well," he explains.

In Feb. 2004, the legislation was amended to allow non-citizens to marry so long as they were residents or "regular visitors" to Belgium.

If People Don't Burden Health System They Need Not Disclose Condition

	X*THE INSCRIBE * X xC	E APPROPRIATI DANS LA GASE	
(a)	Within the past two years, have you or a family member had tuberculosis of the lung or been in close contact with a person with tuberculosis of the lung? Au cours desideux demières années, avez-vous eu, vous ou un des membres de votre famille, la tuberculose pulmonaire ou été en contact avec une personne qui a la tuberculose pulmonaire?	ON AES	
b)	Do you or an accompanying family member have any physical or mental disorder for which that person will require social and/or health services, other than medication, during the stay? Avez-vous, yous ou un des membres de votre famille qui vous accompagne, un trouble physique ou mental qui nécessiterait des services sociaux fou des soins de santé autres que des médicaments durant le séjour?	Oft AES	

Continued from Page 1

can order medical examinations if suspicions arise about the applicant's health.

Until last month those who had been treated for communicable and chronic disease were asked to disclose their related medical history and treatment in a temporary visa application.

The department of Canadian Citizenship and Immigration decided after stakeholder consultation to remove the question at issue from the "temporary resident visa." Tourists, businesspeople or other people visiting family and friends access the up to six-month visas from abroad. Canada requires visas from the vast majority of the world's countries, 147 in total, while allowing visa-free access to only 46.

A new set of questions specify that applicants report if they suffer from either tuberculosis and physical or a mental disorders that require health or social supports.

The change brings the temporary visa application form in line with Canadian immi-

gration policy that, in general, doesn't bar temporary entry to a person diagnosed with AIDS or the infection that causes it, HIV. The exception is if the government suspects short-term visitors could become very ill in Canada and cause a strain on the overloaded healthcare system. (Those applying for permanent residence must be tested for HIV.)

"If people aren't a threat to our system or public health than we don't need to know [their medical condition]," said Ms. Anderson, of the Toronto Local Host.

A network of HIV/AIDS activists and medical experts first approached the federal government last November with anecdotal stories that sounded much like the one they heard from the foreign businessman mentioned above.

In January, the group returned with more research. After a few months of consultations the department launched the new visa application in May. "The question was overly broad so we've brought it down a bit because we don't want people to feel that that they have to disclose unnecessary information," explained Cara Prest, a spokesperson for Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

Richard Elliott, director of legal research and policy at the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network, said the revised visa application form eliminates "discrimination and barriers" that many HIV-positive visitors had faced in the past. However, he warns the department should now review the broad powers of visa officers who can ask that

applicants be examined by a medical officer, which includes a HIV test.

"Every case is evaluated on its own merits," said Ms. Prest, of CIC, noting the visa officers cannot approve applicants whose health condition could endanger the health or safety of others, or cause "excessive demand" on Medicare.

According to Canadian immigration law, an applicant can only be deemed "medically inadmissible" for two reasons: they pose a public health threat or their condition could deteriorate while in Canada and put a strain on the national health system or social services.

In 2004, the department conducted 458,839 medical assessments, of which 993 were deemed "medically inadmissible" and therefore denied entry. Those figures don't include refugees or spouses, common law partners or dependents who applied under the family class category.

Meanwhile, conference organizers and other activists who highlighted the issue to government are saying that the move will protect personal health information and demonstrate that Canada is a tolerant society.

"We pointed out to the government that Canada has succeeded in getting the conference in Toronto based on the premise that people who wanted to attend would not be denied based on being HIV-positive," said Dr. Mark Wainburg, co-chair of the International AIDS Conference and chair of AIDS 2006 Toronto Local Host. "They listened to us and thanked us for our input. We are a better country for this change."



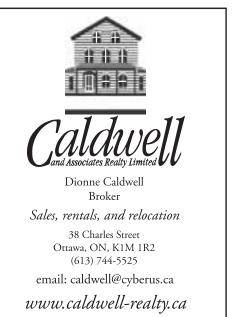
Our Dining Room is usually open Noon to 3 p.m. Monday to Friday. (But will be CLOSED on Canada day, July 1)

It's a lovely place to take family, friends and out of town visitors. Reserve at 233-5641

CANADA DAY Friday, July 1 the Members'
Lounge OPENS at 11 a.m.

Watch the Canada Day Celebrations on the Big Screen. Hot dogs, french fries and other picnic-style things will be available.

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Same-Sex Marriage And Civil Union Legislation Around The World

Country/State	Marriage	Restrictions	Civil Union	Details	In the works?	When
U.S. California	No		Domestic Partnership	Some state-level benefits; no federal-level benefits		
Connecticut	No		Civil Union	Same rights and responsibilities at state level; no federal-level benefits or rights	Marriage bill in State House	June 2005
Massachusetts New Jersey	Yes No	No federal level benefits	No Civil Union	Some of the state-level rights;		May 2004
Vermont	No		Civil Union	no federal-level benefits or rights Same rights and responsibilities as marriage at state level;	State Supreme Court Hearing	January 2005
EUROPE Austria	No		Unregistered	no federal-level benefits or right Same as unmarried cohabiting		September 2003
			Cohabitation	opposite sex		•
Belgium	Yes	Law does not provide for presumed paternity for the female spouse of a married woman who gives birth; no provision for Joint Parental Responsibility, nor for adoption by a same-sex partner or a same-sex couple	Registered Cohabitation			Marriage, 2003; Registered Cohabitation, 2000
Cyprus Czech Republic	No No		No Unregistered	"Persons living in the common	Registered Partnership Bill	February 2005
ezeen republie	110		Cohabitation	household" have inheritance and succession rights in housing	rejected by Parliament	Tebruary 2000
Denmark	No		Registered Partnership	Open only to same-sex; all protection, responsibilities and benefits. Exception: Registered couples cannot adopt children unless child belongs to one spouse	No	1989
Estonia	No		No	•	No	2001
Finland	No		Registered Partnership	Only for same-sex; Grants similar rights and	No	2001
France	No		Unregistered Cohabitation; Registered Partnership; Civil Solidarity Pact Act (PACS)	responsibilities as married partners PACS offers some, but not all, of rights and responsibilities of marriage	No	1999
Germany	No		Life Partnerships Act	Some, but not all, rights and responsibilities of marriage	No	2000
Greece Hungary	No No		No Unregistered	Some, but not all, rights and	No No	1996
Ireland	No		Cohabitation In the works	responsibilities of marriage Would give many of same rights and responsibilities as marriage	Going Through Parliament	Spring 2005
Italy	No		No		No	
Netherlands	Yes	Cannot adopt a child from abroad	Unregistered Cohabitation; Registered Ppartnership	Unregistered cohabitation partners increasingly granted legal rights; registered partners have all the same rights and responsibilities as marriages	No	Marriage in 2001
Poland	No		No		Registered Partnership Bill in Parliament	December 2004
Slovenia	No		Law on registered same-sex Partnership	Limited rights		Enacted June 22, 2005
Spain	Now in Congress	Would be same as Canada's	Unregistered and Registered Cohabitation	Some, but not all, rights and responsibilities of marriage	Marriage bill rejected by senate on June 24, goes back to Congress	Rejected on June 24, 2005
Sweden	No		Unregistered Cohabitation; Registered	Registered partnerships offer same rights and responsibilities as marriage	Gov't task force studying	Registered Partnership, 1994
UK	No		Partnership Civil Partnership	All same rights and		2004
Switzerland OTHER COUNTRIES	No		Registered Partnership	responsibilities as marriage Some, but not all, rights and responsibilities		2005
OTHER COUNTRIES. Argentina Australia	No No		C ivil Union Some civil union in all but two provinces	In Buenos Aires South Australia, Tasmania and Australian Capital have special laws re: adoption	South has legislation pending on recognition of civil unions; federal gov't banned same-sex marriages, while allowing for civil unions on state/territory level	Federal ban in 2004
Brazil	No		Civil Union	In Rio Grande do Sul		Rio Grande passed in 2004
China	No		No		Congress proposed legislation allowing same-sex marriage	Proposal failed 2003
Israel New Zealand	No No		No Civil Union	Some, but not all, rights and	Civil union bill in Parliament No	June 2005 April 2005
South Africa	No		No	responsibilities of marriage	High Court ruled that denying benefits to same-sex couples is discriminatory.	2002
Taiwan	No		No		No new laws in the works yet Legislation granting	2003
	210				marriage stalled	

