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EMBASSY

CANADA'S FOREIGN POLICY NEWSWEEKLY

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HIGH HOPES FOR NEW CIDA BOSS



PHOTOGRAPH BY SAM GARCIA

CIDA's surprise choice for its president is hailed as a positive sign

By Sarah McGregor

About a month ago, researcher Robert Greenhill strode onto Parliament Hill and thrust his new study into the hands of politicians, confirming the creeping suspicions of foreign policy gurus in Ottawa. His survey of prominent outside observers showed Canada's international credentials had suffered serious setbacks in the past 15 years. But that could be reversed, Mr. Greenhill told a Commons Foreign Affairs Committee in mid-April.

Canada must hike foreign aid and keep in place the international cooperation minister and senior public servants managing that portfolio for years, not months, said Mr. Greenhill, a then-visiting senior executive with the International Development Research

Centre, a federal arm's length research body. Now, it appears someone in Ottawa was listening carefully and Mr. Greenhill might get a chance to act on his recommendations.

Yesterday, Mr. Greenhill took up presidency of the Canadian International Development Agency, and is now its highest-ranking public servant. He replaces Paul Thibault, who retired from the public service earlier this month.

News of the appointment was slowly winding through the political grapevine late last week, with opposition parties and development experts saying that, at first blush, Mr. Greenhill is an excellent candidate.

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Burma

House Votes To Isolate Burma

Motion passes without Liberal support

By Sarah McGregor

A sweeping motion to ban Canadian investment in Burma and provide Parliamentary support to the democratic government-in-exile passed in the House of Commons this week without the backing of Liberal parliamentarians.

All three opposition parties — the Bloc, Conservatives and NDP — voted in favour of the non-binding motion that also asked for the release of Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of the National League for Democracy, who has been under house arrest, almost consistently, for 15 years. The military junta refused to hand over power to the leader after losing multi-party elections in 1990.



PHOTOGRAPH FROM
THE HILL TIMES FILES

Liberal MP and member of the Canada-Burma Parliamentary Friendship Group, Maria Minna.

The motion also called for a review of bilateral rules that restrict trade movement and greater pressure at the United Nations to endorse sanctions against Burma.

Foreign Affairs advised Liberal MPs to reject the motion because one provision would have breached government custom by recognizing a political party, rather than the nation state. The section at issue reads: "Provide tangible support to the legitimate authorities in Burma, specifically the government in exile (the National Coalition government for the Union of Burma) and the Committee Representing the People's Parliament."

Still, human rights groups are claiming a

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EMBASSY

Talking Points

Young Journalist Awards



PHOTOGRAPH BY SAM GARCIA

Ambassador **Eric Hayes**, Head of Delegation of the European Commission to Canada with Minister **Saskia de Lang**, Deputy Head of Mission, Netherlands Embassy (back row right), presided over the EU-Canada Young Journalist Awards Ceremony, at the National Press Club May 19. The jubilant winners were **Sarah Toom**, B.C. Institute of Technology; **Ruth Sylvestre**, Carleton University, Ottawa; and **Julie Brunet**, Université de Montréal. The keynote speaker at the ceremony was **Rita Celli** of CBC News (second left, front row). EU Commission Press Officer **Roy Christensen** was MC for the occasion. Mr. Hayes described the young journalist program, and Ms. de Lang, representing the EU Presidency, spoke on behalf of the EU diplomatic missions in Ottawa. Ms. Celli described her own introduction into the world of journalism. From May 30 to June 3, 2005, the three winners will travel to Europe for a week-long study tour of EU institutions in Brussels.

Strained Iran-Canada Relations

Reuters reported this week that Tehran is firing back at Ottawa for severing major diplomatic ties with Iran. Iranian-born journalist, **Zahra Kazemi**, died in Iranian custody in 2003 after being arrested for capturing demonstrations on film. Canada took hard action against Iran this month when a second trial was suspended with no sign of a verdict. The Iranian Embassy in Ottawa says the new date for the appeal court has been set for July 25, but could provide no further details.

EVERY MONDAY

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Canada Revises Offer

The Canadian government submitted its revised General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) market access to the World Trade Organization (WTO) on May 18. The revision is part of ongoing discussions on GATS within the WTO. GATS outlines to what extent Canada is prepared to open its markets in exchange for improved access to foreign markets. The revision contains a number of amendments to Canada's initial GATS offer, which was submitted in March 2003. In the new GATS offer, Canada extends improved market access commitments in accounting, engineering and legal services; financial services; courier services; tourism and related services; transport services; the temporary movement of business people; commercial presence; and exemptions to the 'most favoured nation' principle. The new offer also stipulates that health, public education, social services and culture are all exempt from any agreement. "Our offer clearly indicates that Canada's public services are not up for negotiation," said International Trade Minister **Jim Peterson**.

Deputy Minister Speaks

Margaret Bloodworth, Deputy Minister for Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, gave a speech May 19 at a symposium put on by the Norman Patterson School for International Affairs and the Security Intelligence Review Committee. Her speech focused on the steps the Canadian government has taken to balance the competing demands of security and individual rights. "Since 2001, the Government of Canada has made additional investments of more than \$9.5 billion in initiatives to strengthen national security, improve our emergency preparedness and response," Ms. Bloodworth said. The Deputy Minister's remarks also touched upon the importance the government places on reviewing security initiatives. She pointed out that the auditor general had concluded in a recent report that "some agencies had not given sufficient weight to security concerns when deciding whether or not to share personal information," and that the government had made the necessary changes suggested by the auditor general.

Abbas In Ottawa



Palestinian Authority President **Mahmoud Abbas** will be in Ottawa late this week and is expected to meet with Prime Minister **Paul Martin**, Foreign Affairs Minister **Pierre Pettigrew**, and business leaders. Minister Pettigrew met with Mr. Abbas in February while in Ramallah. Canada has indicated strong support for the upcoming Palestinian elections and the reform of Palestinian governance.

Tenzin's A Tory?



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY TENZIN DARGYAL

Although the press conference announcing his candidacy for the federal Conservative Party in an urban Quebec riding was overshadowed by the media furor surrounding **Belinda Stronach's** defection, **Tenzin Dargyal** is still having to answer a lot of questions from friends and family about his decision to enter electoral politics. Speaking to *Embassy* on May 24, the well-known activist, who has served fulltime for the last two years as the head of the Canada-Tibet committee, said that his work on behalf of the Tibetan cause has given him insight into the political process. "I've tried my best to change Ottawa from the outside," Mr. Dargyal said. "Now I'm ready to do it from inside." Following talks with three federal political parties, Mr. Dargyal made the decision to join the Conservatives. "I'd like to make it very clear that I'm not just a one-issue person," Mr. Dargyal said, noting his background in media and business. If elected in the next general election, he will step down from his role as head spokesman for the Tibetan community in Canada.

Gen. Dallaire Scholarship

The University of Ottawa and Senator **Roméo Dallaire** have announced the creation of the General Dallaire Scholarship in International Humanitarian Law, aiming at enhancing Canada's ability to participate and assist in complex international situations. "International Humanitarian Law is one of the world's fastest growing areas of law," said **Bruce Feldthusen**, Dean of U of O's Law School. "This is an area where Canadian law graduates can make a meaningful contribution to humanity." To establish the scholarship, law firm Borden Ladner Gervais LLP will host a benefit gala with live and silent auctions at the Canadian War Museum, featuring Mr. Dallaire as keynote speaker. Among the items available for auction are group dinners at the Finnish, Saudi Arabian and UAE Embassies, and a round of golf with former Prime Minister **Jean Chrétien**. The gala will be held on May 30th, from 6 - 10 p.m. in the Lebreton Gallery, Canadian War Museum, 1 Vimy Place, Ottawa. Tickets are \$80. Contact 613-787-3529.

Softwood Duties Illegal

A **North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Dispute Settlement Panel** has ruled that countervailing duties on Canadian softwood lumber imposed by the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) are contrary to U.S. law, and that the DOC should amend its policies. As a result of three earlier NAFTA Panel decisions in the case, the DOC has reduced the original subsidy finding from 18.79 to 1.88 per cent. However, Canadian exporters continue to pay a 16.37 per cent subsidy rate imposed by the DOC following its December 2004 countervailing duty administrative review. Canada argues that Canadian lumber production is not subsidised, and that the DOC's current rate is unjust.

Canada From The Outside In

From May 25 to 27, some 60 Canadianists from all over the world will converge on Ottawa to discuss and debate how Canada is perceived, imagined and compared beyond its own borders. The International Council for Canadian Studies is hosting its biennial conference, which takes place at the University of Ottawa, Carleton University, and the new Canadian War Museum. Two panel sessions will take place each day, featuring four topics per session. Presenters include **Nir Kedar** (Israel): "The Canadianization of Israeli Law: Historical and Cultural Analysis;" **Raul Rodriguez** (Cuba): "Canada's Latin America Policy: Perceptions from the South;" and **Usha Dhawan** (India): "Medicare For Women As A Global Challenge: The Case of Canada and India." For more information, contact the University of Ottawa's Canadian Studies Department: www.canada.uOttawa.ca

No Visa for Dr. Tewolde

Canada has been scolded for denying a visa to Ethiopian environmentalist **Tewolde Berhan Gebre Egziabher**, who was scheduled to attend the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in Montreal May 25 -27 2005. Mr. Egziabher is Africa's Chief Negotiator for the UN Convention on Biodiversity, and was expected to play a key role in negotiations surrounding the regulation and trade of genetically engineered organisms. This denial is seen by many as a threat not only to the issue of GMOs, but also to Canada's role in the UN Biodiversity Convention. "In barring Dr. Tewolde from participating in the Montreal meetings, Canada is jeopardizing Montreal's future as a United Nations city," says **Eric Darier** with Greenpeace in Montreal. Montreal was chosen as the location of the UN Biodiversity Secretariat, in part for its easy access for foreign diplomats to attend international meetings. Reports say that Citizenship and Immigration, and Foreign Affairs Canada, have been unable to offer an explanation of the visa rejection.

Mercosur-Canada Talks

As a follow up to the negotiations between Mercosur and Canada in Ottawa last February, delegates met in Asuncion, Paraguay on May 17 to start the second round of talks aimed at reaching an understanding in goods, services and investments. **Elaine Feldman**, Deputy Secretary of Trade, was part of the Canadian delegation in Paraguay last week, and said she was confident that discussions would progress "since we have identified specific areas for increasing trade."

Correction

("Kidnapped in Kabul," May 18, 2005) The wife of the Ambassador of Afghanistan is Khorshied Samad.

International Committees This Week

Neither the Senate nor the House of Commons is sitting this week. Parliament resumes May 30.

Monday, May 30

Senate Special Committee on the Anti-Terrorism Act Room 160-S, Centre Block. Clerk: Heather Lank (613-990-5013; amti-t@sen.parl.gc.ca). 10:30 a.m. Webcast. Review of the anti-terrorism act continues today in three parts, the first with witnesses from the Office of the Information Commissioner of Canada: John Reid, Information Commissioner; Alan Leadbeater, Deputy Information Commissioner; Dan Dupuis, Director General, Investigation and Reviews; and Daniel Brunet, General Counsel.

Senate Special Committee on the Anti-Terrorism Act Room 160-S, Centre Block. Clerk: Heather Lank (613-990-5013; amti-t@sen.parl.gc.ca). 1 p.m. Webcast. The day's second installment of the anti-terrorism act review featuring testimony from Andrew Brouwer, Member of the Executive Committee, Canadian Council for Refugees; Lorne A. Waldman, Member, National Citizenship and Immigration Law Section, Canadian Bar Association; and Barbara Jackman as an individual.

Senate Special Committee on the Anti-Terrorism Act

Room 160-S, Centre Block. Clerk: Heather Lank (613-990-5013; amti-t@sen.parl.gc.ca). 7 p.m. Webcast. Hon. Reg Alcock, President of the Treasury Board, will appear before the Senate's special committee reviewing the anti-terrorism act, as will witnesses Helen McDonald, Chief Information Officer; and Donald Lemieux, Senior Director, both from the Treasury Board of Canada.

