

Meeting at the German Parliament buildings in Berlin



Rolf Bouman
Founder
"Friends United"

Sabine Zimmermann
Chairwoman of the Committee on
Labour and Social Affairs and Member of
the German-Canadian Parliamentary Group

The Honourable
Rodney J. MacDonald
former Nova Scotia Premier and
"Friends United" Consultant

"Friends United" presentation at Goethe Institute Montreal



Left to right.: Member of German Federal Parliament **Karl Schiewerling**, Member of German Federal Parliament **Reiner Deutschmann**, German Consul general **Klaus Geyer**, former Nova Scotia Premier **Rodney MacDonald**, Member of German Federal Parliament **Cornelia Moehring**, Member of German Federal Parliament **Gabriele Loesekrug-Moeller**, German Government Official **Martin Frey**, Member of German Federal Parliament **Sabine Zimmermann**, Member of German Federal Parliament **Gabriele Hiller-Ohm**, Director Goethe Institute Montreal **Mechtild Manus**, "Friends United" Founder **Rolf Bouman**, Member of German Federal Parliament **Dr. Matthias Zimmer**

Dear Mr. Bouman:

In my capacity as chairwoman of the Committee on Labour and Social Affairs, I would like to thank you on behalf of our committee for your Native culture presentation in Montreal before our group of parliamentarians during our work visit. All members of our group were very happy to see that you and Rodney MacDonald work so closely together on your Aboriginal culture projects, and that you are jointly able to give many Native families such support. In this context I would also like to thank you and (former) Premier MacDonald for your visit in Berlin, during which you jointly acquainted me with your "Friends United" project.

I am happy to see that you followed my suggestion to send your "Friends United" culture books to each of the 54 members of the German-Canadian Parliamentary group. I received many positive responses, and I can assure you that your First Nations cultural projects are valued very highly at all German government levels.

Since I was able to observe your "Friends United" project and its development from the very beginning, I would like to congratulate you and especially the Native artists and their families on this initiative. You and Mr. MacDonald have made indigenous people cultural ambassadors for Canada who will construct, through Aboriginal art and culture, bridges of friendship and mutual admiration between Germany and Canada.

With all my heart, I wish you the best for your project, and would be very pleased to stay in contact with you in the future. I would be glad to assist you as much as I can as a parliamentarian, since your project has always had my fullest support. Your philanthropic work is remarkable.

I remain, with heartfelt greetings from Berlin,

Sabine Zimmermann

Member of Federal German Parliament (MdB)
Chairwoman of the Committee on Labour and Social Affairs
Member of German-Canadian Parliamentary Group