Orion String Quartet *National*

Arts Centre, 53 Elgin Street, Southam

Extravaganza" features pianist Peter

Serkin and the Orion String Quartet.

Sophie Milman and Group

National Arts Centre, 53 Elgin Street,

zfestival.com). 10:30 p.m. Russian-

born, Israeli-raised vocalist Sophie

Milman plays as part of the Ottawa

David Sanchez Confederation

Park, Elgin Stage, Main Stage

plays as part of the Ottawa

International Jazz Festival.

(613-241-2622; www.ottawajaz-

zfestival.com). 6:30 p.m. Puerto

Rican saxophonist David Sanchez

International Jazz Festival.

Sunday, July 3

Studio (613-241-2633; www.ottawajaz-

Hall (613-947-7000.) 7:30 p.m. \$12.

The second "Chamber Music

EMBASSY Listings

Wednesday, June 29
The Ambassador for Belarus, Nina Mazai, is holding an invitationonly reception at the Sheraton Ottawa Hotel on the occasion of her country's National Day, which is July 3. Contact the embassy (613-233-9994).

Free Midday Concert National Arts Centre, 53 Elgin Street (613-947-7000). 12:30 p.m. The Young Artists' Programme's Wind Ensemble is putting on a

Vin d'honneur Apostolic Nunciature, 724 Manor Avenue, Rockcliffe Park (613-746-4914). 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. To celebrate the election of Pope Benedict XVI, the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Luigi Ventura, is hosting a Vin d'honneur at the Apostolic Nunciature.

Wine Launch LCBO, 275 Rideau Street (613-567-6450 ext. 238). 4 – 6 p.m. Saslove Winery and the Embassy of Israel will conduct an official launch of a new Israeli wine, Aviv Cabernet Sauvignon 2003.

Metropolitain Grand Opening 700 Sussex Drive (rsvp 613-562-1160). 5 - 9 p.m. The new Metropolitain Brasserie and

Restaurant will be showcasing its French cuisine at its grand opening

Young Artists: Masterclass

University of Ottawa, 550 Cumberland, Perez Building, Frieman Hall (613-947-7000). 7:30 p.m. \$5. As part of the National Arts Centre's Young Artist Programme, audiences will be able to observe a one-on-one teaching session between pianist Joseph Kalichstein and a student.

Thursday, June 30

45 years ago today, the **Democratic Republic of Congo** gained Independence from Belgium. Contact the embassy (613-230-6391).

Orion String Quartet *Dominion* Chalmers United Church, 355 Cooper Street (613-755-1111). 7:30 p.m. \$12. A "Chamber Music Extravaganza" with guest pianist Joseph Kalichstein, members of the faculty of the Summer Music Institute, and the Orion String Quartet.

Governor General's Party in the Garden Rideau Hall, 1 Sussex Drive (1-866-842-GGCA) 5 p.m. Free. Join Governor General Adrienne Clarkson and John Ralston Saul for this special celebration of the Year of the Veteran. The whole family can enjoy free outdoor games, crafts, displays

and a swinging concert featuring the All-Star Can-AM Orchestra with guest artist Guido Basso, and the Nepean All-City Jazz Band. The Year of the Veteran Big Band concert will begin at 7 p.m. Veterans are invited to bring their wartime memorabilia such as photos, letters and postcards to participate in the Dominion Institute's Memory Project Road Show from 5 to 7 p.m. to record the

personal memorabilia of veterans. Rally for Peace-Building in

oral histories and preserve the

Sudan Jean Pigott Hall, Ottawa City Hall, 110 Laurier Avenue West, (613-521-3616). 7:30 p.m. The Canadian Friends of Sudan are organizing a rally for peace in Sudan, featuring a teleconference with future MPs in the Government of South Sudan, and an address by mayor Bob Chiarelli.

Friday, July 1

Today is Canada Day, commemorating the 1867 Signing of Confederation uniting the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia under the one country of Canada. All streets surrounding Parliament will be closed to traffic and most shops and offices will be closed. See preview.

Burundi celebrates its National Day, honouring 43 years of independence from Belgian administration. Contact the embassy (613-789-0414).

Unisong Choir Festival *National* Arts Centre, 52 Elgin Street, Southam Hall (613-947-7000). 2:30; 7:30. The Unisong (United Song) Choir Festival runs from June 28-July 2, with two performances alongside the National Arts Centre Orchestra on Canada Day.

Saturday, July 2

Chamber Music Marathon

National Arts Centre, 53 Elgin Street, Main Foyer (613-947-7000). 10:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. \$5 individual concerts; \$12 day pass. The Young Artists' Programme Junior Strings will open up the Chamber Music Marathon at 10:30 a.m., followed by Young Artists Programme ensembles at 12:00, 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. Monday, July 4

The United States of America celebrates its Independence Day. Ambassador David Wilkins is hosting an invitation-only reception at his Rockcliffe residence. Contact the embassy (613-238-5335).

The Ambassador of Rwanda, Eugene Munyakayanza, is hosting a reception at the Chateau Cartier in Alymer to celebrate Rwanda's Independence Day. Contact the embassy (613-569-5420).

Saudi Arabian BBQ 478 Aylmer Road, Gatineau, Quebec (rsvp 613-237-4106). The Ambassador of Saudi Arabia, Mohammed R. Al-Hussaini, will say good-bye to his colleagues and friends at his annual summer bbg, an event filled with good food and Arabic live music.

Tuesday, July 5

To celebrate Venezuela's **Independence and Armed Forces** Day, Ambassador Jesus Perez is hosting a vernissage for an exhibition by Venezuelan artist G. Bracho at Art Gallery Tepy. Contact the embassy (613-235-5151).

Wednesday, July 6

Panel: Civil Society in Canada and the EU University of Ottawa, 70 Laurier Street, Arts Building, Amphitheatre (613-596-2105; jbscott58@hotmail.com). 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. \$12. The Ottawa chapter of the Society for International Development invites you to a panel on "Engaging Civil Society in International Development: Experiences of Canada and the EU." Speakers include the Ambassador to the European Commission, Eric Hayes.

