

## **PREFACE**

It gives me great pleasure to present to the readers the proceedings of the International Seminar on the Information Society, Human Rights and Human Dignity, held in Montreal on June 17 and 18, 2004. Its purpose was to analyse critically the results of the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society - WSIS (Geneva, December 2003) and to look ahead to the second phase of the Summit (Tunis, November 2005) from a broad human rights perspective. Many of the issues discussed at the Summit and at the Montreal seminar will remain on the international agenda for the years to come.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the participating experts for their invaluable contribution, as well as the Canadian International Development Agency, the Arsenault Family Foundation and the Faculty of Law of McGill University for their generous financial support. A special tribute is due to Manon Lavoie who has been working with me on issues connected with the WSIS since 2003; without her enthusiasm, commitment and faculty to communicate, the seminar would not have been the success it was.

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