Tuesday May 31.

Senate Foreign Affairs Committee Room 160-S, Centre Block. Clerk: François Michaud. (613-998-0424; foraffetrang@sen.parl.gc.ca). 5 p.m. Webcast. The Senate's Special Committee on Africa sits today, featuring an appearance by Dr. Venancio Massingue, Minister of Science and Technology, Mozambique; followed by witness Maureen O'Neil, President, International Development Research Centre (IDRC) at 6 p.m.

— For complete, up-to-date committee listings, visit www.parl.gc.ca

Nepal Becoming No-go Zone

Canada stays as other aid agencies pull out after attacks on humanitarian workers

By Sarah McGregor

The extraordinary move of four foreign aid agencies this month to suspend operations in Kalikot, one of the poorest districts of Nepal, came after two staff members were reportedly beaten, asked to dig their own graves, and robbed by Maoist rebels.

Canada's development agency, which runs projects in three nearby communities, wasn't part of that group of donor nations, which included Britain, Germany, the Netherlands and the World Food Programme. But the incident gave pause to Robert Hamilton, the Canadian International Development Agency's chief of operations, also responsible for India and the politically divided nations of Sri Lanka and Afghanistan.

At an interview from the CIDA headquarters in Gatineau, Mr. Hamilton said he isn't shocked by an act of violence in a country that has seen more than 12,000 casualties in a power struggle between rebels and government since 1995. The UN reports that 100,000 people have been displaced since the rebellion.

"Something like this happens and certainly you check to see if your assumptions are correct about the safety of people," said Mr. Hamilton. "Did it cause us to go into panic mode? No."

He is, however, closely tracking any possible pattern of attacks on humanitarian workers. "If you see a trend where aid workers are being targeted perhaps to drive them out of the region then we might, in fact, find ourselves [considering more options]," he said. "It puts up warning flags, and you have to watch it." That is already being done through an established reporting system – which includes culling media reports of the frequency and types of attacks, as well as analyzing intelligence collected from local

contacts and the lone CIDA representative in the country. So far, aid workers in Nepal aren't being driven out of the country by attacks, like their peers in other conflict zones such as Iraq and Afghanistan, said Mr. Hamilton.

One CIDA official operates from Kathmandu and embarks on field missions to remote regions – but only on days that villagers report it's safe to do so. His travels revolve around the handful of projects that CIDA funds, mostly health and agriculture initiatives in the west and south. Canadian non-profits on the ground, and the Canadian Cooperation Office – a coordination body – hire local people and rely heavily on community-based organizations to gain understanding. "You have to work with local groups that have acceptance on both sides," he said. "It would be very hard to deliver something like that with Canadians directly."

He added: "We don't take risks – we're not cowboys."

In Nepal, the internal turmoil has been worsening over several years and reached new heights in February when King Gyandendra tossed out a multi-party government, saying it failed to quell the Maoist rebels. There has been weak law and order since the royal takeover, with peaceful and violent street protestors demanding their democratic rights be restored. The monarchy in Kathmandu retains extraordinary powers.

In other parts of the country, widespread unrest has caused Mr. Hamilton to "lower our expectations" for Nepal's \$5.5 million annual Canadian aid program. "Long-term effectiveness is compromised by conflict," he said, noting the situation is "gradually eroding." "People just want to do their job. The important thing is to be seen – and to be – neutral, not to be favouring one side over the other," he said.



PHOTOGRAPH BY SARAH MCGREGOR, EMBASSY

Robert Hamilton, Chief of Operations for Nepal, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and India at CIDA.

Almost four years ago the Montreal-based Canadian Centre for International Studies and Cooperation, known by its French acronym CECI, pulled all its Canadian volunteers from projects in isolated Nepalese regions due to security concerns, according to François Lafrenière, a senior program officer. "It's a high security environment, and the issue is visibility," said Mr. Lafrenière, adding about 15 staff members now work from Kathmandu, the capital city. CECI has replaced Western aid workers with Asian employees, expensive foreign-made jeeps with Indian vehicles, and massive training sessions with personal

mentorships. He said if the situation sinks deeper it could also mean transforming their overall mandate – from development work into emergency relief operations. "It could be escalating to the point that we would have to stop or suspend activities. We are monitoring this," he said.

The Canadian response to the security of humanitarian workers in Nepal is an ongoing concern, said Mr. Hamilton. "A decision like withdrawing from a region is a policy decision that has to be taken carefully," he said. "It's based from a large degree [on] the input from the field. You are dealing with the realities of the situation."

Canadian Election Observers In Lebanon

Senator Mac Harb to join them in historic observations

By Christina Leadlay

Lebanon is gearing up for what has been called an historic election on June 5, with Canada joining other international observers in making sure the vote runs smoothly. On May 19, Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew and International Cooperation Minister Aileen Carroll announced that 20 Canadian observers will be sent to the Middle Eastern nation to monitor the four-phase elections expected to begin on May 29, lasting for three consecutive Sundays until June 5. Liberal Senator Mac Harb, a veteran of numerous international election observer missions and former a politician himself, is one of the Canadian observers. He departs for Beirut on May 25.

The Canadian delegation is divided into two groups, explains Mr. Harb. "One is part of the European Union Observers and another group which is going by itself with the support of the embassy in terms of logistics and in terms of support there," he explains. "The mandate of those two groups will be complimentary, in a sense, both to support the democratic institutions that are in Lebanon, and to be there to

observe." Keeping an eye on polling stations, voter and candidate registration, and "the general environment under which an election is taking place," are the main duties of election observers, according to the Senator. "The delegation, the one which is a part of the EU, will be going over all of the things that pertain to the actual process. The other group will be leaving [May 25], and they will be there for probably about five or six days and then they'll be back. I am involved with both groups and so as a result I'll be going back and forth between the two groups to ensure that we are doing the job that we have set out to do, and that is to provide support for the institution," he says.

Along with the Canadian observers, Mr. Harb notes that Australia is sending two teams, the United Nations has a logistical team on the ground, and the European Union is deploying a delegation of 90, which will round out to 100 with the addition of the 10 Canadians. "And of course you have to bear in mind that all the embassies in Beirut will be on the look out and they will be involved in the actual observation, but may not necessarily be involved in the actual process itself. They are on the ground so obviously they can hear and

see," says Mr. Harb.

Like Senator Harb, who has observed elections in Afghanistan, Yemen and in the Gaza Strip – not to mention elections in Canada – members of the Canadian delegation are expected to be "people who have a certain experience in the field that would have done it before, they would have some knowledge of the electoral process," he says, noting that finding objective observers can be a challenge. "That is why an observer is not to say anything about the result of or the process that is taking place, but rather to make the observation at the end of the process. Therefore, one of the codes of conduct for an observer is to say nothing while an election is taking place, but rather to give your comment at the end," he explains. "In a sense like what we have here, political parties have their own observers or monitors and they are guided by certain principles and certain guidelines and they have to follow through on those. For an international observer, it's even that much more complicated because you just do not want to be perceived as interfering or tampering in the process, so you have to take extra care," says Senator Harb.



PHOTOGRAPH FROM THE HILL TIMES FILES

Senator Mac Harb is heading to Lebanon on May 25 as part of Canada's 20-member delegation of election observers.

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OPINION

Canada Must Resist 'Quickie' Show In Darfur

By Richard Gwyn

Are Canadians imperialists deep down in their hearts? Nice imperialists, of course, not trying to exploit other people let alone to conquer them and repress them. But imperialists nonetheless in that term's core meaning, i.e., of a people out to make other people adopt their own ways. The answer, I will argue, is Yes. We are far more imperialistic than we know or care to know about ourselves.

The descriptive term for this attitude, and of the national policy that flows from it, is "liberal imperialism." It was minted by British diplomat Robert Cooper who's had a lot of influence on Prime Minister Tony Blair and who, by coincidence, was in Toronto earlier this month to deliver a speech.

Liberal imperialists go about the world doing good to others — as they themselves define the good. Most times, liberal imperialists use peaceable means, like foreign aid and education and politico-diplomatic pressure.

But at times they use force, as did Blair in supporting the U.S. invasion of Iraq. And as Canada is now proposing to do in the Darfur region of Sudan. Prime Minister Paul Martin has announced that up to 100 Canadian soldiers will go to the Darfur region where, over the past two years, there has been widespread killing and mass rapes and the forced movement of people from their homes (close to 2 million).

Perhaps 200,000 have died, from fighting, starvation and disease. Darfur is the world's biggest humanitarian and moral crisis today. There is widespread frustration at the United Nations' failure to intervene actively, and at the slow pace of action by the African Union which, so far, has sent in only some 2,500 peacekeepers.

In no way will Canada's involvement be like that of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq. Our soldiers will be unarmed, not even with pistols. But we will be sending troops into another

country without the permission of its government. Sudan's ambassador in Ottawa, Faiza Hassan Taha, has said our troops will not be welcome because, "This plan has never been consulted or negotiated with the government of Sudan."

The great champion of involvement in Darfur is independent MP David Kilgour. Kilgour is demanding that Canada send in 500 soldiers and for "tens of thousands of Atlantic alliance (NATO) quality troops with a robust mandate to protect civilians."

There is an urgent case for Canada, as well as the world, to act aggressively in Darfur. A risk exists of a second Rwanda-type slaughter.

But, the terrible events in Darfur, while they certainly include mass killings, do not add up to genocide, at least according to the UN itself.

But, again. The government of Sudan has just signed a peace agreement to end another civil war, in its south where the death toll is 2 million. A political solution in Darfur, thus, is at least possible.

But, again. The member-states of the African Union overwhelmingly reject outside, or foreign, intervention.

A last "but" that is by far the most important. There are justifications for liberal-type imperialism. Darfur may well be one of these.

If we are going to act like imperialists, we must act as did the old imperialists: at their best. A quick in-and-out intervention will merely get the crisis off the front pages and make us feel good about ourselves. To truly deal with the problem, though — effectively, it will require a regime change — we need to intervene and then stay until the job is done.

As Martin hasn't yet cared to say, if we intervene in Darfur, we'll need to be there for about as long as will the Americans in Iraq — or perhaps for 10 years.

We like to say that "the world needs more Canada." It does. But it needs us for real, not just for a quickie show.

LETTERS

Ms. Stronach's Ideology

For one as independently wealthy as Belinda Stronach, it is clear that her defection to the Liberal side of the House was ideologically driven, rather than as her enemies sadly paint, one of 'blonde ambition.' However, behind that ideology for a better world, did she carry with her the conviction that Canadians live up to their stale, 35-year old commitment to 0.7 per cent of GDP for international aid?

Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew recently made the umpteenth Liberal promise since party forebear Lester Pearson that

"we have made a commitment to reach 0.7 per cent... we have not laid out a timetable or particular targets. I do hope that we will reach that level." How adroit!

Perhaps as a newly minted cabinet minister, Ms. Stronach can share her ideological conviction and help Canada clearly set the target for keeping its promise as have many of our OECD partners.

**Richard C. Mitchell, Lecturer
Department of Child
and Youth Studies
Brock University**

No Plan B: The French EU Referendum

By Gwynne Dyer

President Jacques Chirac's tone now often verges on the desperate. "How can we renegotiate?" he asked French voters in early May. "Do you really believe it is serious to say that? There's not the shadow of a chance....Renegotiation does not exist. There is no Plan B."

Most French presidents end up feeling frustrated by the French people, the most mulish and contrary electorate on the planet. Chirac's current frustration is driven by their ambivalence about the new constitution of the European Union, which they must approve or reject in a referendum on May 29. As recently as last September, 69 per cent of French voters backed the constitution, but then they realized that it gave them a chance to say 'no' to a government that they dislike for quite different reasons: high unemployment and slow growth — and the 'yes' vote began to slide.