Fun On Canada Day



PHOTOGRAPH BY HENRI MICHAUD, EMBASSY

"Canada Day? Yay!"

Ottawa shuts down on July 1, as people take off work to celebrate Canada's 138th birthday. Most of downtown is packed with pedestrians and revelers, but events are spread out all over the city.

The city of Ottawa is sponsoring events at four

Parliament Hill is the sight of the Flag-Raising Ceremony at 9:30 a.m. The Skyhawks perform aerial maneuvers at 11:30, there is an appearance by the Governor-General, the Prime Minister and the Minister of Heritage at noon, and a star-studded concert featuring diverse musical acts from

From 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Major's Hill Park will see Canadian Folkways Alley, featuring woodcarving, weaving and fiddle-making; and crafts, dancing and

face painting. From $6-10~\mathrm{p.m.},$ popular musicians like Ron Sexsmith will rock the house.

Events will be held at the Canada and the World Pavilion on Sussex Drive from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. In between are events such as African Hair Braiding; Henna Body Art; Ukrainian, Philippine and Venezuelan dancing, and appearances by musicians Tony Silvani and André Ibrahim, respectively.

Finally, Jacques-Cartier Park in Gatineau will house giant inflatable toys, a trampoline system, and an acrobatic circus cowboy show.

All shows feature fireworks at 10:05 p.m., and the display on Parliament Hill can be seen from most of downtown and Hull.

See you in the red and white.

— Jordan Michael Smith

Can't Make It To Parliament Hill On Canada Day? No Problem! From London To Budapest, Canada's Missions Host The Best Parties

Continued from Page 7

After Canada's Ambassador to China, Joseph Caron, says a few words, there will be a Canada Day Trivia contest, an opportunity to see Rolls Royce's newest "Phantom," an extreme bicycle competition, and a watermelon-eating contest, followed by fireworks in the evening.

Watermelon eating was also de rigeur at the June 25 pre-Canada Day party in Shanghai. The Canada China Business Council, together with the Consulate in Shanghai hosted an afternoon's worth of events at the Shanghai American School, Puxi Campus. A tug-of-war, soccer tournament, water games, lacrosse throw, hockey obstacle and of course the watermelon eat-

ing contest kept Canadians and their friends Commerce in Korea. Steak and salmon, vegin a patriotic mood that day. Other Canada Day parties in Asia this week include the "Canada D'eh" party in Lan Kwai Fong in Hong Kong, put on by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, billed as the biggest Canada Day celebration in Asia. The whole town promises to be painted white and red as Canadian music plays through the night while partygoers are fueled by Canadian beer, wine and snacks sponsored by participating bars and restaurants. The Chinese Canadian Association is also planning its annual regatta to coincide with July 1. Over in Seoul, the UN Compound Itaewon was the site of a Canada Day party on June 26 hosted by the Canadian Chamber of

gie pasta, grilled chicken salad, homemadestyle brownies, and Molson Canadian beer were on the menu. The 1,300 guests were Commissioner Mel Cappe has invited asked to wear patriotic colours, though the welcoming Canadian spirit was slightly dampened due to security regulations which stated that "persons from China, Russia, Myanmar or Nigeria will not be allowed to attend."

Over in Europe, a few of Canada's missions are putting on a little something to celebrate Canada Day. At the new Canadian Embassy in **Budapest**, which officially opened on June 21, a celebration is planned for June 30. Meanwhile in **Paris**, Ambassador Claude Laverdure is hosting a party for all

Canadians, to be held at 37 avenue Montaigne. Across the channel at Canada House in London's Trafalgar Square, High Canadians in the vicinity to stop by for a slice of cake, and to experience the skills of the Reduced Shakespeare Company as they perform a 15 minute version of the classic tragedy Romeo and Juliet.

Finally, the Friends of Canada in Lebanon, under the patronage of the Canadian Embassy, are planning a spectacular bash on July 3 in Baabda. Asides from activities for children, music, entertainment, games and delicious Canadian-made crèpes, the highlight of the evening should be the fashion show sponsored by La Senza Girl.

EMBASSY Classifieds

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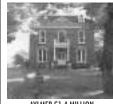
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0010 RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE



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residence offers grand entertaining and reception rooms in a state-of-the-art renovation. This beautiful heritage home was renovated in 2001 to the highest standards of quality and craftsmanship It comprises 12 bedrooms and 5 bathrooms. Ideal as an embassy. La Capitale Outaouais, Isabelle Forget, 819-684-1683 or 819-210-0755.

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Open House Sunday 2-4 p.m. Immaculate 3-1 bedroom single family home built in 1998 located in a friendly neighbourhood close to schools and 12 acre park. Features include hardwood and ceramic flooring throughout the ceramic flooring throughout the main level. Wood shutters on all main floor windows and patio door, large ellip-tical window in family room, professionally finished basement with entertain ment room, office and large bedroom.
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Possession September 2005.
\$315,900. 613-823-0339 613-823-0339 http://www.grapevine.con.ca/cgi-bin/listing.cgi?id=7261

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BUNGALOW-2002 Executive 3+1 bedrooms, 2 baths, double garage, hardwood/ceramic. Finished basement, A/C, F/P, Hunt Club. \$320K. 613-263-3393

DOWNTOWN 86 James St. Super semi with old world charm. 5 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, 3 storeys. \$429,000. Bonnie Jasen, Coldwell Banker Coburn Realty 613

GLEBE ELEGANCE Glebe city residence with original fittings, woodwork, floors, fireplaces, beamed ceilings etc. Could include appropriately large dining-room furniture, china, service etc. Newly renovated third floor for

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15 MINUTE WALK TO PARLIAMENT Waterfront penthouse, 21st floor, 2 hedroom hardwood/marble floors Close to Museums and Byward Market, \$980. 613-231-6678

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700 SUSSEXPRESTIGIOUS NEW 1250 sq. ft. PRESTIGIOUS NEW 1250 \$9. TI.

2 bdrm/den, many upgrades, 7th floor.
River view, SS appliances, concierge,
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Quality restaurant. Available June 15.
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Executive 2 bedroom/den, 24 hour concierge, business centre, underground parking. \$2200. Available July 15th. 650-787-4677 or contact Jan at: 613-445-1800

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New luxury 1 bedroom condo (1000 sq.ft.), unfurnished, 6 appliances, 24-7 concierge, indoor/outdoor garden, executive centre includes recention room, dining/boardroom with kitchen, business centre with private offices, fitness centre, sauna and whirlpool, games room with view. \$1800/month + utilities. 613-562-2943 anytime.

