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Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- Illustrations -- The Origins of the Fiscal Crisis: Canary in the Coal Mine -- The Federal Origins of the Fiscal Crisis -- Helping People and Winning Elections: Spend, Spend, Spend -- A Bad Combination: Attacking the Civil Service and Signing Megaprojects -- Managing the Fiscal Crisis: The Provincial Scene -- The New Economy and the New Fights -- The 1993 Fiscal Crisis -- Differing Provincial Approaches to Deficit Reduction -- The National and Federal-Provincial Scene -- Paul Martin and the Finance Ministers' Club -- Regional Divisions: A Tempest in a Teapot and the Mad Hatter's Tea Party -- Working Together? Redesign or Offloading? -- Martin's Landmark 1995 Budget -- Health Care, Health Care, and Only Health Care? -- Going Backward or Forward? Post-Deficit Drift and Exiting Politics -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	MacKinnon, Canada's first female finance minister, provides keen observations on how personalities and shared regional perspectives cut

across party affiliations in the evolution of federal-provincial deliberations on managing the debt crisis. Although initially opposed to the radical cuts and downloading unilaterally imposed by the federal minister of Finance in his 1995 budget, she now argues that they were essential and analyses how they have irrevocably transformed the Canadian federation. MacKinnon provides a timely analysis of the implications of the fiscal crisis for the future of medicare and Canada's other social programs and shows why politicians must involve the Canadian public in an open and frank debate about the challenges and choices facing the nation.
