



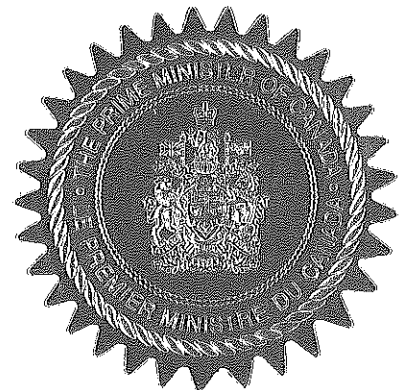
PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

*I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the inaugural International Conference for Fire and Rescue Executives, and to welcome all the international delegates who have travelled to Calgary for this event.*

*It takes great courage to battle fires — while everyone else flees these potential disasters, the brave men and women of our fire services rush in to the rescue. Canadians have profound respect for those who shoulder such great responsibility in protecting our lives and property. On their behalf, I am honoured to have this opportunity to express our deep gratitude for the sacrifice and dedication of professional firefighters and rescue workers everywhere.*

*Fire and rescue executives are relied upon every day to deliver one of our most essential services, while facing numerous operational challenges, such as acquiring and retaining resources, overseeing budgets, and dealing with union leaders and the media. This event provides an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas and information with your fellow professionals, as well as a chance to ensure the development of well-trained and knowledgeable executives for the future.*

*On behalf of the Government of Canada, please accept my best wishes for a memorable and productive meeting.*



OTTAWA  
2010