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Keeping Canada's Uniqueness

I think that the most important thing which Canada can do is showing its uniqueness and telling its history to the whole world. As you know, Canada has a big economy and exporting some important products such as woods and oils. However, in my opinion, exporting its unique opinions and history is much more useful than exporting woods and oils for the international society.

One of the most important roles which Canada can play on the international stage is keeping its own originality and showing its own vision to the world. If they do this, people in the world can refer to Canada's way of thinking and diversity in the international society can be maintained. You can easily understand why keeping diversity is important if you consider the importance of biological diversity. If there were fewer kinds of beings in the world, the nature would be more vulnerable to the changes of environment and serious damage would be caused by the trivial changes. This is why there are countless kinds of animals in the world. I think the importance of this is also relevant to the international society of human beings. There should be several nations which have their own characteristics on the world stage. Therefore, I believe that Canada should keep its originality and it is useful to the whole world today especially because today is the age of globalization. In the age of globalization, there are tendencies to make the world more flat and have rapid changes of environment. So, I think that every nation should make an effort to protest against the tendencies and keep the diversity of the world. In addition, it is much more difficult and important for Canada to keep its originality than any other nations because next to Canada is one of the most influential countries in the world, the United States of America. Canada is influenced by the United States of America in many ways including the economy. Actually, almost eighty percent of Canada's trade is with the United States and it may be difficult to disagree with the intentions of the United States. However, I think that such country should show its own opinion to the world against

the pressures of the great power because it keeps diversity in the world and gives a sign of bravery to minor countries to object to strong countries. Of course, it is very difficult to object to the actions and ideas of an influential big country and there are a lot of countries which failed to do so, including Japan. However, Canada succeeded in protesting against the United States about participation in the Iraq War. Canada refused to take part in the Iraq War in spite of the pressures and threats of the United States. As a result, this behavior gave other countries the chance to consider whether the war which the United States started was actually worth supporting and what they should do. Of course, it is needless to say that there were a lot of countries which had already protested against the war such as China and Russia. However, these countries were almost equal in presence and they had enough power to disagree with the United States. Therefore, the fact that Canada, not such a strong country has shown its intention to disagree is much more important because it gives much courage to other minor countries. This is not a well-known fact in Japan, but I think that it is very meaningful fact and I expect Canada to keep showing its unique opinions to the world.

As one of the most succeeded multinational countries, another important role which Canada can play is that of a role-model of intercultural symbiosis. Today, in the age of globalization, the number of people who cross borders and come across different cultures is increasing rapidly. As a result, we have more and more chances to communicate with people from other cultures, but, at the same time, there are more and more cases of cultural misunderstandings and conflicts. For instance, at the moment there is serious tension between China, Korea and Japan in the East China Sea. So, we are finding a solution to relax the tension and avoid future conflicts by trying to understand each other. There are many other regions which have serious conflicts and need good ways to solve their problems. I think Canada can demonstrate one useful way that these countries can communicate with each other and coexist. It is due to Canada's unique history.

Canada's population is made of immigrants from several places and even today there are a lot of people who come to live there. There are English, French, Irish, Italian, German, Chinese, Oceanic, and native people in Canada. As a result, several kinds of lifestyles, values and cultures exist in one country. Of course, people of various identities and cultures living in one place are not so rare in today's world. However, I think that Canada has an especially effective model because it has tried several actions to achieve the goal of intercultural symbiosis and it has learned a lot of lessons.

In most other multinational countries, one cultural group becomes the majority and other groups are rejected. It may be inevitable and necessary in order to govern a nation-state. However, Canada has refused to adopt such a way of governing and is the first country in the world to have chosen multicultural policies. In consequence, it is said that Canada is one of the most comfortable places to live.

Therefore, I think that what Canada has tried and learned is useful to make today's globalized world a more comfortable place to live. Canada should share its lessons with other nations.

In conclusion, Canada can contribute to international society by showing its unique opinions and history to the world. There are many other nations which have bigger economy and more influence than Canada, but people all over the world including me look to Canada as a role model and expect to learn from Canada.