

Message from the Honorable Herb Gray, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister responsible for the Government of Canada's millennium initiative.

The Elder Transcripts March 2001.

Congratulations and best wishes to the Municipality of the District of Digby on launching its Web site! The Web site, combines with the documented stories of local elders, is an excellent method of teaching history to students. What better way to learn about their heritage than to hear it firsthand, from the people that played an important role in shaping the history of the area.

The Government of Canada is proud to support The Elder Transcript with a maximum financial contribution of \$17,748 through the Canada Millennium Partnership Program. This program contributes up to one third of eligible project costs, while the private sector and other organizations provide the remaining funding.

(Le gouvernement du Canada est fier d'appuyer le projet Le témoignage des aînés par une contribution financière pouvant atteindre 17 748\$ grâce au Programme des partenariats du millénaire du Canada. Ce programme couvre jusqu'à un tiers des coûts admissibles des projets, alors que le secteur privé et d'autres organisations fournissent le reste du financement.)

We are pleased to have had the opportunity to work in partnership with the Municipality and the Southwest Regional School Board in the collection of the elder transcripts for publication in book form as well as on the Web site. This initiative also supports a government-wide initiative to make Canada the most connected country in the world via the Internet.

It is also fitting, during this International Year of Volunteers, to take the time to recognize and appreciate the volunteers who contributed to the success of this project, and to society in general, through their dedicated efforts. The federal government was there to offer its support, but the real motivation came from the people themselves. It is their legacy they leave for future generations.

The Elder Transcripts is one of close to 1,700 projects that we have supported from coast to coast to coast. To find out how other Canadians are leaving their mark in the new century, visit our "Canada and the Millennium" Web site at www.millennium.gc.ca. Or simply call toll-free 1 800 O-Canada.

At this historic time, you are joining the thousands of Canadians that are contributing to the millennium legacy in the spirit of our national millennium theme, "Sharing the Memory, Shaping the Dream".

The Hon, Herb Gray, M.P.
Deputy Prime Minister
