

ANDROULLA VASSILIOU

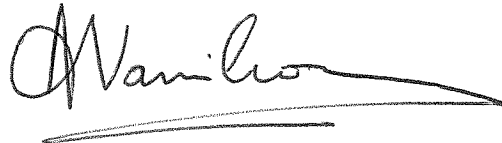
MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

As European Commissioner responsible for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, I strongly welcome the Study Tours and Internship Programmes between the European Union and Canada. For the first time, European students will participate in the scheme. This will enable them to increase their understanding and knowledge of Canadian institutions and to appreciate the significance of the EU-Canada relationship.

This Study Tour complements the existing Study Tour and Internship Programme for Canadian students to Europe. It is another fine example of the EU's continuing efforts to help its citizens realise their potential through education and training by promoting mobility and exchange with the wider world. It also helps equip people to live in a more diverse and globalised Europe, based on mutual respect for our rich blend of cultures and languages.

With these two Study Tours we now have a balanced exchange of academic experiences for both European and Canadian students. They are strong examples of the successful implementation of the bilateral cooperation agreement in higher education, training and youth between the EU and Canada. This agreement, in place since 1995, aims to promote understanding between the peoples of the European Union and Canada and to improve the quality of their human resource development.

I encourage students to take advantage of this opportunity and to participate in this truly unique experience.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Vassiliou', with a long horizontal line underneath it.