

**EXCERPT OF OFFICIAL REMARKS BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL FOLLOWING THE
PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS BY AMBASSDOR DOMA TSHERING, RIDEAU HALL,
29th JANUARY 2018**

“Ambassador Tshering, we are delighted to welcome you in Canada. We know that you have been in North America for a long time but now we really hope as I mentioned to you, that you will leave sometime, New York city and come and see us in Canada as often as possible.

We are so delighted that we have had bilateral relationship with Bhutan for fifteen years and we are very proud of that. I was mentioning earlier that you can not see borders from space. That is particularly true to those really new little mountains called the Himalayas, where it is like a series of really tiny little peaks from the perspective of space. Clearly we know that this is not the case. Personally I have had never had the chance to go the Himalayas in my whole life but I have seen them from space, and they are absolutely magnificent just as the people who come there are.

I was touched by your Prime Minister who was talking about what has happened in recent years in Bhutan, its openness to the world, its philosophy. I heard him say that Bhutan is carefully balancing economic growth with social development, environment sustainability, and cultural preservation, all this within a framework of a good governance, and I believe we all share those values profoundly. I also liked when he did say that, in Bhutan, Gross National Happiness is just as important as, if not more important than, Gross National Product.

Madam, we are hoping that this collaboration will continue to flourish in trade, in economic development, and in investments on both parts of the bilateral relationship, and for this Madam Ambassador, we welcome you to Canada. “