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ATTENTION DIPLOMAT, MP'S, EXECUTIVE 2 bedroom, penthouse, central river

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Prestigious new condo, walk to Parliament Hill. 2 bedrooms, 6 appliances. Pool, gym, parking. \$2100. 613-293-7972

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Large 2 bedroom in newly built upscale condominium, facing park. \$2300. 613-789-1343. www.viewit.ca

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Sought after location in the heart of the city. Walk everywhere. city. Walk everywhere. 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, laminate flooring, 3 appliances, laundry facilities on same level, 1 underground parking, indoor pool, secure building. Magnificent views of the Ottawa River and Gatineau Hills. August 1. \$1700 all inclusive. For sale: \$229,900. 613-232-3648

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2 bdrms + den, 2 bth, hdwd/ceramic, 5 appl., pkg. Immed \$1800 Plus 613-288-1500, www.homes-for-rent.com CENTRETOWN

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Cathcart, 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath 5 appliances, sunroom, c/a, f/p, parking, near park/river and market, September \$1600. Available long

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199 Kent Towers, Apt. 402, 1 bed room, 5 appliances, interior parking and swimming pool. Rent or own at same price. Excellent terms for serious buyers. 514-932-8050 ext. 225, hhconceptions@hotmail.com

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"The Metropole" \$1950-\$3600/mo. 3 Units available 1065-2130 sq ft of pure luxury. 2 bedrooms plus a den, 2 bathrooms, hardwood floors, 7 stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, underaround parking, utilities included Panoramic views overlooking the Ottawa River, full amenities. Colleen Rushforth Minto Realty Inc. 613-782-2331

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For executives, 1 bedroom + den, open concept, totally renovated. Hardwood and ceramic floor, panoramic view, 24 hoursecurity, 10 minutes to Parliament Hill underground parking, 6 appliances in/out pools, tennis, racquet, squash, etc. Heat, hydro, A/C included. AVAILABLE JULY 1st. \$1400.00. 613-824-1519

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Overlooking the Ottawa River. Three minutes from Parliament Hill and downtown Ottawa. Surrounded by golf courses, bicycle paths, Place Champlain offers a blend of comfort, practicality and luxury at an affordable price. Two bedrooms at \$1,500. For rental information please contact Rene at 613-282-0341

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2 brand new luxury 1 bedroom + der condos, granite counter tops, hard-wood/ceramic, 5 appliances, underground parking, storage locker, \$1495/month + utilities + utilities \$1895/month (unfurnished), (furnished - incl. utilities. Available August 1. www.thesuitespot.net 613-832-5440 NEW - OLD HUNT CLUB

Exciting open concept luxury penthouse. Panoramic windows, 10ft ceilings, 20ft terrace with aas BBO hook-up, 2 bedrooms, den, 2 baths ensuite laundry, gas fireplace, hard wood, 2 indoor parking. \$2200/month heat cooling. 613-730-4597 - evenings.

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2 bedroom apartment. Northwest view central air, 5 appliances, garage, parking, laundry and storage in apartment. Close to 0-train, shopping, bus at door. \$1275/month including utilities. Diane Moorhead, Royal LePage Performance Realty. 613-296-3520

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DOWNTOWN IN 10 MINUTES On Ottawa River in Hull, 2 floors, 2 bathrooms, 5 appliances, fireplace, \$1,175, non-smoker, no pets. 613-762-4773

GLEBE - SPECTACIII AR

Gorgeous, large 2 bedroom + den second floor apartment: open concept living room/dining/kitchen; 2 full baths; hardwood throughout: fireplace: huge deck: 1 parking; 5 appliances; top condition. Close to Brown's Inlet. Walk everywhere. A MUST SEE! Immed. \$1,700 plus utilities. 613-232-3648.

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2 Bedroom Half Double - Clean and Comfortable, Appliances, Conveniently located to Shopping, Byward Market, and Downtown, avail, (August 1st). \$1330/month, gas/all other utils included. Parking included. 612-0677

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BRAND NEW TOWNHOUSE

Minutes from Parliament Hill. 2-bedroom, hardwood floors, 5 appliances, under-ground parking, A/C. \$1800+ hydro & gas. 613-749-6920

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Beautifully renovated row house in quiet neighborhood steps from Art Gallery and Foreign Affairs. 3 bedrooms, den, study, hardwood, private patio, 6 appliances, parking. August 1st. \$1800 + utilities. 613-889-7368

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Modern executive townhome, 2 bedroom plus den, 1.5 baths, 5 appliances, f/p, c/a, deck, garage, security. \$1650 plus utilities. July 1st, 2005. 613-233-4515

CARSON'S GROVE
Great location, brand new 3 bedroom. 3 baths, 5 appliances, hardwood, finished basement. \$1400. Call Corey Olsen. 613-737-7200. Remax

CENTRAL PARK

Luxury 3 bedroom, air conditionina Roman bath, 5 appliances, \$1550, available immediately. 613-828-7521.

GORGEOUS EXECUTIVE \$1650 Townhome backing NCC Greenbelt, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bathrooms, open concept, 12 foot ceilings, finished base-

ment, oversized garage. September 1. 613-290-6208. GREENBANK/HUNT CLUB ROAD WEST Clean 3 bedroom, finished basement, 2 appliances, 1.5 bathrooms.

Incentives in Owner-occupied homes area. Near shopping centre, schools, park and bus route. NO PETS. From \$915/month plus utilities. 613-726-7214 HULL

July 1. 3 bedrooms, 2 fireplaces, air conditioning, 5 appliances, garage, access to outside pool, quiet area. \$1200/month utilities. 819-771-8811

KANATA

Available immediately, 3 bedroom townhouse, 1.5 bathrooms, 2 appliances, fully carpeted, small rear yard, parking includutilities. \$928 613-831-3445 613-257-8629

ROCKCLIFFE MEWS-EXECUTIVE 3 bdrms, 2.5 baths, fam. room, rec room, garage, Aug. 1, \$2000+ util., 288-1500, www.homes-for-rent.com TOWNHOUSE ON ROYAL STREET

In Aylmer. 400' from river. 10 minutes downtown. 3 bedrooms, living room, din-

ing room, garage, central air, large deck with view of river. Hardwood, over 2000 sauare feet. \$1600/month, neaotiable or \$247,000 negotiable. 819-770-1639

0040 HOUSES FOR RENT

130 KFNT

Two bedroom/finished basement for third bedroom - walk to Parliament Hill. 6 appliances, \$1000/month, renovated, tennis, pool, park close. karenclark.007@yahoo.com

15 MINUTES TO

Foreign Affairs, Sussex Drive. Secluded Riverfront property in Cantley, Century old farmhouse with new addition, 2200 sqft, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living and dining rooms, TV room, hoe office, wood stove, fireplace, hardwood/tiles, 5 appliances, alarm, many other features. \$1700 + utilities. Lease September 1. References required. 819-827-4730 evenings.

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ALTA VISTA Bright, spacious, private end unit condo. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms. Ceramic & hardwood floors. September 1. \$1,400. 613-260-5188 http://ca.geocities.com/corona-

tion710@rogers.com ALTA VISTA

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AITA VISTA/KII BORN BIINGAI OW Clean and bright, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, hardwood, central air, wood fireplace, laundry, large backyard, great neighborhood, 10 mins to downtown, available July 1. \$1450/month. 613-223-4557

AVIATION PARKWAY

autiful executive home, 4 bedroom 4 baths, custom open concept design. F/P, finished family room, partially furnished with appliances. Rent \$1700/month. Availability, TBA. 613-692-1263

AYLMER

Close to bridge. Bright, quiet street, recently built, 2200 sq. ft., 4 bed rooms, office, 3.5 baths, finished basement, inground pool, 5 appli ances, August or September, \$1,600. 819-682-7093.

