

**The Road to Agreement:
Chronology of Events**

1990

- June 10 Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and U.S. President George Bush decide to pursue a comprehensive free trade agreement.
- September 24 Prime Minister Brian Mulroney formally advises presidents Salinas and Bush of Canada's interest in participating in discussions to assess the feasibility of trilateral free trade.

1991

- February 5 Prime Minister Mulroney, President Salinas and President Bush announce their decision to negotiate the NAFTA.
- April 7-10 During a state visit to Canada by President Salinas, four joint co-operation agreements are signed:
- Canada-Mexico Double Taxation Agreement — the first such agreement that Mexico has signed with another country;
 - Film and Television Co-production Agreement — to broaden financing and production opportunities for the film and television industries of both countries;
 - Export Development Corporation/Petroleos Mexicanos Memorandum of Understanding — for a US\$500 million line of credit to promote the sale of Canadian goods and services to PEMEX; and
 - Export Development Corporation/Secretariat of Finance Memorandum of Understanding.
- June 12 Toronto, Ontario — Ministerial meeting to launch the NAFTA negotiations: Industry and International Trade Minister Michael Wilson (Canada); Trade Representative Carla Hills (United States); and Secretary of Commerce Jaime Serra Puche (Mexico).
- July 8-9 Washington, D.C. — First meeting of Chief Negotiators: John Weekes (Canada); Julius Katz (United States); and Herminio Blanco (Mexico).
- November 25 Mexico City — At the eighth Canada-Mexico Joint Ministerial Committee, two documents are signed:
- Memorandum of Understanding on Cultural Relations and
 - Agreement on Museums and Archaeological Co-operation.

1992

- January 6-10 Washington, D.C. — First version of consolidated draft text prepared (meeting of most negotiating groups at Georgetown University).