

- (9) Canada will no longer be hit by U.S. global safeguard actions aimed at others (Article 1102).
- (10) The dispute settlement procedure will protect against politically inspired misuse of U.S. trade laws, to prevent the repetition of decisions like that on softwood lumber (Chapter 19).
- (11) The Free Trade Agreement helps fishermen, farmers, mineral and metal producers, forest products workers, energy producers, manufacturers, those employed in service industries, and other. The FTA will build exports and increase prosperity in all regions of Canada.

Of course, the Free Trade Agreement is not yet in place, but I am confident that in the electoral contest now underway, Canadians will support the government, in part because of Free Trade.

I say in part because, of course, the government will be judged by the electorate on the whole of its record. As Benjamin Disraeli said, "all power is a trust; we are accountable for its exercise". I am confident that we will receive the renewed support of the Canadian people because I believe that we can give a good accounting of strong leadership and important achievements.

This government has demonstrated good stewardship of the nation's resources. We have:

- reduced the federal deficit for four consecutive years,
- achieved the highest level of economic growth of any major OECD country,
- reduced rates of federal income tax,
- instituted major regulatory reforms, including energy, transportation and financial services,
- increased funding for regional development and created two new agencies, one in Atlantic Canada and one in the West, to more effectively use that funding, and
- achieved progress in environmental protection, including tough new legislation, major reductions of emissions causing acid rain and an accelerated phase-out for leaded gasoline.