AYLMER EXECUTIVE

Renovated farm house, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 5 appliances, 3 car garage, \$1800 + util. July 15th, 613-288-1500, MUST SEE! www.homes-for-rent.com

AYLMER PARK CHAMPLAIN

3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 6 appliances, finished basement, F/P, A/C, double garage, heated pool. August \$2500. 613-860-0959

AYLMER WATERFRONT

Annual, charming, cozy, fully furnished, 2 bedroom, 5 appliances, laundry room, screened porch, deck, 15 minutes downtown Ottawa. \$2000. 819-684-3666

BARRHAVEN Exceptional 2200 sq ft, 4 bedroom home in desirable family neighbourhood, close to schools, shopping and parks, \$1950 per month. 613-288-8656

CENTRAL PARK Very attractive 4 bedroom semi. 5 appliances, Central air, Fireplace, Carpet, 2.5 bathrooms, Garage \$1600 + utilities. August 613-722-7030 evenings.

CENTRAL/LEBRETON FLATS

Beautiful renovated home, lots of character! Hardwood, 3 bedroom, deck + garden, 5 appliances, parking and A/C. \$1600 + utilities, August 1. 613-263-4438.

CENTRETOWN

Lots of character! Great Location! 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, 5 appl, A/C, parking, July 1. 613-727-1400.

DOWNTOWN NEAR CANAL Completely renovated open concept, 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, pine flooring

throughout, all appliances, fireplace, gas heating, alarm, huge yard with deck and gardens. Available August 2005, \$2300, 613-830-4225 or

EXECUTIVE HOME IN AITA VISTA Brand new 3400 sq. ft. home. 4 bedrooms, extra quest room. 3 bathrooms, hardwood oak floors or ground level, big, bright kitchen, 5 appliances, gas f/p, large den, 2 car garage, next to CHEO and Lycee Claudel. \$3400/month. Available after August 1. 613-523-9097

FOR RENT-STITTSVILLE-2 YEAR LEASE \$2150/month. Single 4 bedroom/ 3 bathrooms. Bernice Bartlett, Sales Representative. 613-592-6400.

GLEBE

1 block from Canal, 2 bedrooms + loft, 3 bathrooms, hardwood, fireplace, garage, 5 appliances, July 1. \$2300 + utilities. 613-739-8465

GLEBE
Clean, quiet, 3 bedroom half double, 5 appliances, garage, yard + garden, verandah. July 1. \$1600 + utilities. 613-232-7249

GLEBE

Cul de sac, between Bank and Canal, executive, 3-4 bedrooms, pine floors, skylight in master, fireplace, parking, deck, large garden. \$2700.613-231-4441

0040 HOUSES FOR RENT

GORGEOUS HOUSE Loft + 2 bedroom. Cantley 20 minutes from Ottawa. Pic www.resoundingvision.com

/house/ 819-827-4754 GRAHAM PARK - EXECUTIVE

4 bedrooms, 2 + 2 baths, 2 fireplaces, double garage, finished basement, July 1. \$2200 + utilities. 613-288-1500. www.homes-for-rent.com

HEARTS DESIRE - STUNNING EXEC. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 5 appliances. Immediately \$2800 negotiable + utilities. 613-288-1500. 2800 negotiable 613-288-1500. www.homes-for-rent.com

HULL HAUTE PLAINE 3+1 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 6 appliances, F/P, A/C, double, garage. September. \$2100. 613-860-0959

HUNT CLUB
Executive single family home, 3300 sq ft, 5 bedroom, 3.5 bathrooms, upgrades throughout, backing onto private green space, \$2200 + utilities 613-260-8438, http://www.geocities.com

ISLAND PARK

robert_chenard/rent.htm

Beautiful brick, 3 + bedrooms, 6 appliances, air conditioning, hardwood floors, fireplace, large backyard, close to transit. \$1700, June. 613-792-1145 or andarak@sympatico.ca

KANATA Single home, 3 bedroom, finished recre-

ation room, air-conditioning, garage. July buses. \$1450+utilities. 613-836-9972 LUXURY HOME MANOTICK droom, waterfront, quiet cul-du-sac \$2600/month, References, 2 year lease preferred. July 1. 613-692-2565

E-mail: frederic@meunier.com MFADOWLANDS & PRINCE OF WALES 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 fireplaces, finished basement, appliances, fenced yard with deck. \$1450 + utilities. August 1.

NEAR LIPLANDS DRIVE

3 bedrooms + studio, double car garage, big back yard, finished basement, 1.5 bathrooms, walk-in closet. Available August 1st. Negotiable. \$2000/month + utilities. 613-741-0553 after 6pm.

NEPEAN

4 bedroom semi, big master bedroom, walk-in closet with ensuite (with a jacuzzi). Finished basement and 3 bathrooms, fireplace, central air, ceramic, hardwood, 5 whirlpool appliances. immediately. \$1700. 613-808-7734

NEW EDINBURGH

Charming heritage stone house facing park at Rideau Falls, 3 bedroom, immediately until July 2006, \$2,800 plus utilities. 613-769-5353

NEW EDINBURGH

Loaded 3 bedroom, 1/2 double, parking, walking distance to Sussex, August 1. 613-727-9837

NEW EDINBURGH Semi detached, 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, finished basement, fireplace, August. 1. \$1600 + utilities. 613-288-1500, www.homes-fore-rent.com

NEW EDINBURGH - UNION STREET rooms, sunroom, garden, parking, close to Sussex and Market. \$2950 + utilities. July 1. 613-741-6623

NEW LUXURY HOME Stunning 4000 sq. ft. 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath in Winding Way, steps from Rideau River and 20 minutes to downtown. Hardwood, large ensuite, many upgrades. \$2800 + utilities. Available

NEW WAKEFIELD HOME Gorgeous location. Cycling, canoeing, 25 minutes to Ottawa. 3 bedrooms,

immediately. 613-889-7368

3 baths. \$1800/mo. 613-266-8666 OLD OTTAWA SOUTH New, upscale custom-built semi. Bright and airy. Hardwood, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 5 appliances, A/C, parking, deck, near schools, canal, parks. \$2,250/mo + utilities. Available, luly 1, 613-232-1954

OLD OTTAWA SOUTH

e-mail: drywalk@bellnet.ca

Off Main Street, near Brantford Park and Rideau River, 3 bedrooms, 2 bothrooms, 5 appliances, fireplace, hardwood floors, garage, available July 18, \$1800, photos at www.wedorentals.com 613-778-3591

ORLEANS FOXWOOD

4000 sq.ft. Hardwood and ceramic, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, basement suite, formal dining & living room, family room with fireplace, double garage, C/Air, alarm, deck, available, July \$2500, Call GATEKEEPER @ 613-830-4225 / 613-277-4225

0040 HOUSES FOR RENT

ORLEANS - STUNNING EXECUTIVE 4 bedrooms, 2 + 2 baths, finished basement, garage, 5 appliances. July 1st. \$1850 + utilities. 613-288-1500 www.homes-for-rent.com

ORLEANS UNICORN

UKLEANS UNILUKN
New large single, 2.5 baths, large
ceramic kitchen, appliances, family
room with fireplace, living & dining
room, fenced yard, deck, alarm, C/Air, double garage, August, \$2200. Call GATEKEEPER @ 613-830-4225 / 613-277-4225

RIDEAU TERRACE

5 bedrooms, charming, Victorian. Air conditioning, backyard, parking. \$2900. Immediately. 613-730-9197

ROTHWELL

ROTHWELL
Immaculate, 2 storey, double garage,
3.5 bathrooms, 4 bedrooms, 2000 sq.
ft, alarm, gas, c/a, hardwood/ceramic
floors, partly finished basement, laundry. Family room with f/p, dining/living/kitchen/powder rooms on first floor. 10 minutes from downtown, 15 minutes by bus, central location close to shopping centres, school and universities, recreational centres. \$2550 + utilities. 6 appliances and drapes. Contact Professor Pandey, 613-837-9992, 613-852-1639. Immediate occupancy.

