Let's Count Our Blessings - A New Year's Perspective

Friday, January 11, 2002 – A recent editorial cartoon in the Ottawa Citizen said it all.

The subject was New Year's Resolutions, and it featured three nationalities, Canadian, American and Afghan. The Canadian resolved to "exercise", the American, to "lose weight". The New Year's challenge for the Afghan, meanwhile, was of a very different order - "to survive".

All of this is to suggest that negativism about the state of this country, so often the bent of editorial commentators these days, needs to be put in context. One doesn't have to be a Pollyanna to observe that there is a great deal for Canadians to rejoice in. Nor does that observation deny that there is much yet to be done to make this a more just and prosperous society and, indeed, to contribute to a more equitable world.

In a New Year's commentary published in the Toronto Star this week, Judith Maxwell, CPRN's President, reviews some of the things Canadians can be grateful for, before going on to outline major challenges we face as we enter 2002.

You can access or download her commentary, **"Let's Count Our Blessings"**, by clicking here.

P.S. Next week, "e-network" will have a different look. We will be launching our first HTML version. We hope this will make it more readable and more appealing. If you have trouble reading the HTML format, we want to hear from you. Attached to next week's e-network will be a reply form. Please fill it out and we will make sure that you continue to receive the message in the current text format.

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