



# communiqué

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## PROVINCIAL TRADE MINISTERS AGREE ON NEED FOR COMPREHENSIVE TRADE AGREEMENT

The Minister for International Trade, the Honourable James Kelleher, announced today that the Trade Ministers from the Provinces and Territories have agreed that there is "an urgent need for a comprehensive agreement to secure and expand our access to the US market". The Ministers recognized that a mutual advantage is necessary in any negotiation.

Mr. Kelleher made the announcement at the end of a meeting he had in Vancouver on Tuesday with Trade Ministers from the Provinces and Territories.

The Ministers agreed that the meeting had been conducted in a spirit of cooperation and commitment. Mr. Kelleher said the agreement marked a historical moment in Federal-Provincial relations.

The Ministers committed themselves to develop a closer Federal-Provincial consensus on Trade. They agreed that diversification of markets is essential, particularly in Asia/Pacific.

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