

- SECONDLY, SUCCESS IN THE U.S. MARKET AS A RESULT OF FTA SHOULD ADD TO CANADIAN BUSINESS CONFIDENCE AND GENERATE CAPITAL TO EXPAND ACROSS THE PACIFIC; AND
- THIRDLY, THE REDUCTION OF BILATERAL BARRIERS PROVIDES ENHANCED ACCESS TO THE VITAL U.S. MARKET NOT ONLY FOR CANADIANS, BUT ALSO FOR HONG KONG INVESTORS AND EXPORTERS DOING BUSINESS IN CANADA, MAKING CANADA A VERY ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENT AND PRODUCTION LOCATION FOR HONG KONG'S DYNAMIC ENTREPRENEURS.

AS A COMPLEMENT TO THE FTA, CANADA IS GIVING TOP PRIORITY TO THE URUGUAY ROUND OF THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT AND THE MTN ARE COMPLEMENTARY AND MUTUALLY REINFORCING. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE CONTINUED HEALTH OF THE WORLD ECONOMY DEPENDS ON THE PROGRESS WE MAKE IN THE CURRENT URUGUAY ROUND. CONSEQUENTLY, CANADA IS VERY SUPPORTIVE OF HONG KONG'S ACTIVE AND POSITIVE PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL FORA SUCH AS THE GATT.

WITH THE RIGHT POLICIES, WE IN GOVERNMENT CAN INFLUENCE, IN A POSITIVE FASHION, THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH YOU AS BUSINESS PEOPLE OPERATE. BUT TRADE MEANS BUSINESS PEOPLE MAKING DEALS - DOING WHAT HONG KONG DOES BEST. EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS TALKING ABOUT THE RIGHT PRODUCT, AT THE RIGHT PRICE AND AT THE RIGHT TIME. AND THAT'S THE MAIN REASON I'M HERE IN HONG KONG. I'M HERE TO SHOW MY SUPPORT FOR AN EXPANDED TRADING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CANADA AND HONG KONG. AND TO HELP DO THAT IN AS DIRECT AND TANGIBLE A WAY AS POSSIBLE, I'VE BROUGHT A NINE MEMBER TRADE MISSION WITH ME.