



Thomas d'Aquino
President and Chief Executive
Président et chef de la direction

February 6, 2006

The Right Honourable Stephen J. Harper, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Government of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
Langevin Block, 80 Wellington Street
OTTAWA
K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister,

The members of the *Canadian Council of Chief Executives* join me in extending to you warmest congratulations on the occasion of your swearing-in as Canada's 22nd Prime Minister. We also compliment you on assembling an impressive Cabinet team and on a flawless post-election transition.

As you and your Cabinet lay the groundwork for a new session of Parliament, a Speech from the Throne and a budget, my Council colleagues and I stand ready to support you in any way possible.

In particular, Prime Minister, we look to you for leadership in building on Canada's proud record of achievement as one of the world's best performing countries. As leaders of Canadian enterprise, we are prepared to do our part in shaping an ever more prosperous future for Canadians in an increasingly competitive and unpredictable global environment.

The weeks and months ahead will not be easy ones as you endeavour to govern well and implement your bold and ambitious policies. A minority Parliament will test the skills, courage and determination of you and your team. I have every confidence that you are more than up to the challenge.

The Council's Chairman Richard George and my fellow members of the CCCE's Executive Committee -- Dominic D'Alessandro, Paul Desmarais, Jr., Jacques Lamarre, Gordon Nixon, and Hartley Richardson -- would welcome a meeting with you at an early date to exchange views on our respective priorities.

In the meantime, Prime Minister, please accept my best wishes and do not hesitate to call on me if I can be of help in the coming days.

Sincerely,
Thomas d'Aquino

99 Bank Street, Suite 1001, Ottawa, Canada, K1P 6B9 Telephone (613) 238-3727, Facsimile (613) 236-8679

99, rue Bank, bureau 1001, Ottawa, Canada, K1P 6B9 Téléphone (613) 238-3727, Télécopieur (613) 236-8679

leaders@ceocouncil.ca

www.ceocouncil.ca

*formerly Business Council on National Issues