SANDY HILL

Furnished 2 storey with garden. 3.5 months mid August to November "05". Suitable 1 or 2 persons. Close to U of O, downtown, bus route, no smoking, references required. \$2100/mo. 613-565-6214

STONEBRIDGE EXECUTIVE South Barhaven's "Heart's Desire" neighbourhood, brand new 3 bed-

rooms, 2 baths bungalow, 6 appl, double garage, A/C, available July, 613-747-1400 www.house-rent.com TANGLEWOOD AREA

Quiet neighbourhood, backing on to bicycle paths. 3 bathroom bungalow, 2 baths, finished basement, parquet floors, 5 appliances, excellent condi-tion. August 1; \$1350 + utilities. 613-232-3648

0041 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Embassy row, luxurious, ground floor, all inclusive with parking. \$1200/month. 613-231-7850.

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Byward Market, alternative to hotel living. Minimum 3 month term. 3-5 appliances. Professionally decorated, fine furnishings, fully equipped. 1 + den from \$2,000. 2 bedrooms from \$2,200. Immed & later occupancy. Call: 613-789-4094. Open daily for havings. showings at 24 York www.clarendonlanes.com

SANDY HILL LOFT

Large 1 bedroom loft, 2 baths, den, 5 appliances. August. 1. \$1590 + utilities. 613-288-1500, www.homes-for-rent.com

0043 1 BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR RENT

CANAI VIFW

Large, new, hardwood, ceramic, includes heat, hydro, water, laundry, parking. \$850. 613-371-2778 613-526-2565

CARLING/FISHER New large, washer/dryer, fridge,

stove, free laundry, cable, heat and hydro, central air, tons of storage, enclosed parking, no snow to remove, non-smoker. It's a must see! \$895 all inclusive. 613-728-0863.

LOFT APARTMENTS

Completely renovated. Starting at \$795. Market area, Canal and Glebe. Heat included, all equipped. July. 613-788-2108, 613-788-2109

MARKET AREA

1 bedroom upper floor in Heritage Home, clean, hardwood, porch, private entrance, spacious. Heat included, \$899. August 1st. 613-228-5205.

MARKET-LUXURIOUS & SECURE 1 bdrm, 1 bth, C/A, many amenities Aug. 1. \$1200 all incl. no pkg. 288-1500, www.homes-for-rent.com

NEW EDINBURGH 1 bedroom, 5 appliances, available July 1. \$850 + utilities.

July 1. \$8 6<u>13-747-8465</u>

NEW EDINBURGH

Crighton St. quiet residential area, low rise building, hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, laundry rooms, parking available. Available immediately and June, from \$795 plus hydro. Call:

613-820-6569 WAKEFIELD WATERFRONT

Large, one bedroom + loft with cathedral ceilings. Wood stove. \$850 all inclusive. 819-459-3090

0044 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR RENT

5 MINUTES TO MARKET

15th floor view. Large 2 bedroom. 2 hathroom/ensuite_roofton_nool fitness. Near Transitway. Immediately \$1,270. 613-277-0087

CANAI

Bright, well-maintained, upgraded Main-Echo near Pretoria Bridge. \$1150 included parking/heat. July 1. 613-240-9545, 613-233-9545

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Separate dining room, 3 appliances, heat/hot water included. \$1100. Parking available. September. 613-233-3082, 613-293-1691

DOWNTOWN/GILMOUR & LYON Brand new Executive Triplex, 1 unit left, elegant upgrades, 10 minute walk to Parliament Hill, 2 bdrm, 2 bath, AC, 4 appl. avail immed. 613-727-1400 www.house-rent.com

FIGIN STRFFT ARFA 2 bedrooms, 5 appliances, air condi-

tioning, fireplace, indoor garage. Very clean. Immediately. \$1555. 613-277-0143 **EXECUTIVE LOFT**

Centretown, in century brick home. 2 floors, 1700 square feet, oak hardwood. 4 appliances, air-conditioning,

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www.homes-for-rent.com. RIDEAU TERRACE/LAMBTON

Brick triplex 2nd floor, hardwood, heat, laundry, hydro, \$1250. August 1 613-260-3828

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SANDY HILL Available furnished or unfurnished North. Quiet neighbourhood, new hardwood, newly renovated. \$950 + hydro; including appliances and heat Close to river. 613-978-2743

SANDY HILL - PROFESSIONAL In quiet older home, hardwood floors new kitchen, 3 appliances, laundry large deck, very private. \$1350

0045 3 BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR RENT

AYLMER

Unique, 1700 square feet, with loft. Panoramic river view. 2 bathrooms, fireplace, air conditioning. Across from park & marina. \$1400. 819-682-3757.

0050 FURNISHED RENTALS

A REALITIFUL HERITAGE SETTING Brand new luxury in restored heritage homes steps from Elgin St. Bach 1&2

nomes steps from Eight St. Bach 162, utilities, cable, internet included. Be the first to live in these gorgeous suites! Parking, maid service available. 613-239-0110. www.ottawaexecutivesuites.com

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HOTEL SUITES
Double bed, fridge, microwave, satellite TV, phone, HS internet, weekly cleaning. From \$225/week, \$675/month. 613-277-6132

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Executive condo. Furnished utilities, 2,200 square feet. 3 bedroom + den, 2 bathrooms, 2 storey, marble and oak floors, fireplace, marina, beach, shopping, 12 kilometers to Parliament, short (\$1800) or long (\$1500) term. 819-682-3098

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Shared house with professional, modern kitchen, double living/dining room, private bedroom, and bath. Five appliances, private aarden, deck, All utilities and parking included. \$1100/month. 613-277-3178

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0060 SHARED

ACCOMMODATIONS

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0070 ROOMS FOR RENT

BARRHAVEN Room for rent in lovely quiet home. Students welcome. major bus route.

