

The Agreement phases out protective pricing and listing of wine and liquor, while protecting B.C. estate wineries. We are working hard with the provincial government and industry representatives to devise a special adjustment package for grape growers and the B.C. wine industry.

As far as B.C.'s energy industry is concerned, the Agreement will enhance its ability to grow, to generate larger revenues and to create jobs. The Agreement will also help create a more stable environment for investment in energy developments. This will not only benefit the citizens of this province, but will strengthen energy security for all Canadians.

B.C. exports of hydro-electric power to the Western States are assured under the Agreement. The U.S. will require the Bonneville Power Administration to provide B.C. Hydro the same access to power transmission lines that it provides to U.S. utilities which are located outside the Pacific Northwest.

In the final analysis, the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement creates a stable, open environment in which B.C.'s resource, manufacturing and service sectors all stand to gain.

It does not, however, guarantee success. It does not guarantee growth and prosperity. That will depend on you, on your competitiveness, your innovativeness and your spirit of enterprise.

You may be saying to yourself:

"Well, that's all very nice, but what is the Government going to do to help me and my business adapt to this new environment?"

In my opening remarks, I said that the Government was 100 per cent behind you. We are there to provide you the assistance you need to meet the challenges of free trade and take advantage of the opportunities it will create.

I already mentioned that we are devising a program to assist the grape growers and the wine industry who have special adjustment needs.