THE CIIA’S MISSION

As Canada’s only not-for-profit public policy institute spanning the full range of international affairs issues, the Canadian Institute of International Affairs has a unique and vital role to play in promoting public understanding of international events and in influencing public policy in the international domain. As we celebrate our 75th anniversary in 2003, we are reaching out to new audiences, particularly to students, and we continue with pride to serve a changing and internationally active country.

YEARLY OVERVIEW

2002-2003 was marked by the CIIA’s 75th anniversary celebrations. The Institute had a new anniversary logo developed for use on letterhead and promotional materials, and planned exciting events such as the meeting of former foreign ministers held on 30 January 2003, the CIIA’s birthday, and an expanded foreign policy conference in Toronto. The CIIA’s archives were plundered for historical information used to film a short commemorative video about the history of the CIIA; the video encompasses photographs and interviews with CIIA supporters and long-time members to tell the story of this historic institution. Branches held celebratory events in their local communities, and the National Office once again welcomed friends of the CIIA to the annual garden party. Articles by Louise Arbour, the Hon. Bill Graham, Kim Nossal, and Denis Stairs were published in *Behind the Headlines* and we were thrilled to assist in the launch, with Nicholas Hoare bookstore in Toronto, of Margaret MacMillan’s bestselling *Paris 1919*.

The CIIA saw several new developments this year: the Canadian Foreign Relations Index was made available on-line in Internet format, a new database was acquired to assist with the streamlining of information management, and a new category of membership, one aimed at young professionals, was introduced. Contributions were made, by the National Office and individual branches, to the Department of Foreign Affairs’ Foreign Policy Dialogue.

We were also pleased to welcome to the National Office York University intern Jordan Dupuis, who proved invaluable during this busy year, and Robert Johnstone, who was brought on board as a senior advisor. The *International Journal* bid thank you and farewell to Margaret MacMillan, and welcomed new editor Joseph Jockel.

We were sad to hear of Peter Barnard’s passing. Mr. Barnard was a former member of the Board of Directors (1995-1999)

NATIONAL PROGRAMS

The Sylvia Ostry Foundation and the National Office of the CIIA once again joined efforts to organize the annual Sylvia Ostry Foundation Lecture. This year’s guest speaker was PAUL VOLCKER. Serving in the US Federal Government for almost 30 years under five presidents, Mr. Volcker was chairman of the board of governors of the Federal Reserve System from 1979-1987. Mr. Volcker offered a wealth of insight into banking, finance, corporate responsibility, governance, accounting standards, and the past and future of capital markets. Mr. Volcker spoke on 2 October 2002 at the Toronto Board of Trade.

The Sylvia Ostry Foundation was created in 1992 by a number of Canadians who wanted to honour one of Canada’s leading citizens. Each year the Foundation invites a prominent international figure to deliver a lecture on a topic of public interest.

On 29 October 2002 the National Office organized a lunch with the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and the Chairman of the Council on Foreign Relations, and the Chairman of the Institute for International Economics, and the former Chairman of Lehman Brothers. All these people are one man: PETER G. PETERSON Mr. Peterson was, among other things, President Nixon’s Secretary of Commerce and the Chair of the National Commission on Productivity. Today he is the Chairman of The Blackstone Group in New York, one of the world’s leading investment and advisory firms, as well as a director of the Sony Corporation and the Museum of Modern Art. He has recently served as the chairman of the Council on Foreign Relations’ Independent Task Force on Public Diplomacy which has just released its report “Public Diplomacy and the War on Terrorism.” He also co-chaired the Conference Board Commission on Public Trust...
and Private Enterprise, which has recently released its first report calling for major reforms in corporate compensation practices. Mr. Peterson spoke about current dilemmas in US policy -- from Iraq to Enron.

The CIIA’s 75th anniversary year was an ideal time to celebrate the Institute’s long-standing members. The CIIA was pleased to send a commemorative plaque to all those who have been members for 50 plus years. Membership records showed that 25 people were members of the CIIA for more than 50 years. They are (presented according to the year of joining the CIIA):

Dr. George Curtis (1932), Allan O. Gibbons (1933), Benjamin Rogers (1938), Hon. Mitchell Sharp (1938), Dr. George Haythorne (1939), Mary Giles Heintzman (1944), Elizabeth Gibson (1944), Dorothy Bishop (1945), Dr. David ML Farr (1945), David A. Golden (1945), Dr. Douglas Anglin (1947), Dr. Goldwin S. French (1947), John E. Toten (1948), Herbert B. Mayer (1949), W.H. Barton (1950), Sylva M. Gelber (1950), Anthony G.S. Griffin (1950), Margaret G. Smith (1951), Dr. Robert Spencer (1951), Dr. Elizabeth M. Wallace (1951), Douglas C. Matthews (1952), Barbara Whitley (1952), Gordon V. Cullingham (1953), Dr. D.J. Daly (1953), and Anne M. Loutit (1953).

The CIIA paid a special tribute to all members of this elite group during the special 75th anniversary event in Ottawa on 30 January 2003.

