



THE KYOTO PROTOCOL ENTERED INTO FORCE ON

Canada to Host Next Major International Meeting Setting Global Course on Climate Change Beyond Kyoto

16/02/2005 – Prime Minister Paul Martin marked today's entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol on climate change by announcing that Canada will host the Eleventh Conference of the Parties (CoP 11) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Montreal from November 28 to December 9, 2005.

The Montreal Conference on Climate (CoP 11) will be a significant event, in that it will also be the first Meeting of the Parties (MoP1) to the Kyoto Protocol. The meeting will mark the beginning of discussion among countries to determine the longer term global approach on climate change after 2012.

"Taking on a leadership role by hosting this meeting is profoundly in Canada's national interest," said Prime Minister Martin. "Canadians want us to prepare for the future. That means an environmental commitment to clean air, clean water and good health. It also means an economy that takes full advantage of sustainable principles and sustainable technologies."

Environment Minister Stéphane Dion, who will hold the gavel as Chair of the global gathering, says the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol is an opportunity for Canada. "Humanity must emerge from the 21st century having learned to control its impact on the climate. The Montreal Conference on Climate will be



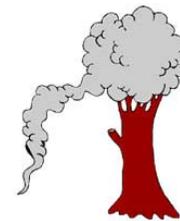
a turning point: it will allow the process of identifying the post-2012 international regime to get off on the right foot."

Canada, as chair of the meeting is also uniquely positioned to lead efforts to produce an effective and inclusive agreement – one including the United States and that sets targets for emerging, developing nations such as China and India.

Industry Minister David Emerson says the opportunity today to transform our way of doing business in a sustainable manner is one Canadians and the Government of Canada is ready to embrace. "Canada has the opportunity to show how environmental responsibility can lead to competitive advantage. By continuing to develop and deploy innovative green technologies, and by becoming more efficient in our practices, we can enjoy a dual economic and environmental benefit."

Montreal is no stranger to hosting international environmental conferences that produce beneficial results. It was in Montreal in 1987 that global environment ministers agreed to limit ozone depleting substances through the Montreal Protocol. The City is also home to the United Nations Biodiversity Secretariat. The Montreal Conference on Climate is expected to be attended by more than 10,000 delegates, media and observers.

Source: Inquiry Centre Environment Canada (<http://www.ec.gc.ca>)



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