



News Release

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THREE CANADIANS ADDED TO ROSTER FOR CANADA-U.S. DISPUTE SETTLEMENT PANELS

The Honourable Michael Wilson, Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, announced today the appointment of three Canadians to serve as panelists for the binational dispute settlement mechanism established under Chapter 18 of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

The new appointees are Ronald George Atkey, Robert Bertram Church and Donald Malcolm McRae. This brings to 25 the number of people appointed to serve on these panels. The appointments were required following the death of one member and the resignation of two others.

Chapter 18 panels can be established when the Canada-U.S. Trade Commission has been unable to satisfactorily resolve, through consultations, questions related to the application or interpretation of the FTA.

The five-member panels are authorized to make recommendations on any issue under the FTA, except for disputes on anti-dumping and countervailing duty actions or on financial services, which are examined under separate mechanisms.

To date, Chapter 18 panels have issued reports on three disputes: "Lobsters from Canada," "Canada's Landing Requirement for Pacific Coast Salmon and Herring" and "FTA Article 304 and the Definition of Direct Cost of Processing or Direct Cost of Assembling."

The complete roster of Chapter 18 panelists is attached.

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