By March, the 'yes' was barely ahead of the 'no,' and the lead has been passing back and forth between

every existing EU treaty as well. That's where the bulk of the text comes from, but it also adds a bill of rights, an elected EU president with a 30-month term, and a single foreign minister, plus the new "qualified majority" rule that promises to bring more flexibility and more democracy to the decision-making process. All this in dense legal language that allows ample scope for paranoia to grow among disaffected voters.

There would be little problem in getting the new constitution ratified if the process mostly involved votes in legislatures, and usually that's how it works in the EU: the German and Italian parliaments, for example, have already ratified the new constitution. A few smaller EU countries are constitutionally obliged to hold referenda on this sort of change, but if they say 'no' it doesn't necessarily derail the whole process: they just get asked to vote again until they get it right, and usually they do second time around. But if a big country like Britain or France says 'no,' the new constitution is in potentially fatal trouble.

In a way, the constitution is yet

In a way, the constitution is yet another casualty of the invasion of Iraq

the two sides ever since, usually with barely a percentage point between them. France's ruling centre-right coalition and the main opposition party, the Socialists, both officially support the new constitution, as do every major newspaper and TV channel and a galaxy of celebrities from Jeanne Moreau to Johnny Halliday, but it hasn't been enough. The French are unhappy, and it looks as if somebody is going to pay.

That somebody is the European Union, which will have great difficulty in making decisions if the French say 'no.' The new constitution, which must be ratified by every one of the 25 member countries, is intended to streamline the EU's decision-making process by allowing most decisions to be made by a "qualified majority" of countries representing 65 per cent of the population. The old system where a single country could veto any decision, already cumbersome when there were only fifteen members, could cause virtual paralysis now that there are ten more.

If the mandarins in Brussels had left it at that, there would have been little trouble in getting the change ratified by the 25 national legislatures, and few people would have been calling for a referendum on it. Their mistake was to seize the opportunity to make a whole new constitution for the EU, and then to write one so long and complex — it's 300 pages in English, and reaches 480 pages in Dutch — that it roused the suspicions of every disgruntled nationalist from Portugal to Poland and from Sweden to Greece.

Constitutions should be brief statements of ideals and general operating rules that leave the fine print to other kinds of legislation, but this one incorporates almost

another casualty of the invasion of Iraq. Neither Britain nor France was expected to hold a referendum on it, but then Prime Minister Tony Blair ambushed President Chirac. Facing a national election with his popularity severely eroded by Iraq, Blair secured crucial support from the British papers owned by the Europhobe Australian-American press magnate Rupert Murdoch by promising to put the constitution to a referendum. France then had to follow suit, and the whole project began to unravel.

Some French voters are clearly using the referendum to punish Chirac, but many appear to believe the wildly exaggerated stories that are circulating in France about how the new constitution will undermine French independence and destroy the French welfare state. It would not be the end of the EU if they reject the constitution, but it would certainly put a severe cramp in its style.

Of course, there is a long tradition of brinkmanship in the EU. The political elite in Brussels and in various member countries who dream of a real European state often propose very bold measures (like last year's "big bang" that brought in ten new members all at once), counting on their more reluctant fellow-citizens to go along with them in the end rather than risk sabotaging the whole European project.

That may happen again on Sunday: some of France's 'no' voters are probably lying to the pollsters in order to have a go at the establishment. But the Dutch may vote 'no' June 1 (though that would be less serious), and a British 'no' later on could still either kill the new constitution or drive Britain out of the European Union. This is the EU's boldest act of brinkmanship yet.

OPINION

Péquistes No Longer Offer A Different Blueprint

Editor's Note: On the anniversary of the first Quebec referendum, Pierre Pettigrew writes about how small "l" liberal values have altered Quebec and Canada over the past 25 years.

By Pierre S. Pettigrew
Minister of Foreign Affairs

The victory for the NO side 25 years ago was an historic victory. Because what triumphed on May 20, 1980, was a set of liberal values, since entrenched in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and now shared even by the Péquistes and Bloquistes. Quebecers' recognition of these liberal values would quickly commit Canada to enhancing the original political project it had been developing instinctively for 135 years. What strikes me and what we never talk about is how, in the past 25 years, since the clear federalist victory, that model has become much more "conscious" and at the same time more attractive. In fact, globalization was to make this Canadian political project eminently contemporary and wholly relevant.

We can measure the progress made by considering the relations between Quebecers and the cultural communities. While in 1980 the Péquistes roundly applauded Félix Leclerc's announcing "No more big foreign fingers in our family papers!" in 1995, Jacques Parizeau embarrassed his party and had to resign for his remark about money and the ethnic vote. In 2005, Péquistes and Bloquistes go so far as to assure everyone that nothing would change for the cultural communities in a separate Quebec.

Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, the Péquiste fraction of Quebec assailed multiculturalism and everything represented by Canada's incomparable political project. This was the era when it was said in sovereigntist circles that Canada was not a normal country because it rejected the model of the traditional nation state - with only one language, only one religion, only one culture and only one legal system. Indeed, Canada took exception by

adopting a mentality of accommodation, building institutions favouring bilingualism, multiculturalism, creating the "Canadian mosaic" — mindful to respect minorities and aware of the enrichment resulting from their varied contributions and not wishing to assimilate them by eliminating their differences. The Péquistes at the time wanted, in their own words, a Quebec as French as Canada was English. They favoured homogeneity by associating it with a clearer and stronger identity. The clear victory of liberal values made profound changes in Canada and Quebec. Largely attributable to Quebecers, these changes reflect moreover the very aspirations of Quebecers, and Montrealers in particular.

The two main changes in this period of our recent history are the adoption of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the free trade treaty, first with the United States and then with Mexico, NAFTA.

As regards the Charter, we must recall that it is inspired by civil law and that the legal community in Quebec supported it from the outset, unlike the proponents of the "common law" tradition, who were very attached to the supremacy of Parliament. This charter is now one of the bases of Canadian identity as expressed over the past 25 years: it effectively makes Canada a political project centred on liberal values around which everyone now rallies.

On May 20, 1980, Quebecers clearly chose to say yes to the world and promote the values that characterize us rather than accept the timorous protection of a singular identity by turning in on themselves. Afterwards, the Charter was to sanction that fundamental choice. Claude Ryan himself, although opposed to the unilateral way in which the Charter was adopted, always supported and promoted its substance.

In this era of globalization, by choosing openness over self-absorption, Quebecers have made the Péquistes renounce their old ethnic nationalism and open up to the cultural communities. Net result: at present, although barely

and resignedly, the Péquistes have come to favour a Quebec multiculturalism, imitating that which they always condemned, particularly during the time of Pierre Trudeau, when respect for pluralism was taken to be a heresy that threatened Quebec and its culture. The liberal pluralist values have made so much progress in the past 25 years that the Péquistes and Bloquistes propose nowadays to make Quebec a mini Canada. Far from being a menace to Quebec identity, the cultural communities are enriching it. That is the liberal and Canadian discourse they had categorically rejected.

Accustomed to the nationalists' about-faces, Quebecers aren't fooled. What a spectacle to see Gilles Duceppe accept thanks from the Dutch and celebrate with the Veterans when the Bloc of that day, the Bloc populaire, and Quebec's blue leaders at the time were criticizing Ottawa and the federal liberals "vendus" for their war effort! In those difficult times, the Blues' energy went into arousing Quebecers against Ottawa but never into explaining to Quebecers that Hitler and the fascists were the evil to be fought. From one Bloc to the next, there was a major, if tardy, change. For Duplessis' Union nationale managed to get elected for 20 years by attacking Godbout's Liberals in power during the war! It's not always easy to be liberal because contemporaries are systematically less generous than history!

In reality, what explains this turnaround is the accurate perception of what motivates Quebecers: a French Quebec certainly, but one that is part of the Canadian social project of openness, tolerance, welcome, and pluralism; in short, a liberal project in the great western liberal tradition, a project that is incarnated among us in the red political current.

With Pierre Trudeau and the Charter, with Brian Mulroney and free trade, which was even supported by the Péquistes despite the opposition of their traditional union clientele, it was Quebec that brought Canada the sense of openness, the taste for pluralism, the respect for cultures, in short, that attitude that is rec-

ognized as both typically Canadian and particularly well adapted to humanity's current and future challenges.

These are absolutely fundamental values in the strictest sense of the term, values that are built on radical conceptual bases, that is, on a conception of the human being, on an idea of the State, on a representation of the relations between people and groups of all sorts, on an ideal of the world to build. In other words, it is an authentic societal blueprint.

So it should come as no surprise if a majority of Quebecers, and even sovereigntists, do not want a new referendum. First, we have all learned of the major mistake that was to call a referendum on such the fundamental question of independence without first building consensus in that direction. On top of being terribly divisive, Quebec has been weakened in its reports and negotiations with the rest of the country. We know that the referendum was held precipitously for internal reasons in the PQ. The "raison d'état" should have been enough for not holding it. But there is more. For the Péquistes are no longer offering a different societal blueprint, because they no longer dare offer their old blueprint now made obsolete by the new consensus around liberal values.

When the sovereigntists were fighting for their homogenous nation state, I did not agree with them, any more than a majority of my fellow citizens did. But, at least, things were clear. At present, confusion reigns. Sovereigntists still want their state. But what they want — a traditional homogeneous nation state — they no longer dare clearly affirm with their old societal blueprint.

As a liberal, I am delighted by this positive evolution.

— During the 1980 referendum, Mr. Pettigrew was chief of staff to Claude Ryan, the Quebec Liberal Party leader, also the chairman of the "No" campaign. Mr. Pettigrew wrote this article last week.

Hillier On Darfur

Liberal MP Keith Martin: My question is regarding your return from the Sudan. I think this is a topic that all of us are very interested in. I was there a few years ago and it was my assessment that the government in Khartoum would have no interest really in stopping the killing in Darfur and that they're playing the peace treaty off in the south with the situation in Darfur. The AU force right now — that's there as an observer force — and you get this Rwandan déjà vu going on again. What, sir, would it require for the international community to have a stabilization force in Darfur with the robust rules of engagement, a Chapter 7, that would enable that force to really stop the killings, torture, and rape occurring?

...And if it veers off into the foreign policy elements, I understand that you won't be able to answer that.

Gen R.J. Hillier: I'll be delighted to answer it and talk to it, Dr. Martin, but it certainly wouldn't be taken as the appropriate response.

What it takes to put a Chapter 7 force in place is pretty simple. It takes a group of nations with the capabilities, led by one or two nations or a multinational institution, to put 50,000-70,000 soldiers, with all the bits and pieces to do a peace enforcement mission on the ground, and with all the capabilities necessary to do it. But what it takes to have success with that mission is entirely dif-

ferent. It's got nothing to do with soldiers, it's got everything to do with political will.

[About] what I saw in Darfur, the question I asked was what are we actually working to achieve here? Unless there is a political agreement, a political settlement, either negotiated or imposed, what actually are you asking soldiers, our men and women in uniform on the ground, to do, to work towards every single day that they are there? Or do you just go in and expect that you're going to be there forever until the thing either gets worse or better of its own accord?

One of the things I believe as soldiers that we hold, in fact, you accountable for, is setting a chance for success before we go in here. That means in a place like Darfur, and not just exclusive to it, you have to have some kind of reasonable expectation that there's a negotiated peace, that there's an end state for Darfur that is clearly accepted by the players there, and therefore all your activities can be generated towards getting to that end state. Right now there is no political end state. Negotiations have been somewhat intermittent. Until that part is solved, the kind of force that you need to go in and do something, I don't think is simply possible.

So what you do in the short term is enable the African Union, who are doing very good work on the ground. I saw some of it myself. Where they are physically located and the area immediately around them, there has been a significant improvement in the securi-



PHOTOGRAPH BY TOM HILLMAN, EMBASSY

Chief of Defence Staff General Rick Hillier testifies.

ty situation. How can you enable them to be located in greater numbers or in more spots and enable to be able to extend from each of their locations to base locations further out, [this] obviously would lend itself towards increasing security and stability throughout the region of Darfur.

