

Minister for International Trade



Ministre du Commerce extérieur

Canada

On March 16, 1987, I had the honour to present a motion to the House of Commons initiating an historic debate on Canada's future.

I moved:

*That this House supports the negotiation of a bilateral trading arrangement with the United States, as part of the government's multilateral trade policy, while protecting our political sovereignty, social programs, agricultural marketing systems, the auto industry, and our unique cultural identity.*

Sixteen Members of Parliament, including the Prime Minister, the leader of the official Opposition, the leader of the New Democratic Party, and seven cabinet ministers participated with major speeches.

Because of the importance of the Government's free trade initiative with the United States and in the interest of a healthy and informed debate in the country, excerpts containing the substance of those speeches have been gathered together in this booklet.

It is my hope, and that of the Government, that this record of the debate will be helpful to Canadians in understanding the issues and points of view involved in our trade initiative.

*Pat Carney*