

## ***Former FRP Recipient Participates in Civil Security Seminar***

Although Canadian Studies has the reputation of being mainly focused on traditional disciplines and subjects related to the Social Sciences and the Humanities, it has been in touch for a long time with lesser known topics such as civil security. A one-day seminar entitled, "Models of Police Reform in Latin America: the International Experience," was held on October 23, 2007, in front of an audience of more than 200 members of the police, military, civil service and academics. The seminar was organized by the Secretariat of Carabineros (Police) of Chile, in collaboration with the urban security program of the University of Alberto Hurtado and the support of the Embassy of Canada in Chile.

The purpose of the event was to allow participants to analyze the role of the police and its impact on citizen security, good governance and the strengthening of democracy in the region. The agenda also included a discussion of the reform process and modernization of the various police corps. Remarks during the opening ceremony were given by the Secretary of Chile's *Carabineros*, Mrs. **Javiera Blanco**, the commanding General of the *Carabineros*, Mr. **Eduardo Gordon**, the Ambassador of Canada to Chile, Mr. **Norbert Kalisch**, and the Rector of the University of Alberto Hurtado, Rev. **Fernando Monte**. During his presentation, Ambassador Kalisch mentioned Canada's support for liberty, democracy, the rule of law and human rights. He also underlined the importance of collaboration among national and international institutions to maintain the quality of life and security of citizens.

Mr. **Yves Charette**, Director of Strategy for the Montreal Police, gave the keynote speech on the community police model that has been in use in Montreal since 1997, emphasizing the importance of collaborating with civil society. The high level of satisfaction of the city's denizens and the low crime rates achieved surprised members of the audience, who were highly interested in the Montreal model.

Of note, **Franz Vanderschueren**, Program Director of Urban Security of the University of Alberto Hurtado and past recipient of a Faculty Research scholarship under the Canadian Studies Program of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, also participated in the seminar, giving a presentation on the role of the police and of security in modern democracies. Mr. **Hugo Frühling**, Director of the Center for Study of Citizen Security at the University of Chile, offered a summary of the various processes of police modernization in Latin America. Representatives of the police forces of Chile, Colombia, Argentina and Haiti also presented their own perspectives on the police modernization processes in their respective countries.