It is a tough job though. The place is the size of France. There is no infrastructure. There are a lot of weapons flowing around. Unfortunately it's not constrained by an ocean, so weapons can flow across any of the numerous boundaries and borders that are around Sudan or Darfur itself. You've got to have a political semblance there. If you don't, you're not working towards anything that's going to be lasting. All you're going to do is put yourself in the middle of something that will quickly become a downward spiral. You've got to either have something or impose something, and I think the latter is unrealistic.

— Chief of Defence Staff, Gen R.J. Hillier's testimony on Darfur at the Standing Committee on National Defence and Veterans Affairs, Thursday May 19

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Forced Repatriation of Zimbabwean Asylum Seekers

"I feel I am undeserving and unworthy of this great honour. I say I am undeserving because the cause for justice, rule of law, the respect for human rights, and decent living, have not been realized yet in Zimbabwe...

It also 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. Some Zimbabweans are handcuffed, jailed and badly treated here in Britain. And as Great Britain is a highly respected country in the world, I am afraid that this attitude will be followed in other wealthier Commonwealth countries, as happened with the imposition of the visa on Zimbabweans in November 2002. I plead that you be patient with Zimbabweans till the situation normalizes."

— From the acceptance speech delivered by Archbishop Pius Ncube on being awarded the Robert Burns International Humanitarian Award in Scotland May 20.

Debutante Secretary Generals

New bosses at the OAS and the SEGIB face old and new challenges

By Vladimir Torres

On May 26 Jose Miguel Insulza will take office as the new Secretary General of the Organisation of American States (OAS). Two days later on May 28, at the historic Portuguese city of Guimaraes, Enrique Iglesias will be appointed the first Secretary General of the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB).

The many challenges confronting Mr. Insulza range from the urgent organisational reform to juggling the potential divides within the organisation along north/south or ideological lines. For Mr. Iglesias, on the other hand, the challenges seem to derive from the clean slate of a newly created office, its justification and relevance.

While its hypertrophied bureaucracy remains in place, the OAS has moved toward turning the process of the Summits of the Americas into the vehicle for concerted action in the Hemisphere. Conversely, the Ibero-American Summits decided to create the permanent Secretariat to ensure continuity of the agreements reached on their annual gatherings.

The proposal to create the SEGIB, a Spanish initiative, originally received a lukewarm reaction from the Latin American countries and in the process of implementation the scope of the Secretariat was considerably watered down. The Spanish government at the time was a strong ally of the United States, and the initiative was seen as an attempt to garner wider political support for the U.S.-Spanish agenda.

The opportunities for the SEGIB's success seem to far outweigh the obstacles that its inception initially faced. The Secretariat will have a minimal staff in a conscious effort to avoid unnecessary bureaucracy, duplication of tasks, political appointments, country "quotas" and payroll overload that plague the OAS. With those burdens and a very small annual budget of barely \$76 million US, the OAS finds itself in a dire financial situation. By comparison, the SEGIB will start out with a budget twice as big and the Spanish commitment to cover 80 per cent of the bill.

At the OAS Mr. Insulza is faced with the questions of the Hemisphere as a geopolitical unit where integration efforts can be based on the shared commitment to the defence and promotion of democracy and a common development agenda. The upcoming debates on the Inter-American Democratic Charter, a possible Social Charter and the accountability of govern-

ments that depart from democratic principles will undoubtedly show the extent of the internal differences among its members.

Without having the urge or the mandate for political definitions, the SEGIB finds a much more receptive environment in the current political landscape in Latin America. The ideological affinities between several South American governments and the Spanish Socialist government of Mr. Rodriguez Zapatero, amidst undeniable anti-U.S. sentiments spread throughout the subcontinent, lay the foundations for the political will to advance on multilateral efforts.

There is the Latin American perception that until very recently, the U.S. foreign policy decision-makers have neglected the region. Canadian focus often does not go beyond Mexico and NAFTA and with the exception of the references to Brazil as an emerging power and to the OAS as a multilateral forum, the recently released International Policy Statement does not hint at any changes in that direction.

Iberian and Latin American countries share the cultural heritage of five hundred years of history, languages and strong immigration flows that bind them together. But above that, Spain's foreign policy clearly considers the region a priority. The geopolitical influence, economic investments and growth opportunities for Spanish businesses, leverage within the European Union and the role of interlocutors between Europe and Latin America, are only some of the many good reasons for such an approach.

The SEGIB has not been created to compete with the OAS and certainly there is room in the world of multilateral arenas for both organisations. But the potential success of Ibero-American initiatives and concrete specific actions that contribute to solve the urgent needs of the subcontinent (i.e. the exchange of foreign debt for investment in education), will highlight the shortcomings of the OAS.

The first Secretary General of the SEGIB, Mr. Iglesias, a consensus figure, comes to the position after his tenure at the helm of the Inter-American Development Bank, where he has been known for a pragmatic, non-confrontational approach. Born in Spain, he grew up and was educated in Uruguay and holds both nationalities, representing — as some have pointed out — the embodiment of the spirit of Ibero-America. The SEGIB member countries aimed to select a candidate with an international presence and weight of his own and certainly found in Mr. Iglesias



PHOTOGRAPH BY MANUEL HERRERA, OAS

Secretary General José Miguel Insulza of the OAS.

someone who fits the bill.

Within a month, in October-November this year, Latin American countries will take part in two different Summits of Heads of States and Governments: The Fifteenth Ibero-American Summit in Salamanca, Spain and the Fourth Summit of the Americas in Mar del Plata, Argentina. Both Summits might prove to be critical crossroads for the dawning SEGIB and the OAS respectively.

Multilateral organizations are only as relevant as their individual members want

them to be. The fate of OAS and the SEGIB will heavily depend on the interests and agendas of some of their members. Whereas the future of SEGIB seems to rely on Spain's commitment and the balancing act of engaging the Latin American countries in concerted actions, it is the North American commitment to the hemisphere that will carry most of the weight in the future of the OAS.

— Vladimir Torres is an Ottawa-based Latin America current affairs analyst.

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Small Country Solutions

Human-security organizations like the OSCE are driven by the participation of smaller states

By Peter Schneider

Minutes after delivering an address to an audience of diplomats and foreign affairs officials at the Pearson Building on May 18, Dimitrij Rupel, chair of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), elaborated on the importance of 2005 as a year of anniversaries and remembrance in Europe. "Really what I'm trying to say is this is a time [to look] beyond these anniversaries," he says, ticking off a list that includes the 60th anniversary of V-E Day, the 30th anniversary of the Helsinki agreement that founded the OSCE, and the 15th anniversary of the Charter of Paris. "This is the beginning of the 21st century, and many of the rules and standards that had been developed in these organizations deriving from the end of World War II no longer apply."

Mr. Rupel, who is also Slovenia's foreign affairs minister, is serving as the chair of the OSCE for 2005. "We are all looking for some changes and some new ideas," he says. "We are reforming because this is absolutely necessary to survive. The EU is reforming itself, the United Nations is reforming itself, NATO is reforming itself, and the OSCE has a plan to reform itself. We are indeed in a completely new situation and things are pretty open."

The Slovenian diplomat was in Ottawa to participate in the seventh ministerial meeting of the Human Security Network (HSN), the 13-member body whose mandate embraces the advancement of human rights in a multilateral framework. The ministerial session was hosted by Foreign Affairs minister Pierre Pettigrew, at the end of Canada's year-long chairmanship. Thailand will take up the reins at the beginning of June for a period of one year. Costa Rica was named as a new member last week, joining Canada, Slovenia, and 11 other full members of the network. (South Africa is participating as an observing member for the time being.)

The HSN ministerial was convened to review the March 2005 report by United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, titled *In Larger Freedom*. A series of recommenda-

tions on how to implement human security agenda items will be presented by the body at the upcoming United Nations summit in September, and a 23-point resolution was issued May 20 at the conclusion of the working sessions in Ottawa to reconfirm the HSN's stance on issues ranging from UN peacebuilding initiatives to the achievement of gender equality.

Donning his hat as the head of the OSCE, Mr. Rupel says "The OSCE still has a lot of work to do in the area of equalization, or unification of its region of 55 states. They will never be the same, and will never be total equals, but there are elements that have to be introduced everywhere." Indicating recent events in member countries Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, he says, "these are the remaining pockets where this equalization process still has to take place. Of course, we no longer question transparency or democracy or the role of the media. For us, it's everyday stuff. In certain places it is not yet there. If it doesn't exist, it has to be introduced."

Mr. Rupel says he was not aware of the grueling travel itinerary that awaited him. Reflecting on his first months since assuming the OSCE's top job, he asks, "What can I do? It's there, it happens." He notes, "The OSCE in certain places is the only western presence. And this is absolutely true of Central Asia. You have a western presence in terms of EU or NATO in the Balkans and southeastern Europe. As for Central Asia, it's more or less under the influence of the OSCE where the western presence is concerned. There are plenty of problems there."

Thoughtfully, Mr. Rupel expresses his concern that the OSCE is being stretched beyond its capacities in the former Soviet republics. "Sometimes I don't feel the OSCE is qualified to do all those things," he says. "We are working on the elimination of small arms and light weapons, we do training of border guards in Georgia, we train police academies. There is no one else to do it there. We draw our strength also from being indispensable. In Kosovo we have 900 people. The OSCE is one of the pillars of the international presence there. It's like a

good embassy — it's the presence on the ground that counts. The Council of Europe is an excellent organization, with a lot of legal expertise, but it doesn't have a representation on the ground. We'll see how it goes, maybe we can move the discussions forward, so that these organizations complement one another. Maybe they can work with the European Union, which doesn't have a presence in many of the countries, where perhaps it should have."

However, Mr. Rupel doesn't see the export of democracy as the core component of the OSCE's mandate. He says, "I think we do other things. I think that for instance one of the extremely important issues that has been proposed by Russia is the issue of energy security." The OSCE will hold a summit on energy security later in 2005, as well as a high-level session on the changing nature of military doctrines. "What are we discussing there? The same thing that Kofi Annan has written about in his report — the responsibility to protect, preemptive strikes, things like that," the minister notes.

Observing the changed realities of a post-Soviet Europe, Mr. Rupel says, "On one level, each country has its separate and different identity and story. Ukraine is very different from Georgia, and it's very different from Kyrgyzstan, but on a more abstract level there are similarities and common traits."

Returning to the topic of democratization, Mr. Rupel, who has been engaged in intensive shuttle diplomacy to and from the former Soviet republics of central Asia since assuming his post in January, says, "I don't think that concrete mechanisms can be imported or exported. I don't think that you can have one American organization spreading democracy all over the world. It doesn't work, really. You have to have indigenous and authentic situations and events, groups of people working towards the realization of their own plan. Movements toward reform, and change, they have effects. People in Uzbekistan most probably didn't follow the reports on Ukraine, but on the other hand, there is a feeling that people have a right to express themselves."

On the tricky question of why so many mul-

tilateral organizations are more strongly supported by small nations than by big powers, Mr. Rupel says. "You can ask the question, 'why is the European Union presided over by a very small country like Luxembourg?' When I hear about candidates for the future presidency of the European Union, after the constitution has been adopted, I hear the names of small countries. The big countries, I think, most often do not play in front. They play a little bit behind the scenes, if you know what I'm trying to say. I'm not saying this is always so, or that this is some sort of calculation, but this is a common rule in international organizations. You cannot expect to have an American as the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The big nations stay away from executive positions in these organizations. You can debate why this is so, but it is partly to show that these organizations are not the property of the big powers, even if everybody knows that in the OSCE the U.S. and the Russian federation have to be approached and consulted because they have been there from the very beginning."