0088 LOTS FOR SALE

613-823-9450

3 BIIII DING LOTS Close to Smith Falls on paved road, 20 minutes from Kanata. 613-284-1839.

ALMONTE AREA Private hillside building lot. Treed. Panoramic view. 2.69 acres on paved Available immediately. 613-256-2349

0209 ART & ARTISTS

MONTH GALLERY, MERRICKVILLE Contemporary Art: Painting, sculpture, marquetry, jewellery and needlework. NEGRIL PALATE RESTAURANT - Elegant setting for receptions and parties. RUM RUNNER PATIO on the Canal BBQ and tropical drinks. All facilities Open daily 10-10 Closed Mondays (except holi-days). STEPHEN CLARKE mixed-media exhibit opening June 5, 2-5pm in The Negril Palette Dining Room, New Gallery Summer Show opens July 9th. Contact: elinor@mothgallery.com www.mothaallerv.com

0211 ARTICLES FOR SALE

POOL TABLE 100% SOLID WOOD 1" slate, Never Used With All Accessories. MSRP \$5500. Sell: \$2300. Call: 613-291-9009

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Norco Alteres, virtually new, \$850, excellent TR6, \$13,00. Langford Rkevlar canoe \$2200. 613-745-4132 or 613-799-4732

0224 FURNITURE

REDROOM SUITE

Cherry sleigh bed, dresser/mirror, night tables, chest, new still in crate. Cost \$5800. Sell \$2600. 613-761-3834

0227A DOGS

BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG/PUPS CKC European blood lines, great family pets. See before you buy. Ready to go June 11. Call: 519-468-3500 from Monday to Saturday between 4pm-10pm

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Italian cuisine at it's best. Large, groups welcome. Business or pleasure. 2 kms from Parliament in Île De Hull. 77 Promenade Du Portage. For reservations call Anthony: 819-771-2224

0499 FOOD & WINE

LE FRENCH QUARTER

French cuisine with a New Orleans flair. 2 private rooms for business or pleasure Weekdays Happy hour 4-7. Wine, martinis, cocktails and appetizers. 2 kms from Parliament in Île De Hull. 80 Promenade Du Portage. For reservations call Louise:

0500 PARTY PLANNING

LE FRENCH QUARTER

2 private rooms for business or pleasure 1 seats up to 30, the other up to 120; or book entire restaurant up to 300 people. Perfect for cocktails and canopies or dining Plan your event in our beautiful surround 80 Promenade Du Portage.

0530 ENTERTAINMENT

DAVID SMITH MARIONETTES Puppet theatre productions, colorful, fun filled string puppet productions for schools libraries, community, corporate and family events. Visit: www.dspuppet.com Call:

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2001 BUICK CENTURY Mint, sand colour, only 39,000 Km, expensive rust proof, must sell, \$12,500 obo. Call Paul at: 613-748-3379

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0611 MOTORCYCLES

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Property the P&T (Professional Touch) Professional installation of: interlocking pavers, retaining walls, walkways, patios, driveways, sodding & more. Call 613-794-1822 for free estimates.

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dandbreakfasts.com/antique slumber.htm A fifth generation home. Private entrance. Walking distance to theatres, shops and dining. Three bedrooms, Queen, Twin, King rooms, ensuite baths with jet air tubs, televisions, A/C

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Celso de Tarso Pereira (left) is the new Second Secretary at the Embassy of Brazil. German Ambassador Christian Pauls (right) wrapped up his term in Canada, and is off to Ireland.

Brazilian Trade-Law Diplomat Hoping To Pick Up On Ottawa's Political Nuances

DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES By Christina Leadlay

66 Tt's a change of area for me," says Celso de Tarso Pereira of his new assignment at the Embassy of Brazil. The Second Secretary is setting aside his experience in trade law for knowledge of political and administrative affairs. Mr. Pereira arrived in Ottawa on May 31, succeeding First Secretary Bernardo Paranhos Velloso who departed about a year ago, says Mr. Pereira.

After completing his Master of Law degree in Germany in 1992, Mr. Pereira returned to Brazil and began teaching international law at the Pontifícia Universidade Católica in his hometown of Curitiba. He moved to Brasilia in 1996 to teach at the UniCEUB, the same year he decided to join the foreign service. "It was a good challenge and I liked it," says Mr. Pereira of the five-year period in which he both taught and worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a job he admits was not easy. In 1999, he became Assistant Professor of International Law to Professor Antonio Cançado Trindade - who is now President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights - at Brazil's diplomatic academy. Meanwhile, Mr. Pereira was working in the Mersocul division at Foreign Affairs, where he was responsible for trade law, particularly consumer and competition law. "In general I was responsible for dispute settlements," says Mr. Pereira, who has also authored numerous publications, including a 2001 book on Brazílio Itiberê da Cunha, a composer and diplomat who pioneered Brazilian classical music. In 2001, Mr. Pereira was assigned on his first overseas posting to Geneva, where he worked on dispute settlements at the World Trade Organization, including the aircraft dispute between Canadian firm Bombardier and Brazilian firm Embraer.

His term in Geneva ended earlier this year, and he came to Ottawa directly. "It will be a different experience here," says Mr. Pereira. "In Geneva, I was working with multilateral relationships, with the UN, WTO and other international organizations. Here, it's my first experience with bilateral relations." At the embassy in Ottawa, Mr. Pereira is Chief Administrator, and is also responsible for political affairs. "I have never done this before," he says of taking care of how the embassy and the residence are run. "This is completely different, and it's a challenge with political affairs to follow what's happening in internal Canadian politics and Canada's international foreign policy," he says, noting that grappling with issues like Canada's commitment to the UN, the 0.7 per cent foreign aid touchstone, participation in Haiti, and Brazil-Canada relations are the main items on his agenda. "I have to adopt political skills, to grasp political nuances," he says.

It's been almost 15 years since Canada has sent an ambassador to Iraq, but on June 22, Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew announced that Canada's current ambassador to Jordan, **John Holmes**, will be accredited to Iraq. "The appointment of a non-resident ambassador represents an important step in the re-establishment of Canada's diplomatic representation in Iraq," said Mr. Pettigrew in a press release. "It will also smooth the process of re-establishing a Canadian embassy and improve the delivery of Canada's \$300 million program to support reconstruction." Mr. Holmes studied law at Montreal's McGill University. He joined the Department of External Affairs the same year he graduated, in 1982, and has been posted to Canada's missions in Bridgetown, Accra, and to the UN in New York. He has served as Director of the Legal Advisory Division at headquarters in Ottawa, and from 2002 to 2003, he directed the UN Human Rights and Economic Law Division. Mr. Holmes was appointed as Ambassador to Jordan in July 2003, and will continue to reside there as Ambassador to Iraq.

After four years as Germany's Ambassador to Canada, **Christian Pauls** has departed from Ottawa, leaving the embassy in the hands of Minister Counsellor Sabine Sparwasser in the interim. Mr. Pauls served in the military for two years before studying law at the Universities of Freiburg, Montpellier and Hamburg between 1965 and 1970. Upon graduating and writing his exams, Mr. Pauls practiced law in Hamburg for a few years before deciding to join his country's foreign service. In 1975, he began two years of diplomatic training in Bonn, and began working at the German Foreign Office in 1977. Throughout his career, Mr. Pauls has served at his country's embassies in Athens, New Delhi, Rome and Washington. In 1996, he became Head of Division in the Political Department at the German Foreign Office, and three years later was promoted to the position of Director-General. In 2001, Mr. Pauls was assigned as Ambassador to Canada. Four years later, he is off to serve in the same capacity in Dublin, Ireland. In the embassy's most recent newsletter, he said "Canada has been the place of many interesting and inspiring encounters for us. A place where people are friendly and openminded and friendships are formed easily. In fact, it might not be the breathtaking scenery or the interesting political and cultural life, but Canada's people more than anything else that we will keep as our most cherished memory of these years." Due to the upcoming elections in Germany, Mr. Pauls' successor will be assigned later this year.

