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Closing Remarks: Where Do We Go from Here

Henry T. King Jr.

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CLOSING REMARKS: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Henry T. King, Jr.

Conclusion

Naturally, we give thought to next year's conference. We have sort of temporarily styled it multiple actors and Canada/U.S. relations. We are going to take a broad-spectrum approach. We need a broad topic because it gives us an opportunity to approach a lot of subjects.

Our first session will deal with multiple issues, multiple actors. The players in Canada/U.S. relationship, an overview. One of the areas that plays a role here, are cities across the border. There is competition for inward investment between cities. There are waste disposal problems between Canada and Detroit. We are going to look at that. Then we have the border infrastructure, getting to yes on bridges, tunnels, roads and rail, as well as customs and immigration challenges. We will be looking at another subject, the environment. Specifically, problems arising from the Garrison Dam and the Columbia River. We will be looking at the role of the NGO's. I have felt that it is very important to have the NGO's here. The International Joint Commission on environmental issues will be an important part of this discussion. I would like to have the NGO's play more of a role because they do affect our relationship.

We will be looking at a number of perpetual problems here, including the view of the unions, producers, sawmills, the provinces in the states, and, above all, the consumers. We will also be examining the role of the media and public perceptions. Fisheries is a very important subject. It involves fishers, native sportsmen, states, and provinces. It is a subject that has produced a lot of controversy between our two countries. It is a sweeping subject. We want to preserve the fish, but everybody wants their stake in it. This has affected our Canada/U.S. relationship in many ways.

We will be looking at steel, the unions, industry, governments and the tribunals. This is a subject that is particularly dear to us in Ohio. Agriculture, we will look at farmers, agri-food industries, scientists, and consumers.

The Arctic and indigenous people requires attention. We might look at the role of the indigenous people's industry and self-government. There is the problem of western alienation in Canada and the United States. There are some legislators, both in Washington and British Columbia, who have dreamed of a new country called Cascadia. That is one possible subject. In addition, what is the place of Québec in the North American context? These

are some of the subjects. We will be looking at, border lines, economic regions, social links and political frontiers. This is a sweeping conference. I hope it will be our best ever.

But our style is to think big and beyond the environment, to covering the multitude of subjects that affect the Canada/U.S. relationship, so that we understand each other. That is the whole purpose in this thing. We certainly have tried to do it. You got the view on defense yesterday with Jack David. You got the Canadian view on a number of other subjects. So the whole purpose is dialogue. I will always limit our speakers to a set time limit, so that we get our questions on the table. I thought that the discussion last night was fantastic. Maybe it was a little shorter than I would have liked, but this business of looking at something that affects us all in terms of the thing that makes us different. I treasure civil liberties. It is vital. Look beyond the environment. Look to the future. Anticipate problems. Take the long view.

It is different from other conferences. You wonder why it is a four-day conference that starts Thursday night with our Advisory Board meeting and goes until Sunday noon. We feel there is value in getting to know each other. In other words, if you have a continuum of contact, you get an understanding of people's views across the border. This is our style and we very much hope that everybody here will be with us next year. It is very important to do so and support us by your attendance.

I want to thank some people that were instrumental in making the conference the success that it was. I particularly want to thank John Freed for working on the design of the conference. What I do is I prepare a draft. I send it over the border to John, he massages it, and then we go back and forth. He is my Canadian conscience. Unfortunately, he is not here because he is attending an international bank meeting, a finance meeting in Washington.

I have been very encouraged of the cooperation with the University of Western Ontario and the opportunity to work with Ian Holloway and Chios Carmody. That has been helpful. Our Canadian Consulate, Rocko DelVecchio, George Costaris, Mary Lynn Becker and others have been very supportive. Our students Donovan Steltzner, Jennifer Burrill, and Chris Rassi standing right up there, have been most important. Julianna Herrick, an assistant and former editor of the journal has worked hard. Andy Dorchak is our research arm. When I start my work tomorrow morning on getting speakers for next year's conference, my first port of call is Andy Dorchak. He may hide behind a beard, but he is always there. He cannot hide from me, because I will track him down. David Wright did the acoustics. Our Court Reporters are very good. Julie Kraus has been an encouragement from start to finish. She even worried about me and the bar last night. She wanted me to get to bed early, so I would be well today. It is very welcome. There is one very special person here in the forum, Dan Ujczko. He is the assistant to the

Judge at the District Court in Youngstown, Ohio. Dan would you stand up just so we all know you? Thank you very much.

We try to get a survey in terms of the best players. I think we had probably, by far, the most outstanding cadre of speakers that we have ever had; Government Minister of Foreign Affairs, people that were very distinguished by their very posture. I thought we had a wonderful start with Steve Flynn, and then people like Derek Burney, and others following up. I thank the speakers above all for the work they did. I hope we have good memories of this conference. I think there is a mistake in prolonging it too long. I will take any of your ideas on next year's conference, be happy to hear them. It has been a wonderful experience.

We started on a wonderful note with Steve Flynn, and we ended up on a wonderful note with our panel chaired by Brad Smith featuring David Gantz, Marcella Szel, and González Baz. I hope we are richer in friendships. I hope we are richer in breadth of vision, which is in very short supply these days, and I look forward to seeing you next year for what will even be a better conference. So, with that, the one rule I always follow is quit while you are ahead. Thank you, very much.