For a tiny country such as Slovenia, a high-profile chairmanship brings benefits on the global stage, as the minister admits. "Slovenia is using the chairmanship to assert itself, to get a higher profile. Slovenia started its statehood only 14 years back. We need this kind of exposure. By coincidence, Slovenia will also preside over the European Union in 2008 and the Council of Europe, also in 2008. We want to be more prominent on the international scene."

Although Slovenia has had an embassy in Ottawa for years, there is still no plan for Canada to reciprocate. "This is a shame," the minister says. "I have said it on a number of occasions already, to my Canadian colleagues, that we would expect Canada to open an embassy in Ljubljana. I hope that this happens in the foreseeable future, for Slovenia not to be covered from the Canadian embassy in Budapest, as is the case today. I understand that there are financial considerations, but now that Slovenia has become part of the European Union, I think there will be more motivation to establish more of a presence."

Vote Passed on May 18

Continued from Page 1

partial victory, saying they hope the government will listen to the Parliamentary majority and implement at least some of the motion's tougher measures, particularly outlawing Canadian investors in the South Asian nation. The final motion voted in Parliament on May 18 passed by a margin of 158-123.

"We do feel that we now have something to use as a tool, that we can refer to and hopefully use to support democracy in Burma," said Shareef Korah, executive director of the Canadian Friends of Burma. Conditions in the closed society run by a military regime include sexual exploitation, forced labour and the use of child soldiers, he said.

The tradition of the Canadian government is to avoid taking a partisan stance in the recognition of another country, said a Foreign Affairs spokesperson.

The department fears that acting on the dispute provision could set a dangerous precedent, and perhaps have a disastrous effect in the long-term negotiation to restore democracy in Rangoon, or improve conditions in countries run by renegade governments. "While Canada maintains regular contact in Ottawa and abroad with individuals and organizations fighting for democracy in Burma, we must recognize 'states' and not 'governments,'" said a spokesperson for Foreign Affairs. "This gives us flexibility to deal with governments worldwide that come to power through unconstitu-

tional means by enabling us to establish or maintain lines of communication, and thereby resolve differences. As this provision in the motion contravenes our policy, it would set a very awkward precedent."

Human rights organizations mobilized at a press conference hours before the final debate in Parliament, calling the moment "historic" and pleading that Canada take stronger measures that might compel international counterparts to do the same. "This is the strongest measure that Parliament has passed toward Burma. Burmese people [in the country] know about the news, it's on all the radio stations," Tin Maung Htoo, coordinator of Canadian Friends of Burma, said in an interview following the vote. He then added: "But we were really, really upset with the government [for refusing to support it]."

Mr. Htoo said he hopes the government will listen to the majority of Parliamentarians even though it isn't compelled to act on the initiative. "This is the will of Parliament, and I don't see any reason for the government to ignore the resolution," he said.

The organization prepared the *Burma Forum Report* last November, a study that shows the Canadian investment has steadily increased over several years. In 2001, the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives said that Canadian corporations have dumped more than \$150 million in the country since 1990. The profits from at least some business, mostly mineral exploration outfits, benefit the

military junta, says the *Burma Forum Report*.

Former international cooperation minister, Maria Minna, is a Liberal MP and member of the Canada-Burma Parliamentary Friendship Group. She said that the governing party didn't have the "luxury" of voting for a motion that it might otherwise support because of the "flaw." "Canada recognizes countries, not governments. Diplomatically, worldwide, it's just not done. Otherwise you'd have all kinds of state actors recognizing other non-state actors," she said in an interview. "I think basically it says that we had a small problem with it, not the human rights issues."

The government has criticized the "appalling" human rights record of Burma, saying its position is consistent with the "spirit and intent of the motion." It supports the release of Suu Kyi and other political prisoners, and calls its economic and political restriction "among the strongest." Canadian exports are strictly controlled to Burma, and the government asks that businesspeople and travelers avoid the country, renamed Myanmar by the military junta.

The Embassy of Myanmar in Ottawa said it wasn't commenting on the motion when contacted by *Embassy* last week.



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Realignment Required

Japan is seeking a permanent seat on the UN Security Council

By Peter Schneider

“A lot of Japanese like Canada, and a lot of Canadians like Japan,” Ambassador Sadaaki Numata says at the outset of a conversation about his desire as his country’s top diplomat in Ottawa to reanimate the relationship. “But I think we’d better ask ourselves whether we know enough about each other.”

On a quest to change paradigms and awaken a new curiosity between the two nations, Mr. Numata says, “when you’re dealing with the relationship, one does have stereotypes. The Japanese relationship to Canada might fall into some stereotypes. I think you know what I mean — the Canadian Rockies, Niagara Falls, the Prince Edward Island of Anne of Green Gables fame. But there is much more to Canada than that. I’ve felt, since I came at the end of December last year, that Canada has become even more multicultural than it was 20 years ago, and it is indeed a very diverse country, in terms of its society. That’s the aspect to pay more attention to.”

Putting the shoe on the other foot, the ambassador observes, “If you look at the Canadian image of Japan, some people are fascinated by Japan’s traditional culture—ikebana, the tea ceremony, and whatnot. At the same time, Japan has been changing a great deal over the past decade, in terms of its economic and social outlook. Especially in terms of its global aspirations.”

“I’ve been pondering the elements that link Japan and Canada together in East Asia,” the ambassador says. “In Canada, there is a

great interest in East Asia as a whole. In China, as an emerging economic power, and Japan, and Korea. There’s interest in the inter-linkages of these three economies. At the same time, if Canada is to reap the full benefits from the region, it’s vitally important that the region stay stable. If you have to look at the sources of tension in East Asia, the Korean peninsula is a flashpoint. We do feel that the issue of North Korea’s nuclear program must be addressed peacefully, through the six-party talks, which have been suspended for quite some time. It is in the interest of North Korea as well, and we are calling to resume the talks.”

On Japan’s relations with China, Mr. Numata says, “it’s a very important actor in our region. China has been a political and military power for some time. It has been a member of the Security Council since 1945. And China, these days, is emerging as an economic power. Japan has long been seen as an economic power, and we are trying to evolve as a political power. As a mature stabilizing power. It’s vitally important — some people are given to speculating that there would have to be a rivalry between Japan and China. I don’t think we can afford to have a rivalry. It is in the interest of the whole world that Japan and China work together for the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region.”

Mr. Numata thinks Canada and Japan can work more closely together as global partners, and it is with multilateral goals in mind when he speaks of the “need to energize the agenda.”

“Certainly, we’d like to extend our global reach,” the ambassador says, “and not only

in terms of our development assistance. Our ODA program does cover a great deal of the world, and that continues to be an important part of our policy.” As well as poverty alleviation in the developing world, addressing the problem of infectious disease, the reconstruction of strife-torn states through peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations, and strengthening nuclear non-proliferation efforts rank as Japanese priorities.

This brings the head of mission to the subject of Japan’s current campaign to obtain a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council. “We would like to see the whole United Nations system function more effectively,” he says. “A lot of Japan’s priorities are the same as the ones Canada finds important. Japan in particular, attaches a great deal of importance to the reform of the Security Council, because we feel that the Security Council does not reflect the reality of today. It may have reflected the reality of 1945. But, now we have a situation where Japan’s contribution to the UN’s regular budget is about 20 per cent of the total. Twenty per cent. That is greater than the total combined contributions of Britain, France, Russia, and China, four permanent members of the Security Council.”

“There is something unjust, and not quite equitable about this, that while we make that contribution, we are not a part of the decision-making process,” the ambassador says. “We would like to see this rectified. We would like to see both the permanent and non-permanent memberships expanded. We feel that this year, the 60th anniversary of the birth of



PHOTOGRAPH BY PETER SCHNEIDER, EMBASSY

Japan’s ambassador to Canada, Sadaaki Numata, in his office on May 13.

the United Nations, is a very important opportunity not to be missed,” Mr. Numata says.

For its part, Canada remains unsupportive of any enlargement of the permanent membership of the Security Council. Japan will continue its diplomatic efforts in the months leading up to the UN reform conference in September to make its case for inclusion known.

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Thinking Outside The Box

Greenhill's report a 'must-read' in development policy circles

Continued from Page 1

"He's a whirlwind of ideas, he has enormous energy and he has a curious mind. And I think CIDA needs all of those things," says Douglas Goold, president of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, which co-sponsored the report. "He's not the kind of policy wonk that has been sitting in Ottawa for decades. We don't need that. We don't need more inside-the-beltway thinking."

Mr. Greenhill's study, *External Views on Canada's International Impact*, is a loud wake-up call from 40 international figures — such as former U.S. secretary of state Henry Kissinger and former Australian foreign minister Gareth Evans — that Canada's reputation among peers has been steadily eroding since the end of the Cold War.

On the international development front, Mr. Greenhill used the term "crisis" to describe Canada's stingy foreign aid spending at about \$3.2 billion this year. And he suggested the minister, now Aileen Carroll, should stay at the helm "long enough to make a difference." That job has changed hands 10 times since 1989.

Early this year, Mr. Greenhill briefed Foreign Affairs Deputy Minister Peter Harder, and many others in the department consider his report a must-read. Some people say that careful analysis shows his language was loosely adopted into the government's International Policy Statement (IPS), the first blueprint of Canadian foreign policy in a decade that was released in April. The message that Canada must pull out from its slump was threaded into the IPS, and this year's budget put major reinvestments into foreign aid, diplomacy and the military.

What isn't mirrored in the policy statement — but played prominently in Mr. Greenhill's report, and again during his testimony before the Foreign Affairs committee last month — is a schedule toward a global aid touchstone. The government recently said it would be fiscally irresponsible, at present, to commit to devoting 0.7 per cent of the economy to foreign aid by 2015. That doesn't represent a policy shift. But the declaration was important because it asserted that Canada wasn't falling in line with many other wealthy nations that have fully embraced that timeframe.

"We have the coalition of the willing and the coalition of the unwilling. This time, we should join the coalition of the willing," said Mr. Greenhill during his Parliamentary appearance on April 14. "The international policy statement of strategy will not be complete without a clear commitment to reach 0.7 per cent before 2015 and without... clear interim steps." He said the G8 summit in Scotland this July, and the UN's 60th anniversary meeting in New York in September presents two additional chances to announce a time-bound commitment.



PHOTOGRAPH BY SAM GARCIA

Newly-appointed president of the Canadian International Development Agency, Robert Greenhill.

Conservative International Cooperation critic Ted Menzies said since learning of the appointment he's cast his mind back to Mr. Greenhill's testimony, and remembered being impressed. "I am quite looking forward to his involvement in CIDA. I don't just think he comes with good intentions, but [also] a good understanding of the issues," he said.

NDP Foreign Affairs Critic Alexa McDonough said she is hopeful that Mr. Greenhill is able to show leadership now that he's on the inside. "Progressive and coherent foreign policy is desperately needed. If he is prepared to stop talking and do it, then we should be applauding," she said, of his appointment.

Greenhill's business background

Mr. Greenhill is already well known in political circles as an adept international businessman. Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew headed up International Trade during the aircraft subsidy dispute between Brazil's Embraer, and Montreal-based Bombardier several years ago. At that time, Mr. Greenhill was president of Bombardier International, a unit that has since been dismantled, and worked intimately on the case involving the World Trade Organization and global laws. Both Mr. Pettigrew and Mr. Greenhill popped up at similar conferences and events.

Yet the name Robert Greenhill didn't ring a bell for Bloc MP Pierre Paquette, a member of the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee who had been hearing from experts all year about Canada's role in the world. Last week, when asked for his reaction to the appointment, Mr. Paquette didn't immediately recall Mr. Greenhill's testimony even though he'd

asked him several questions. First encounters are what most in government can expect, as Mr. Greenhill is a newcomer to the senior public service.

A full page, photocopied mug shot of Mr. Greenhill was on the check-in counter at CIDA headquarters in Gatineau last week so guards could identify their new boss and wave him through.

