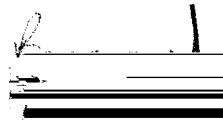




CANADA



PRIME MINISTER PREMIER MINISTRE

OTTAWA, K1A 0A2

August 26, 1998

Dear Mr. Secretary-General:

Thank you for your letter of June 26, 1998, with which you forwarded copies of the *Youth Charter for a Twenty-First Century Free of Drugs* and the *Vision from Banff*, both of which were approved at the United Nations Drug Control Programme Youth Event, which was held in Banff on April 18, 1997.

The Government of Canada was pleased to have been invited to host this event, which brought together more than 250 youth delegates from over 35 countries, all of whom are very involved in issues of substance abuse among youth. As you know, Canada has been very active in the field of preventing substance abuse, and substance abuse among youth is an issue of particular concern to my government.

I can assure you that you can count on continued Canadian support for the UN's activities in this area, including the action plans that were adopted at the Special Session held recently in New York. Addressing the international trade in illicit drugs - along with its implications for sustainable development and transnational crime - remains a key priority on our foreign policy agenda.

Yours sincerely,

His Excellency Kofi A. Annan
Secretary-General of the United Nations
United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017