Of this group, two members, Benjamin Rogers, who was the Acting National Secretary in 1937-38, and the Hon. Mitchell Sharp, were nominated to receive the inaugural DISTINGUISHED MEMBER AWARD for their contribution to the Institute and promotion of its mandate.

The CIIA’s 75th anniversary event was held in Ottawa with seven former foreign ministers and a sold out crowd. FOREIGN MINISTERS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES brought together seven prominent statesmen who shared insights on events past and speculated on the future position of Canada in the world. The discussion spanned almost 40 years of Canadian foreign policy-making and recorded a living history of Canada’s role in the world based on the experience of those who helped shape key foreign policy decisions. An oral history of this nature has never been produced. In attendance were Mitchell Sharp (1968-1974), Allan MacEachen (1974-1976, 1982-1984), Flora MacDonald (1979-1980), Joe Clark (1984-1991), Barbara McDougall (1991-1993), Perrin Beatty (1993), and Lloyd Axworthy (1996-2000). The event opened with a screening of the CIIA’s commemorative video. The session was held in the Pearson Building at the Department of Foreign Affairs and was hosted by CBC’s Anna-Maria Tremonti. The CBC recorded and aired the proceedings and the Globe and Mail served as media partner. The CIIA is especially grateful for the assistance of the Hon. John Godfrey, Bob Ramsay, and Louise Dupere of Foreign Affairs.

In March 2003 the CIIA again co-hosted the John Holmes lecture with Glendon College. The John Holmes Lecture Series was created in 1989 to commemorate the life and writings of John W. Holmes, Canadian diplomat, academic, and writer. In addition to serving as Executive Director of the CIIA, Holmes also taught a course on Canadian foreign policy at Glendon College, where the Institute is currently housed. When the CIIA took up residence in Glendon Manor in 1999 the partnership with the college began. The 2003 lecture was presented by THE RIGHT HONOURABLE KIM CAMP-BELL. Her subject was “Canada in the 21st Century: Where is John Holmes When We Need Him?”

FOREIGN POLICY CONFERENCE


More than 200 distinguished CIIA members and foreign policy experts gathered in Toronto to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Institute at the three-day conference which provided an outlet for interested parties to discuss Canada’s present and future roles in world affairs.

This year’s forum was fortuitously timed to make a contribution to the open foreign policy dialogue launched by Canada’s Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham, which was slated to end later that month.

Panelists and guests shared their thoughts and opinions on a range of issues, namely trends in Canadian foreign policy, how Canada is perceived abroad, Canada-U.S. relations and current challenges facing Canadian foreign policy makers. Several speakers expressed strong concerns regarding the present state of the military and Canada’s shrinking foreign service. Some argued that, as a result of low funding and lack of support, the quality of Canada’s foreign service has slowly eroded, hindering Ottawa’s ability to establish a strong diplomatic presence internationally. The low level of Canada’s overseas development assistance was a concern for some speakers.
Also cited was Canada’s declining military and its growing inability to undertake important global actions. Over the past decade Canadian troops have been deployed around the globe on UN peacekeeping missions namely Cyprus, Somalia, Eritrea, Bosnia and most recently Afghanistan. As military obligations increase internationally, however, it was argued Canada’s defence department will find it difficult to shoulder the burden of actively taking part in international peacekeeping endeavors. Both panelists and conference participants discussed possible solutions to the current challenges and recommended Canada refocus its role on the global political stage.

It was said Canada should follow its global interests rather than pursuing its values. With less commitment to collective activities, Canada can dedicate more energy to achieving its own national objectives. The consensus was that Canada must seek to secure a stronger voice in Washington, but many argued that Ottawa must also work to build on multilateral relationships with other global players in Europe and Asia.

The conference also featured a STUDENT FOREIGN POLICY SYMPOSIUM which gave 43 young men and women from across Canada the opportunity to participate in the dialogue. All of the participants were selected on the basis of their previous academic and practical experiences and had to provide a one-page proposal suggesting issues for discussion.

Divided in four working groups, students tackled a variety of subjects, including Canadian multi-lateralism, global security, prosperity and Canadian values on the world stage. Each group’s session was attended by different policy experts from a number of government and NGO agencies, such as DFAIT, DND, Pearson Peacekeeping Centre, Ontario Government and CIIA. The goal was to provide students with timely feedback on their policy recommendations and proposals.

After two hours of in-group deliberations students reconvened for a plenary session to present their policy recommendations and receive feedback from other participants. One suggestion made by students was the creation of a permanent forum for students to engage in Canadian foreign policy-related discussions. All recommendations made by students have been documented and were sent to Ottawa for review by the end of April as part of CIIA participation in the Foreign Policy Dialogue.

The conference was generously sponsored by the Henry N.R. Jackman Foundation, the Donner Canadian Foundation, The Globe and Mail, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, and the Department of National Defence.