Some people say the selection of a government outsider could help parachute in new, fresh and bold ideas. Mr. Greenhill points out in his report, *External Views*, that the agency has become increasingly risk-averse. Some observers concede naming a career public servant to the top post may have further dulled the agency's edge.

Reaction has been positive

Friends and close colleagues say Mr. Greenhill is friendly, likable and bursting with ideas.

The appointment came as a pleasant surprise to people like Gerry Barr, president of the Canadian Council of International Cooperation, the largest umbrella group representing NGOs across the country. "I know him as a candid, constructive guy who likes ideas and is keenly interested in effectiveness and I look very much forward to working with him," said Mr. Barr. "He has taken the right position on the 0.7 target. And not only that, he has spent a lot of time thinking about it and canvassing the views of others."

Mr. Barr said "chronic under funding" has detracted from Canada's ability to assist in the developing world, but said he was optimistic Mr. Greenhill could bring about "an encouraging future."

Maureen O'Neil, president of the IDRC called Mr. Greenhill an "innovative thinker" with "strategic vision." She said his guidance would be a "big plus" in carrying out changes at CIDA, particularly behind the scenes. "In a complex agency like CIDA, as they realign to implement the IPS, having someone with experience [in the private sector] on the operational side [is important]," she said. When asked if he might feel stifled by the bureaucracy, Ms. O'Neil added: "Good leaders know that the first important step is to listen to your colleagues on how and why they do things. It's not just their vision, it's the government's vision, the minister's vision and those of their new colleagues."

The public policy debate at CIDA could benefit from Mr. Greenhill's provocative ideas, said Dan McTeague, parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. "I have no difficulty looking at individuals who bring not always orthodox perspectives to aid," said Mr. McTeague, a member of the Commons committee. "Whether I agree or disagree with him, he's now in a position where he'll have to put his ideas to use. I think in the long term it will be good."

Mr. Greenhill is fluently bilingual and has traveled the globe on company business but also for personal enrichment. He took a two-month sabbatical several years ago with his wife and traveled to Asia, including Tibet. Around the time of the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003, Mr. Greenhill decided to make the leap from executive elite to public policy researcher.

In the past, Mr. Greenhill has also appeared open to other radical ideas on how the department functions. In April, he seemed keen on exploring a legislative framework for CIDA that would give the agency greater parliamentary accountability. And he also urged politicians to "rise above particular partisan concerns" because those living in poverty abroad can't wait for "us to settle our domestic issues before Canada has a consistent foreign policy."

Mr. Greenhill declined a full interview so early in the job but did say, via email, that he was thrilled about the career move. "I am very excited by the opportunity and look forward to learning from my colleagues at CIDA. I believe strongly that international development is an area where Canada can really make a difference," he wrote.

Ms. Carroll, the Minister of International Cooperation, said that Mr. Greenhill has previously advised her on how to encourage entrepreneurship in developing nations. She was clear that the agency's priorities are identified in the IPS. "I look forward to working with Mr. Greenhill, as well as the rest of the talented staff in the agency, to implement the ambitious plan for Canada's development program outlined in the International Policy Statement," she told *Embassy*, via email.

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Polio's Unexpected Comeback

Yemen finds Canadian help in fighting recurrence of childhood disease

By Christina Leadlay

The global drive to wipe polio from the face of the earth has received a major setback this month. After nearly six years of being polio-free, Yemen, along with Indonesia, has reported dozens of new infections, with numbers increasing every day. Despite this recent resurgence, the World Health Assembly, the policy-setting wing of the World Health Organization, reaffirmed at its 58th assembly last week its commitment to eradicating the disease, which was hoped to be the second virus after smallpox to be eradicated, explains Dr. Abdulla Nasher, Ambassador of Yemen to Canada: "The WHO and the whole world was hoping to declare the eradication of polio from the globe. Unfortunately this has happened and now it will delay that declaration," he says.

A professional medical doctor by training, Dr. Nasher knows first hand how hard it is to beat polio. He recalls how his country fought the spread of the crippling virus during his tenure as Minister of Health from 1997 to 2001. "Polio was a big problem in Yemen until 1996," he explains. "We started in 1996 with National Immunization Days whereby twice a year during the months of October and November we sent teams [of 25,000 people] to immunize, to give the vaccine for polio, to all the children in Yemen under five years. The number of children under five years of age is something like 4 million and we gave them the vaccine over two days, from early in the morning until the end of the day, everywhere, whether it was in the rural areas or in the urban areas, as well as in the desert or on the islands," he says. Other federal ministries and organizations helped the Health Ministry in its fight against polio, with the Ministry of Defence lending helicopters in order to reach citizens in remote locations. Even President Ali Abdallah Saleh himself inoculated children, recalls Dr. Nasher, a 1999 photo-op enforcing the safety and the importance of the vaccine, which in turn increased Yemen's rate of immunization against other deadly childhood diseases.

"This started, as I said, in 1996 and it went through until 1999. From 1999 onwards, the WHO and the Ministry of Health in Yemen decided to start surveillance in an effort to see if there were any cases, and that continued until last year," says the ambassador. "Throughout all this time, from 1996 to last year, there were no cases of polio recorded in Yemen. Unfortunately, in the last few months we've had an outbreak of cases. The latest figures I have from May 18, 2005, is something like 82 cases that have been found, which is very serious, and the information also that I gathered is that this unfortunately crossed over from Sudan, and probably it crossed over to Sudan from Nigeria," he says. As of press time,



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY EMBASSY OF YEMEN

Dr. Abdulla Nasher (right), holds an infant while Yemen's President, Ali Abdallah Saleh (left) administers an oral polio vaccine in 1999. Dr. Nasher, Yemen's Ambassador to Canada, was Minister of Health when his country fought and eventually beat polio in the late 1990s. As of May 20, 2005, 89 cases of polio have been found in Yemen.

Yemen's Ministry of Health was reporting 89 cases of polio in children.

Polio is a deadly virus which usually attacks children under the age of five years. It is spread by eating or drinking something which contains the virus, attacking the body's nervous system, causing "paralysis, usually in either of the lower limbs," says Dr. Nasher. "It's a permanent paralysis. Sometimes there is mortality from the infection. But if you don't die, you are left with a permanent disability." Dr. Nasher explains that the outbreak of polio in Yemen is very serious, since "for every child that gets paralysis from polio, there will be 200 other cases where it doesn't show up," where the virus lies dormant, but is still present. Dr. Nasher says that the virus likely came to Yemen from Africa, where vaccination against the virus has been discouraged in Nigeria. "About three or four years ago," he says, "a wrong message spread in Nigeria through some fundamentalist Muslim teachers that this vaccine is meant to cause AIDS, or some of them thought that this vaccine would cause sterility in females, that they can't reproduce. This is the wrong message, of course. I don't know what was behind it. It spread in some parts of Nigeria, after which people refused to

go and take their children for immunization, and that is how really it developed and stayed, and from there on it crossed borders and spread to other countries," says Dr. Nasher.

"This is the problem that this virus doesn't know any frontiers. It jumps from one place to another very quickly [...] It can cross borders without any warning," he says. "I think that Yemen deserves assistance and sympathy. It's not our fault, but we are an open country and we have a very strong historical connection with Africa. A lot of Yemenis have crossed to Africa over the past thousands of years, and a lot of Africans cross into Yemen. We are a mixed nation, and we have open airports and seaports with Africa. And that this has happened it's an unlucky thing, you know, that somebody maybe came over to Yemen from Sudan or Nigeria who had the virus and it just erupted." Yemen's current Minister of Health, Mohammed Al-Moami, has been reported as saying that the infection came to Yemen from South Sudan.

It will take at least three or four years before Yemen can reclaim its polio-free status. In the meantime, Dr. Nasher says Yemen is "prepared for the war and battle against this serious problem," with the second

phase of National Immunization Days scheduled to start at the end of the month. According to the *Yemen Observer*, UNICEF has sent six million doses of the polio vaccine to the capital, Sana'a, and is also involved in a social mobilization campaign aimed at spreading the message through the media, schools and mosques to encourage parents to get their children immunized. Here in Canada, Dr. Nasher is strumming up aid and support from organizations including CIDA. "I had a meeting with Aileen Carroll [on May 19] and she was very keen to help. She was very concerned about this problem in Yemen, and she offered to assist with vaccines and some sort of assistance in training and back-up services like transportation," he says. According to Régine Beauplan from CIDA, Canada has approved \$42 million in new support for efforts to eradicate polio in Yemen, specifically to buy more oral polio vaccines, to improve the quality of immunization activities, to strengthen the social mobilization on district and national levels, and to improve the country's global polio surveillance system. Canada's contribution will go to the WHO and UNICEF's Global Polio Eradication Initiative efforts.



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Listings

Wednesday, May 25
Jordan commemorates its **National Day**, having declared independence on today's date in 1946. Contact the embassy (613-238-8090).

Today, **Argentina** celebrates its **May Revolution** from Spain in 1816. Contact the embassy (613-236-2351).

Ellis Auditorium, Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington Street (613-232-6727) \$10; \$6 members. 7 p.m. Peter Naess's Oscar-nominated film *Ellis* is showing, as part of the 'Mad About the Arts' series that aims to educate society about mental illness. A huge hit in Norway, *Ellis* is a dramatic comedy that tells the story of two young men searching for meaning in a society that misunderstands them. Ed Broadbent will be on hand as a guest speaker. Norway, 2004. Norwegian with English subtitles.

Verdi and Beethoven Southam Hall, National Arts Centre (www.nac-can.ca; 613-755-1111). Tickets from \$27. Through May 26. 8 p.m. Two of Canada's most spectacular voices – soprano Measha Brueggergosman and tenor Richard Margison – perform under the auspices of conductor Patrick Summers. Led by Mr. Summers, the NAC orchestra opens the show with Mozart. Part of the 'Ovation Series' concerts.

Inuit Art National Gallery of Canada, 380 Sussex Drive (619-990-1985; www.gallery.ca). Through June 5. This exhibit, titled *ItuKiagatta* — a Labrador Inuit phrase meaning 'how it amazes us!' — includes approximately 85 works from the historic period to the mid-20th century. This era is vital in the development of Inuit art. After its presentation in Ottawa, the exhibit will travel all over Canada.

Lecture: "A New EU Constitution: What Will It Mean for Europeans and for Canada?" 342 Tory Building, Carleton University (rsup.hoetjesRSVP@carleton.ca). 7.30 p.m. The Centre for European Studies and The Royal Netherlands Embassy on behalf of the EU presidency present "The Annual Canada-Europe Public Lecture." Ben J.S. Hoetjes is a professor in Comparative-Regional Public Administration at the University of Maastricht, and in European Public Management at The Hague University. His research interests relate to comparative multi-level governance, intergovernmental relations and cross-border co-operation.

Photographic and Video Exhibit Southam Hall, National Arts Centre (www.nac-can.ca; 613-755-1111). Free. Through May 28. Hans van Manen, dancer and choreographer of Het Nationale Ballet, is also an accomplished photographer. This exhibition, titled *Dance Has Many Faces*, boasts fifteen photographs of Dutch dancers and choreographers.

Thursday, May 26
Lecture: "Polish Administration" 1304 Dunton Tower, Carleton University, 1233 Colonel By Drive (www.carleton.ca/ces). 12 – 1 p.m. Frank ter Berg will be speaking on "Polish Administration: the Impact of EU Accession" at a brown bag lunch today. Mr. ter Berg is a long-time member of the Dutch civil service.

Canada-EU Science & Technology Forum Auditorium, National Research Council, 100 Sussex Drive (613-990-6691). Free. 2:30 – 5:30 p.m. Canada and the European Union are teaming up to run a Science & Technology Forum, featuring discussion and short presentations by an expert panel on topics such as leveraging bilateral prospects, opportunities and issues with the European S & T Framework programs, and case studies of Canadian participation in EU Programs.

A Glimpse of India and Bollywood Ottawa Main Library, 120 Metcalfe Street (613-236-0301). 6 – 9 p.m. The High Commission of India and Ottawa Main Library are joining forces to present a screening of *A Glimpse of India and Bollywood*.