Finally, two diplomats from the Embassy of the Philippines have recently returned home. Angel D. Espiritu, Cultural Affairs Attaché, and Jerril G. Santos, Minister and Consul General, both departed in March after each serving six years in Ottawa. Mr. Santos' successor, Joseph Gerard Angeles arrived in May. As well, the Australia High Commission said goodbye to First Secretary Leona Landers whose last day in the office was June 22.

Disaster Shouldn't Be A Commercial Opportunity

Continued from Page 3

The launch pad will be "needs assessments" for individual countries, including the hardest hit - India, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Indonesia, prepared by the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other organizations, he said.

'There have always been parts of the Canadian private sector involved with humanitarian relief. But Canadians generally haven't pursued [post-tsunami relief] as a commercial opportunity," he said. The revival of public service infrastructure is the biggest opportunity for Canadian industry. For instance, Banda Aceh in Indonesia had been closed to foreigners for almost 20 years, and as such there is a need for water and sanitation facilities that didn't exist before December.

"The biggest challenge that Canadians

face is that their technology level is more than can be afforded," said Mr. Wolfrom. For instance, initial estimates show that the average cost to build low-cost housing in the region will be about \$5,000 (US).

Consider Eli Ronen, president of Can-Do International in Mississauga. Larly this year, he dusted off blueprints for garage-size row homes that he'd developed for the Indonesia market in the mid '90s but had been prevented from pursing because of political instability in the country. He said his plan relies on the use of local labour and supplies, which all governments and aid agencies agree is a must, and could produce up to 50 to 75 shelters "affordably."

Or consider Hugh MacKay, a sales rep with Intermap Technologies of Ottawa. He said the development of a database that charts out the geographic changes to the tsunami-affected landscape is an area his company could become involved. Mr. MacKay said he's hoping to balance "serving the public good and being responsible to shareholders" by hanging onto the intellectual rights of mapping information, but selling licences to governments at a low cost "It behooves the commercial sector not to be profit-driven in a disaster. But we have a role to play [even though] we are looking at commercial value." he said.

Some say the best business Canadian citizens can offer at this stage is tourism through a straight injection of cash into the region.

The \$425 million in public funds isn't tied to Canadian procurement.

Louis Musto, program manager in the International division of the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, is dealing directly with Canadian building suppliers and manufacturers of factory built homes that "don't know how to access [tsunami reconstruction contracts.]" Most market studies indicate that in the short term the emphasis is on local skills and labour to help reinvenate the country. But in the long-term there may be opportunities for Canadian companies. We're not sure how or if we can." But he noted that "NGOs are on the frontlines and we're learning from them."

The Tsunami Private Sector Working Group led by International Trade Canada involves numerous federal departments. It is mandated to explore commercial opportunities for Canadian companies. It set up a 1-800 hotline for business inquiries and helped compile sector reports.

– Sarah McGregor





Australia

The Australia High Commission was busy this week. First, they celebrated Canada's National Aboriginal Day, June 21, with a screening of Australian indigenous animated short films on Victoria Island. Then on June 25, the AHC challenged the British High Commission at its annual cricket match, which the AHC has won six years running.

- 1. William Fisher, High Commissioner of Australia, with Francis Bird of the Colomb Cree Nation Tribe from Manitoba.
- 2. The Australian High Commission cricket team on the pitch at Rideau Hall. Sadly, the game was rained out, with the UK team two wickets down for 34 runs after 14 overs, chasing 135 runs to win. The AHC retains the trophy.







Kingston Party

Speaker of the House Peter Milliken invited his diplomatic friends to his riding of Kingston, ON for a party on June 24. A reception was held at Old Fort Henry, followed by a bar becue at the Vimy Officers' Mess.

- 6. Speaker of the House Peter Milliken (right) and his co-host Speaker of the Senate Dan Hays (centre) with Mieczyslaw Olender, Counsellor, Embassy of Poland.
- 7. Maria Toledo Arcos, wife of the ambassador of Chile; Kathy Hays, wife of the Speaker of the Senate; Dalia Baker, wife of the Ambassador of Israel; and Dominique Thalmann, wife of the Ambassador of Switzerland.
- 8. Martin Mpana, Chargé d'Affaires of Cameroon; Mamadou Diawara, Ambassador of Mail; Déo Nkusi, First Counsellor, Embassy of Rwanda; and Kennedy A. Malista, High Commissioner of Malawi.

EMBASSY

Party Time







Saudi Goodbye

A farewell dinner to the Dean of the Arab Ambassadors, Mohammed Al-Husseini Al-Sharif, was hosted by the General Union of Egyptians Abroad and the Arab Canadian Cultural and Media Centre at the Press Club on June 22.

- 3. Senator Marcel Prud'homme; Iman Atallah, wife of the outgoing ambassador of Saudi Arabia; Aydemir Erman, Ambassador of Turkey, Mohammed Al-Sharif, Ambassador of Saudi Arabia; and Gulen Erman, wife of the ambassador of Turkey.
- 4. Senator Pierre DeBane; Liberal MP Yasmin Ratansi; Conservative Foreign Affairs Critic Stockwell Day, Independent MP Carolyn Parrish, Mrs. Atallah and Mr. Al-Sharif.
- 5. Liberal MP and Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Affairs Minister Dan McTeague and Ms. Parrish.





Czech Republic

The Deputy Defence Minister of the Czech Republic was in Ottawa on June 23, meeting with Canadian Defence Minister Bill Graham that afternoon, before heading to Toronto for a medal ceremony.

- Pavel Vosalik, Ambassador of the Czech Republic (right); and Jaroslava Pribylova, Deputy Minister of Defense Czech Republic.
- 10. Colonel Dobroslaw Maka, Defence, Attaché, Embassy of Poland; Brig. Gen. Jan Petras, Defence Attaché, Embassy of the Czech Republic; Captain Allan Larrett, National Defence Canada; and Captain Victor V. Nikitin, Defence Attaché, Embassy of Russia.



Earnscliffe Summer Ball

The British High Commissioner and his wife hosted the Earnscliffe Summer Ball on June 25.

- 11. British High Commissioner David Reddaway; his wife Roshan Reddaway; and actor Paul Gross.
- 12. Mr. Reddaway and Governor General Adrienne Clarkson.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAKE WRIGHT

Austria

The Embassy of Austria hosted a garden party on June 26 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the acclaimed chamber orchestra Thirteen Strings who performed

- 13. Otto Ditz, Ambassador of Austria; Anna Gimborn, Intern, Embassy of Austria; and Matthias Radosztics, Director of the Austrian Cultural Forum, Embassy of Austria.
- 14. Jean-Francois Rivest, Conductor, Thirteen Strings Chamber Orchestra: with violinist Mitchell Gibbens-Schneider, 11 years old, and winner of the Thirteen Strings Scholarship at the 2005 Kiwanis Music Festival.





DragonBoat

The 12th annual Ottawa Dragon Boat Festival was held at Mooney's Bay June 25-26 with about 180 teams participating, including the Hill Times/Embassy team, which placed 19th overall.