**AROUND THE BRANCHES**

The programming year in 2002-2003 was largely dominated by widespread concerns over global security and terrorism threats, the looming crisis in the United Nations and the situation in the Middle East. As in the past, Canada’s relations with the United States dominated Canadian foreign policy debates, which received special attention this year due to Canada’s possible participation in the US-led war in Iraq. Also, in early 2003, the Department of Foreign Affairs conducted its Foreign Policy Dialogue with the public and many members and branches contributed a great deal to facilitating DFAIT in its efforts.

Many members from HALIFAX, MONTREAL, NATIONAL CAPITAL, SASKATOON, VANCOUVER and VICTORIA branches participated in the Townhall meetings with Minister Graham, whereas VICTORIA and NATIONAL CAPITAL branches submitted collective reports to the government respectively entitled “Giving Greater Weight to Canadian Foreign Policy” and “North American Security and Defence in 2003: Selected Canadian Principles and Considerations”.

The only non-Canadian branch of the CIIA, in BOSTON, organized a number of events related to US-Canada bilateral relations including meetings with Dr. Stephen Clarkson and Massachusetts Governor, Hon. Jane Swift.

The HALIFAX branch spent considerable amount of resources in preparation of a one-day conference entitled “Canada Looks Abroad - The Atlantic Canadian Perspective 65 Years Later” to commemorate one of the Branch’s early contributions to discussion and dialogue on Canadian foreign policy when the CIIA was merely a decade old. Sixty-five years ago, Prof. R. A. MacKay with E. B. Rogers published Canada Looks Abroad (Oxford University Press, 1938) in order to help Canadians “reach an individual judgment as to the course which it is most advisable for Canada to pursue,” as J.W. Dafoe states in the foreword. This extensive work on helping the public craft the direction of Canadian foreign policy was aided by a study group of the Halifax Branch at that time.

In that spirit, the Halifax Branch has organized the one-day, all-day conference, entitled “Canada Looks Abroad: The Atlantic Canadian Perspective,” on Saturday, February 1, 2003, at Saint Mary’s University in Halifax. With four plenary sessions on peace and security, international treaties and law, international trade and development, and the global environment, the conference brought together voices from the public, private, academic and civil society sectors in each panel.

As part of the CIIA’s commitment to public outreach and provision of a forum for discussion and dialogue on interna-
tional affairs from a Canadian perspective, the conference was also open and free to the larger Halifax community due to a John Holmes grant from the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development (CCFPD) at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT). The grant funds the “Halifax Dialogues,” a series of forums on Canadian foreign policy development.

During this year, many branches used an opportunity to organize events related to newly published books on Canadian foreign policy. Several branches, including MONTREAL, SASKATOON, REGINA, TORONTO, WATERLOO REGION, VANCOUVER and VICTORIA hosted several well-known Canadian authors, among them Andrew Cohen who addressed "While Canada Slept: How we lost our place in the World", Dr. Stephen Clarkson, who addressed "Uncle Sam and Us" and Dr. Margaret MacMillan who engaged members across the country in a lively discussion on Paris’ conference in 1919 and the relevance of its outcomes to current world politics.

The MONTREAL branch organized a series of panel discussions centered on issues of Canada-U.S. defense relations, led by Professor Des Morton, and the crisis which emerged in the international community over the war in Iraq an its implications for multinational organizations, such as NATO, UN and the G8.

The NATIONAL CAPITAL branch hosted a number of prominent speakers including Paul Heinbecker, Canadian Ambassador to the UN, and David Malone, President of the International Peace Academy. The TORONTO branch organized among other things a dinner event with Hon. John McCallum, Minister of National Defence who addressed "Guiding Canada’s Defence Policy in a Challenging World Environment”.

Among the offerings of the WATERLOO REGION branch was a public forum on Iraq organized in cooperation with the Project Plowshares, and a presentation by Lieutenant-General Ken Pennie, Canadian Deputy Commander-in-Chief at NORAD.

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL

With the Winter 2002-2003 issue of the International Journal, Margaret MacMillan’s term as co-editor came to an end. We would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge Dr. MacMillan’s work on the Journal, in particular, her very successful efforts in attracting journalists and practitioners as authors, part of an ongoing effort to make the Journal more accessible to a wider audience.

A search committee was struck, chaired by Alan Broadbent, to find a replacement for Margaret. We are delighted to announce the Joseph T. Jockel joined Beth Fischer as co-editor of the Journal. He is professor and Director, Canadian Studies Program, at St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York. He is an authority on Canadian foreign relations, particularly defence policy and Canada-US relations.

THE JOHN HOLMES LIBRARY

The highlight both for the Library and for the Institute was the release of the new Internet version of the Canadian Foreign Relations Index (CFRI) in July 2002. The index includes over 40,000 citations on Canada’s foreign, economic, and defence relations since 1945. It replaces the print equivalent A Bibliography of Works on Canadian Foreign Relations and is an alternative to the CD-ROM version, which will continue to be offered. Compiled by the staff of the John Holmes Library over the past several decades it covers articles, books, chapters from edited works, theses, treaties, government documents and unpublished materials. Special reduced rates are available for CIIA members. The CFRI has been described as ‘essential for collections supporting international relations and Canadian Studies programs.’
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