Museum Preview



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY NATIONAL GALLERY OF CANADA

Pompeii and The Renaissance in Florence open this week



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY CANADIAN MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION

A pair of Italian art exhibitions is opening this week, to kick off the summer tourist season in the nation's capital. *Pompeii* opens on May 27 at the Canadian Museum of Civilization. The exhibit is named after the famous Roman city that, along with its sister city Herculaneum, was the victim of a volcanic eruption. The two cities were buried for 17 centuries, until they were rediscovered in the mid-18th century by archaeologists. The exhibit reconstructs the lives of the Romans whose lives and society were suddenly destroyed in the ancient world. *Pompeii* features the most complete and intact buildings left over from the Roman era, and presents moulds, sculptures (pictured left), silverware and paintings. May 28 is the launch date for the National Gallery of Canada's exhibit, *Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and the Renaissance in Florence*. Some of the most well-known artists of all time will be fea-

tured here, with Raphael and Bronzino and Andrea del Sarto (featured above) adding to the marquee names. "We are flying many of the pieces [in the exhibit] right from Italy," says Alessandro Corstese, Minister Counsellor at the Embassy of Italy. The embassy helped the museums put together the exhibits, covering costs and hosting events. "These exhibits are really going to be great for Canada," he says. The Renaissance exhibit will feature paintings on loan from museums in Washington, D.C. and London, U.K. as well. In addition, lectures, concerts, workshops and other activities will complement the summer-long exhibition. "The curator has been putting this exhibit together for five years," says Mr. Cortese. Out of the 52 weeks of the year, this is the one during which you want to visit both of these museums. Both exhibitions wrap up in Sept. 2005. See Listings for details. —Jordan Michael Smith

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Immaculate pied à terre, modern building. Well designed and developed space \$149,900. Coldwell Banker Rhodes. 613-236-9551. Ross Flanagan

NORTH RIVER ROAD
Urban 1 bedroom + den across from Ottawa River. Hardwood floors, crown moulding, updated kitchen, private balcony, indoor parking. MLS 601258 Royal LePage Team Realty. 613-725-1171. Joanne Martin, www.condocurious.com

0030 CONDOS FOR RENT

2 MIN FROM PARLIAMENT HILL 700 SUSSEX

PRESTIGIOUS NEW 1250 sq. ft. 2 bdrm/den, many upgrades, 7th floor. River view, SS appliances, concierge, secure valet parking, 8th floor indoor/outdoor garden, BOARDROOM. Quality restaurant. Available immed. (may furnish to suit). A MUST SEE! 613-222-8000, 613-834-8966

589 RIDEAU
Stylish loft, hardwood floors, exposed brick, terrace, jacuzzi, fireplace, rooftop patio, 5 appliances, parking. \$1845 + gas & hydro. 613-862-5312

AMBLESIDE 2
1 bedroom, all inclusive, available June 1. \$960. Riverview, parking, A/C, 613-234-3974

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

CENTRAL
Large, 2 bedroom in newly built luxury condominium, facing park. \$2500. 613-789-1343. www.viewit.ca 11335

CENTRAL - NEW LUXURIOUS
2 bdrms + den, 2 bath, hdwd/ceramic, 5 appl., pkg. Immed \$1800 Plus utilities. 613-288-1500, www.homes-for-rent.com

DELUXE CONDO
Elegant, quiet and unique, these 1400 sq. ft. condos have river-views. 2 bdrms, 2 baths, 6 appls, fireplace, inside parking, A/C, large windows. Very secure, they are situated only 15 minutes from downtown. They are a definite MUST SEE! \$1,400. 819-771-7369, 819-210-7369

DELUXE CONDO
This is an elegant, quiet and unique condo. It includes 2 bedrooms, 5 appliances, an inside parking, A/C, a fireplace and hardwood floors. Very secure, this apartment situated at only 10 minutes from Parliament Hill is a definite MUST SEE! \$1100. 819-771-7369, 819-210-7369

DOWNTOWN IN 10 MINUTES
2 floor condo on Ottawa River in Hull. 2 bedrooms, 5 appliances, fireplace, \$1,175, non-smoker, no pets. 613-762-4773

HULL, PLACE CHAMPLAIN - 1 BED-ROOM
New Condominium Apartments View of Ottawa River. Close to Gatineau Park. Includes parking, 6 appliances, 9ft ceilings, hardwood floors, A/C, March 1. \$900 and \$1,000 + utilities. 613-728-5728

LE PARC PENTHOUSE, 545 ST. LAURENT, OTTAWA ONT.

For executives, 1 bedroom + den, open concept, totally renovated, Hardwood and ceramic floor, panoramic view, 24 hour-security, 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

MARKET PENTHOUSE
2 storey, 2 bedrooms, fireplace, indoor parking, secure building. May 1st. \$2000. 613-260-5217.

MINUTES FROM THE HILL
Corner of Queen and Bronson. Fabulous views, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, high security, underground parking, 6 appliances, window coverings included, heat and hydro included, fitness facilities. \$1800/month. Available June. 613-231-3872.

0030 CONDOS FOR RENT

NEW - SUITES OF LANDMARK
Exciting open concept luxury penthouse. Panoramic windows, 10ft ceilings, 20ft terrace with gas BBQ hook-up, 2 bedrooms, den, 2 baths, ensuite laundry, gas fireplace, hardwood, indoor parking. \$2400/month including heat, cooling. 613-730-4597 - evenings.

PENTHOUSE
Across from Canal & steps from Elgin St. Absolutely stunning, 3-bed, 5 appliances, \$2500. Inquire for more info. 613-913-7278. www.chrgroup.com

PENTHOUSE
Luxury 3 bedrooms, 1920 sq ft, \$million view. Rideau Falls, Parliament, Museum, Gatineau. 613-747-4872

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

0031 DUPLEX FOR RENT

AYLMER - 15 MINS PARLIAMENT
Exceptional, professional, renovated, hardwood, fireplace, large, bright, appliances, parking. \$970 inclusive. 613-722-3013

GLEBE
Second floor apartment. Fabulous 2 bedroom + den; 2 baths; hardwood; fireplace; deck; spacious living/dining rooms; big kitchen; bright; top condition; 5 appliances; radiant heat. Superb location. \$1,700 + utilities. June 1. 613-232-3648

0032 TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

BARRHAVEN
3 bedrooms, 5 appliances, air conditioning, hardwood, ceramic, garage, fenced yard. \$1375 + utilities. 613-290-7317, 613-488-3976

BEACON HILL
New 2 level loft townhouse, 2 bedroom, den, 1.5 bathrooms, gas fireplace, amenities. \$1125 + utilities. 613-863-6952

BELLS CORNERS
3 bedrooms, 1.5 bathrooms, 5 appliances, hardwood, natural gas heating, central air, double garage. June. \$1350 + utilities. 613-820-8852

BRAND NEW EXECUTIVE TOWNHOUSE IN ORLEANS
3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, 5 appliances, finished basement, gas fireplace, garage. \$1350. One bus to downtown. 5 minute walk to supermarket. Immediate occupancy. 613-837-3695

BYWARD MARKET
5 minute walk to U.S. Embassy; semi-detached townhouse on St. Andrew St.; 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, study, 2 terraces, fireplace, parking. Must see to appreciate \$2500.00 cad. Available immediately Call 613-842-4142 or email: gagosz@aol.com

BYWARD MARKET
Semi-detached 2-bedroom + study, 2 terraces, fireplace, 2 full baths, 1/2 block from National Gallery. Immediate. \$2500. 613-842-4142 gagosz@aol.com

CENTREPOINT
3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, f/p, 7 appliances, garage, \$1350 + utilities. Immediately. 613-728-5728 or 613-224-0572.

CHAPEL HILL
New 1867 square feet, executive 3 bedroom, 2.5 bathrooms, finished basement, garage, fireplace, 3 appliances, \$1475 + utilities. July 1. 613-739-1720.

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

HUNT CLUB/GREENBANK
3 bedroom, fireplace, painted, end unit, deck, pool. Immediately. \$1135 + heat, hydro. 613-829-6995.

0040 HOUSES FOR RENT

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

15 MINUTES TO PARLIAMENT HILL
5 kms from Aylmer, 2+ 1 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, hardwood floors in living and dining room, all kitchen appliances, washer/dryer, walk-out basement, 1.25 acres. \$1270/month. 819-778-7211

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A GREAT FAMILY HOME
Wellington Village. Renovated, 4 bedroom, 3 bathrooms, Park 3 vars. Many extras. Short walk to everything. \$1850 + utilities. 613-725-9167

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AVIATION PARKWAY
Beautiful 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 EXECUTIVE
Renovated farm house, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 5 appliances, 3 car garage, \$2000 + util. July 15th, 613-288-1500, MUST SEE! www.homes-for-rent.com

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

BEACON HILL - ROTHWELL HEIGHTS
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3 bedrooms, 4 appliances. Hardwood, fireplace, air-conditioning, garage, finished basement, quiet, non-smoking. \$1600 + utilities. 613-792-4679

CENTRETOWN
Lots of character! 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, 5 appl, A/C, parking, July 1. \$1800.00 + utils. 613-727-1400. www.house-rent.com

CHELSEA - MUST SEE!
Large beautiful custom home on secluded lot, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, double garage, hot tub, sauna, 6 appliances, available July 1, 613-727-1400, www.house-rent.com

DOWNTOWN
3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, 5 appliances, 2 parking, C/A, finished basement August 1. \$2150+. 613-235-6006

GLEBE
Rowhouse, 2.5 bathrooms, hardwood, 5 appliances, parking, natural gas fireplace, near canal. \$2000. 613-721-6992

GLEBE - FIFTH AVENUE
3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 6 appliances, hardwood floors, new kitchen, parking, no-smoking/pets. \$1500 + utilities. 613-730-1827

GLEBE NEAR CANAL - JUNE 1
Newly renovated, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 5 appliances, sunroom, den, hardwood, F/P, garage, backyard. \$2995. 613-224-4388, 613-720-5779

GLEBE/CANAL
Tastefully furnished 3 bedroom, 1/2 block from Canal. Available August for two years. \$2500 includes utilities. Non-smoking, no pets. 613-235-4732

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

HUNT CLUB EXEC.
Beautiful 4 bdrm with furnishings optional, 6 appl, immed, \$2500.00 + utils, 613-727-1400, www.house-rent.com

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Elegant 3 bedroom, 5 appliances, fireplace, hardwood, August 1. \$1650 inclusive. 613-727-6325

KANATA LAKES
4 bedroom, 2.5 bathrooms, 5 appliances, air conditioning, finished basement, family room, double garage, fenced yard. Walk to all amenities. \$2000. 613-592-5689

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NEW EDINBURGH - MACKAY ST.
100 yr. old character house; 5 minutes by bicycle to U.S. Embassy or Byward market; garden, parking; Master bedroom with fireplace and whirlpool bath ensuite, frenchdoor to balcony; Guest bedroom with new full bathroom; study/craftroom; open kitchen to large diningroom with fireplace and frenchdoors to deck and garden; powder room/laundry. \$3500.00 cad. Call: 613-842-4142 or email: gagosz@aol.com

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SANDY HILL
1 & 2 bedroom, renovated, very quiet. \$795 & \$1295. Located at 114 Daly. Call: 613-835-3401

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
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2 bedroom condo with beautiful view of Ottawa River. Fully furnished, 6 appliances, A/C, fireplace, hardwood floors, indoor parking. Short/long-term. 15 minutes from downtown Ottawa. No smoking/pets. \$1500/month incl. 613-290-3832

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New, luxury, river view, professionally furnished. One bedroom plus den. Granite marble. Seven appliances. All amenities. \$2500. 613-738-3088.

