International development is about people. It is about giving every person, everywhere, a chance to realize his or her full human potential...

Canada occupies a position of leadership among the open, advanced societies, which are becoming increasingly influential [in the world]...

Canada’s geographic location gives it an important advantage as new poles of political and economic power emerge in the Pacific and Latin America.

Canada’s cultural heritage gives it privileged access to the anglophone and francophone worlds, as well as to the homelands of Canadians drawn from every part of the globe who make up its multicultural personality.

... The Government is committed to ensuring that Canada will continue to do its fair share for the world, maintaining our proud and uniquely Canadian contribution to global governance and prosperity.

The classical scope of responsibility – to one’s own person, to one’s family, to one’s community and nation – must be broadened. Not even the [idea from the bible] of responsibility to all human beings is sufficiently broad. The new responsibility must be more. It must extend through space and through all time. It must be inclusive of persons far beyond our own national frontiers; it must encompass the physical planet and all its ingredients – water and air, non-renewable resources, living organisms; it must extend into the future not just for months or years, but for decades.


There are many people who believe it is wrong for others to say they believe in the ideals of democracy unless they support those ideals for all the people of the world.

Someone who says they have a particular value or belief but whose actions say something else is known as a “hypocrite” (e.g., Jane calls herself an “environmentalist” but she does not reduce, reuse, or recycle).

Each one of us has global responsibilities, and our decisions, choices, and actions – everything we do in our daily lives – should support our global responsibilities.

*Ideals of Democracy: equality, justice, the rule of law, fundamental freedoms, the right to be treated with fairness and dignity, citizen participation in government...