

SPEAKING NOTES
for
PETER HALPIN

Thursday, February 10, 12:30 pm

GOOD AFTERNOON.

FOR THOSE OF YOU I HAVEN'T MET, MY NAME IS PETER HALPIN.

I AM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ASSOCIATION OF ATLANTIC UNIVERSITIES - THE AAU.

BEFORE INTRODUCING OUR KEYNOTE LUNCHEON SPEAKER, JEFFREY SIMPSON, I WILL TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A FEW, BRIEF COMMENTS.

FIRST, I WISH TO THANK ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN TODAY'S EVENT.

IF OUR UNIVERSITIES ARE TO ACHIEVE THEIR MISSION IN PLAYING A MORE ACTIVE AND EFFECTIVE ROLE IN THE REGION'S ECONOMY, IT BECOMES INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT FOR US TO ENGAGE IN AN ACTIVE DIALOGUE AND PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITY LEADERS.

(PAUSE)

YOUR INTEREST AND SUPPORT IS MOST APPRECIATED!

OUTCOMES, RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION ITEMS FROM TODAY'S SESSION WILL BE CAPTURED IN A REPORT WHICH WILL BE POSTED ON THE AAU'S WEB SITE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. WE WILL ENSURE ALL PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE A COPY OF THE REPORT.

TODAY'S SESSION WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF ACOA (NS) AND THE TD BANK FINANCIAL GROUP.

ACOA, IN PARTICULAR, HAS DEMONSTRATED A GREAT COMMITMENT TOWARDS OUR UNIVERSITIES AND THE ROLE WE PLAY IN ATLANTIC

CANADA'S KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY.

I ALSO WISH TO THANK OUR PRESENTERS WHO HAVE GIVEN SO GENEROUSLY OF THEIR TIME TO SHARE THEIR POINTS OF VIEW ABOUT THE CHANGING ROLE OF UNIVERSITIES IN THE ECONOMY.

YOUR PRESENTATIONS WERE THOUGHT PROVOKING AND WILL CONTRIBUTE TOWARD OUR UNIVERSITIES WORKING MORE CLOSELY AND EFFECTIVELY WITH GOVERNMENTS AT ALL LEVELS, POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVES, BUSINESS & INDUSTRY, AND SPECIAL INTERESTS, TO ENSURE THE FUTURE PROSPERITY OF ATLANTIC CANADA AND ITS COMMUNITIES.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK OUR MODERATOR, JIM MEEK, FOR HIS INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO TODAY'S SESSION.

TODAY'S PRESENTATIONS WILL ALSO BE POSTED ON THE AAU'S WEB SITE.

IF I MAY, I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INTRODUCE MANY OF OUR UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS FROM ACROSS THE REGION WHO PARTICIPATED TODAY:

- GAIL DINTER-GOTTLIEB, ACADIA UNIVERSITY;**
- SEAN RILEY, ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY;**
- WADE MACLAUHLAN, UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND;**
- BILL BARKER, UNIVERSITY OF KING'S COLLEGE;**
- TOM TRAVES, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY;- PHILIP HICKS, NOVA SCOTIA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE;**

- COLIN DODDS, SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY;
- DAN O'BRIEN, ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY;
- ERIC BERESFORD, ATLANTIC SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY;
- SHEILA BROWN, MOUNT SAINT VINCENT UNIVERSITY AND,
- PAUL GREENHALGH, NSCAD UNIVERSITY.

FINALLY, I REMIND YOU TO FILL-OUT THE EVALUATION FORM FOR TODAY'S SESSION. YOUR FEEDBACK IS INVALUABLE TO THE AAU AND WILL HELP GUIDE OUR APPROACH TO FUTURE EVENTS.

COMPLETED EVALUATION FORMS WILL BE COLLECTED AT THE DOOR UPON YOUR DEPARTURE.

IN SOME WAYS, I BELIEVE OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER, JEFFREY SIMPSON, NEEDS LITTLE INTRODUCTION.

HE IS ONE OF CANADA'S FOREMOST MEDIA PERSONALITY'S AND OPINION LEADERS.

HIS NATIONAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS COLUMN IN THE GLOBE & MAIL IS READ DAILY BY MILLIONS OF CANADIANS, COAST - TO - COAST.

HOW OFTEN IN THE COURSE OF OUR DAILY AFFAIRS, HAVE WE HEARD: 'DID YOU READ JEFFREY SIMPSON'S COLUMN IN THE GLOBE TODAY? IF YOU HAVEN'T, GO GET IT, ITS WORTH READING.'

FOR ME, THAT IS THE ULTIMATE TESTIMONY TO THE VALUE CANADIANS PLACE ON JEFFREY SIMPSON'S PERSPECTIVE ON THE ISSUES OF THE DAY.

IN SHORT, HIS COLUMN IS CONSIDERED A MUST READ AMONG THOSE WHO TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN NATIONAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

IT IS INDEED A GREAT PRIVILEGE, ON BEHALF OF THE AAU, TO HAVE JEFFREY JOIN US TODAY IN HALIFAX TO SHARE HIS VIEWS ON THE CHANGING ROLE OF UNIVERSITIES.

PLEASE JOIN ME IN WELCOMING JEFFREY SIMPSON!