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CONTEMPORARY ART: Painting, sculpture, marquetry and needlework. THE NEGRIL PALATE - Elegant setting for receptions and parties. RUM RUNNER PATIO on the Canal: BBQ and tropical drinks. Open 10-10 Closed Mondays (except holidays). STEPHEN CLARKE mixed-media exhibit opening June 5, 2-5pm. Running until July 5 in the Negril Palate. www.mothgallery.com

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Custom-made maple Harvest table, 6 hoopback chairs (4 side/2 arm), estimated value \$3600, asking \$2900. Maple drop-leaf round table (64" dia. opened), 4 matching captain's chairs, \$550. Bamboo swivel rocker, matching tabouret, \$375. Ethan Allen loveseat, matching valence (33"W) & EA sisal rug. EA Windsor & Boston rockers. Plus more. e-pictures available. 819-684-3568

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0911 CHILDCARE

NURSERY SCHOOL REGISTRATION
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DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES
By Christina Leadlay

The Embassy of Venezuela has been without a proper head of mission for a few months. After **Jorge E. Osorio Garcia** wrapped up his four years as Venezuela's ambassador to Canada, departing on Dec. 18, 2004, Chargé d'Affaires **Margarita Ayello** took over the mission. Now, she hands over the duties to **Jesús Arnaldo Pérez**, who arrived in Ottawa on May 18, and is expected to present his credentials to Governor General **Adrienne Clarkson** on May 27 at Rideau Hall.

While Mr. Pérez's most recent experiences have been in international affairs and diplomacy, he has had an extensive career in the realm of geography. Mr. Pérez went to Europe for his post-secondary studies, taking geography at the University of Toulouse II in France. After receiving his Bachelor's degree in 1982, Mr. Pérez then enrolled at the University of Bordeaux III where he did a Master's degree in tropical geography, ecology and development in 1983. During this time, he worked as Assistant Professor of Spanish at a high school in France, maintaining and sharing his native language. In 1985, Mr. Pérez became involved with the French National Centre of Spatial Studies and Paris' National School of Geographic Science

where he was kept busy interpreting satellite images. That same year he gained a second Master's degree, this time in Remote Perception from the University of Paris. Mr. Pérez returned to Venezuela in 1986 and began working at the Barinas Estate's soil laboratory. He then worked as a technical translator specializing in remote perception, and went on to serve as a researcher at the Institute of the Vegetation International Map, part of France's National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS). By 1990, he was conducting research at the CNRS's Center of Ecology of Renewable Resources. Two years later, Mr. Pérez found himself in Spain as an invited professor at the University of Alcalá de Henares in Madrid. Interestingly, he was simultaneously working on his Ph.D. in rural development at the University of Toulouse II, which he completed in 1994. But his time in academia did not end there. Mr. Pérez remained at the University of Toulouse II, serving as a contracted professor at not only his alma mater, but also at the University of Toulouse I, III and the Superior School of Agriculture, also in Toulouse from 1994 to 1996, taking time in the summer of 1995 to complete a course in space law at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland. In 1996, Mr. Pérez was selected for the audition "Comisión de Especiales" at the Geography

Department at University of Paul Valéry de Montpellier. That same year, he returned to his homeland where he worked as an environmental advisor in the oil exploration field from 1996 to 1998. Throughout his career in geography, Mr. Pérez attended numerous international conferences, mainly in remote perception, but also in areas including tele-detection and development of the Third World, which was held in Venezuela in 1993. He also participated in the fourth Inter-American Congress on the Environment, among other science-related symposia and congresses. From there, Mr. Pérez redirected his career from academics to public service. In 1999, he was appointed Minister of the Environment and Natural Resources of Venezuela under newly-elected President **Hugo Chavez**. He remained in that post for one year, before being appointed as Venezuela's ambassador to Algeria in 2000. After a two-year term, Mr. Pérez returned to France where he had done so much work as a geographer, though now he was head of mission at the Embassy of Venezuela in Paris. In Feb. 2004, Mr. Pérez was summoned home where he took over as Minister of External Affairs for nine months. This was his most recent position before being appointed to his third diplomatic posting, as Venezuela's ambassador to Canada.

EMBASSY Listings

Continued from Page 11

Friday, May 27

Conference: "Canada-US Relations in a Time of Empire" *Le Salon, National Arts Centre (613-563-1341; www.nac-can.ca).* 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.; dinner 7 p.m. The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives is hosting its 25th Anniversary Gala Dinner and Conference, titled "Living with Uncle: Canada-US Relations in a Time of Empire." The day features a panel and lunch speaker discussing Canada-U.S. relations; the evening features filmmaker and broadcaster Avi Lewis as the guest speaker for the reception and dinner.

German Author Reading *Goethe-Institute Ottawa, 47 Clarence Street, suite 480 (613-241-0273).* 8 p.m. Free. Antje Strubel, born in East Germany, speaks about and reads from her fourth novel, *Tupolew 134*. The book tells a story of the two Germanies, based on a true event: the 1978 hijacking of a Polish plane by two East German citizens trying to flee to the West. But *Tupolew 134* is also the story of a search for meaning in a very precisely described human and historical landscape.

Pompeii *Canadian Museum of Civilization, 100 Laurier Street (819-776-7000).* Through September 12. The Roman city of Pompeii was lost for more than 17 centuries, until 1748 when it began to be excavated by archaeologists. Today, the internationally renowned treasures of Pompeii have become the most important group of buildings, and the most complete and intact archaeological remains of their time. In this exceptional new exhibition, built around the "stories" of individuals who were taken by surprise when Vesuvius erupted and who tried in vain to flee the inevitable, the results of archaeological digs and scientific research provide visitors with an experience that is rich in both emotion and discovery. See Preview, page 11.

Saturday, May 28

African-American Music *National Arts Centre (613-947-7000; www.nac-cna.ca).* 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. \$21; \$14.50 for children. "From Africa to the New World" is the final concert in the TD Bank Financial Group Young People's Concerts series this season. The show will explore the African-American experience from slavery to freedom with African drumming, gospel, and lively jazz, performed by the National Arts Centre Orchestra.

Ethiopia celebrates its Downfall of the Dergue day today, the anniversary of the day when the Dergue regime was overthrown. Contact the embassy (613-235-6637).

Renaissance Exhibit *National Gallery of Canada, 380 Sussex Drive (613-990-1985).* Through September 5. Art from the High Renaissance, the period in Italy from 1500-1550, will be highlighted in this special exhibit, titled *Leonardo, Michelangelo, and the Renaissance in Florence*. It includes sculptures, drawings, paintings and prints never before seen together. See Preview, page 11.

Sunday, May 29

Lotna *Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington Street (613-232-6727).* \$9; \$6 members. 7 p.m. The final installment in the Canadian Film Institute's showing of famous director Andrzej Wajda's war films, *Lotna* is the tale of a sword-wielding Polish horseman fighting futilely against the German war machine of the Second World War. Polish, with English subtitles.

Sabbath Choir *Temple Israel, 1303 Prince of Wales Drive (613-731-9278).* 7 - 9 p.m. Music Ebraica, the chamber choir, presents *Ki Eshmera Shabbat*—songs of Sabbath— at Temple Israel today. Featuring the music of Solomone Rossi, Saul Irving Glick, Ben Steinberg, David Burger and other composers. Guest conductor Jane Wood.

Monday, May 30

Speech: "Dangerous Reporting" *Library, National Press Club, 165 Sparks Street (613-521-4855).* \$20; \$5 students. 6 p.m. Ottawa Citizen reporter Juliet O'Neill, whose house was raided by the RCMP last year, gives a speech called "What to do if the Police Beat a Path to Your Door." Sponsored by the Media Club.

Wednesday, June 1

Annual Garden Party *Spanish Ambassador's Residence, 11 Crescent Road (613-231-2561).* 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. \$75. The Ottawa Symphony Orchestra is hosting its annual fundraiser, "Fête Champêtre," at the residence of the Spanish ambassador, Jose Ignacio Carbajal. Proceeds from the event, sponsored by Bombardier, help support outreach programs in local schools.

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1

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Taiwanese Dance

The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office hosted an evening of dance from the South Island Aboriginal people of Taiwan on May 18.

1. Taipei Representative Thomas Chen (right) and his wife Mai Chen.
2. Dancers in full costume.



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PHOTOGRAPH BY JORDAN MICHAEL SMITH

Pink Tea

A fundraising tea in support of breast cancer research was held May 24 at the Rockcliffe residence of Mai and Thomas Chen, Representative, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office.

3. Mai Chen (left) with Senator Vivienne Poy, who donated a scarf for the silent auction fundraiser.



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PHOTOGRAPHS BY JORDAN MICHAEL SMITH

Austria

The Embassy of Austria was busy on May 20. Ambassador Otto Ditz officially opened the Austrian tent at the Tulip Festival at Major's Hill Park at noon, and then that evening a reception honouring the 50th Anniversary of the Austrian State Treaty was held at his residence.

4. Otto Ditz, Ambassador of Austria; with Fazli Corman, Counsellor, Embassy of Turkey, at the opening of the Austrian tulip tent at Major's Hill Park.
5. Valery V. Fomin, Senior Counsellor, Embassy of Russia; Matthias Radosztics, Director, Austrian Cultural Forum, Embassy of Austria; Claudia Kornhaas; and Alessandro Cortese, Minister Counsellor, Embassy of Italy, at the evening reception.
6. Dr. Johannes Kyrle, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Austria; Mr. Ditz; and Hans Ockermueller, former Austrian Consul General for Alberta and Victoria, B.C.

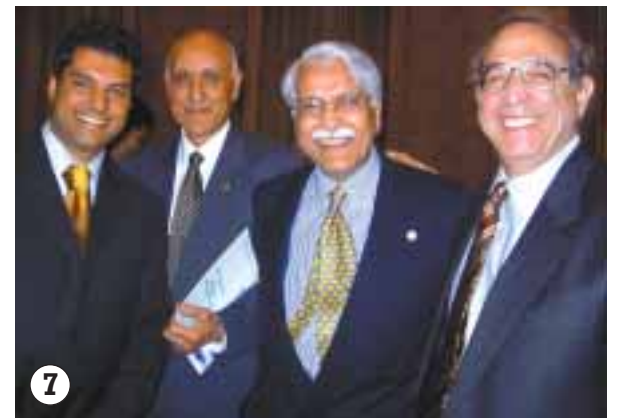


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PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHRISTINA LEADLAY



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Pakistan in Canada

The 22nd annual Gala Dinner and Awards Presentation of the Canada-Pakistan Business Council was held on Parliament Hill, May 17.

7. Tory MP Rahim Jaffer; Azhar Ali Khan, member of the Immigration and Refugee Board; Nasir Islam, adjunct professor, University of Ottawa; and Elliot Tepper, Carleton University professor and Director of the CPBC.
8. Ali M. Mir, assistant to the International Trade Deputy Minister; Liberal MP Derek Lee; and Glen Hodgins, Deputy Director of the South Asia Division, Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC).
9. Ferry de Kerckhove, Director General of FAC's International Organizations Bureau and former Canadian high commissioner to Pakistan; and Senator Mobina Jaffer.



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PHOTOGRAPHS BY SARAH MCGREGOR

Saudi Visit

The Embassy of Saudi Arabia hosted a dinner on May 18 to honour the visit of Dr. Salih A.M. Bin Hemaïd, Chairman of the Shura Council of Saudi Arabia, who led a delegation visiting Canada from May 17-22.

10. Dr. Salih A.M. Bin Hemaïd, Chairman of the Shura Council of Saudi Arabia; and Mohammed Al-Hussaini, Ambassador of Saudi Arabia.
11. Mr. Al-Hussaini, Dr. Bin Hemaïd, and Peter Milliken.
12. Mr. Al-Hussaini; Liberal MP Mario Silva; Dr. Bin Hemaïd; Mr. Milliken, Speaker of the House of Commons; Rahim Jaffer, Conservative MP; and Dr. Jamal Soleiman, Imam of the Ottawa Mosque.



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11



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