

Canadian Delegation to the  
Organization for Security & Cooperation  
in Europe



Délégation du Canada auprès de  
l'Organisation pour la sécurité et la coopération  
en Europe

**DELEGATION OF CANADA TO THE OSCE  
STATEMENT BY YVES BEAULIEU, CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES  
ON THE RESULTS OF THE KYRGYZSTAN ELECTIONS  
771<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL  
30 JULY 2009**

Thank you Madame Chairperson,

We have noted with satisfaction some political pluralism and an active civil society in the Kyrgyz election. However, regrettably, the election did not show the progress we would have liked to see. As noted in the OSCE Election Observation Mission Statement of Preliminary Findings and Conclusions, the 23 July presidential election did not meet key OSCE commitments for democratic elections, including the commitment to maintain a clear separation between party and state.

We have noted a number of misuses of administrative resources and bias in the media coverage of the campaign, which did not allow voters to make an informed choice. The shortcomings observed contributed to an atmosphere of distrust and undermined public confidence in holding genuinely democratic elections.

Canada hopes that the OSCE assessment and recommendations will be used constructively as a basis for a serious overhaul of the way elections are organized in the future. Canada looks forward to working with the OSCE Institutions and the people of Kyrgyzstan to strengthen democratic institutions further.

Merci Madame la Présidente.