

**Responses to Public Consultations on Canada - Central America Free Trade Negotiations
January - February 2001
Volume I**

**Réponses aux consultations publiques en vue des négociations de libre-échange Canada - Amérique centrale
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50	Innua Petrochem Ltd. Mr. David Harris ON	19 Jan. 2001	Petroleum / Chemicals	For	<i>(Tariffs, customs procedures, trade facilitation)</i> - Should lower tariff barriers for increased competition. - Reduction of documentation required for exports due to FTA would be of great assistance to exporters.
51	Intelcan Technosystems Inc. Mr. Ron Weissberger President Ottawa ON	16 Jan. 2001	Telecommuni- cations and air traffic management solutions	For	<i>(Textiles, trade barriers, tariffs, customs, export potential)</i> - Canada would greatly benefit from an FTA for the following reasons: 1. Canada has moved away from its protectionist policy towards textile and other low skill industries. Canada should continue to concentrate predominantly on the high tech sector requiring highly skilled labour with high paying jobs. 2. Traditionally LDCs knew how to hide their protectionism a lot more effectively than Canada. This they achieved through shenanigans starting with custom clearance, currency control, difficulties in raising letters of credit, quotas on foreign exchange, etc. All these were instituted by governments with no regard to public outcry since the public is never consulted in LDCs. 3. An FTA would benefit the Canadian population since the main exports of these countries are food, textiles and some raw materials. By removing all trade barriers, these imported items may get cheaper thus benefiting the Canadian consumers. Canada will gain a preferred position for its exports which may be: telecoms, aerospace, information technology, etc.
52	Inter-Church Committee on Human Rights in Latin America Mr. Joe Gunn Chair Toronto ON	02 Feb. 2001	NGO/ Human Rights	Concerned	<i>(Consultations, transparency, human rights, social issues)</i> - Crucial for civil society and the public to know what is on the table in trade talks (e.g. CA4, FTAA). Transparency is essential so that the public can provide concrete input. - Other human rights and dignity concerns were expressed in 1999 letter to MINT in context of Toronto FTAA Ministerial (attached). Please see recommendations on pages 3 and 4 of that letter. - Also attached is a Policy Document on Human Rights, Trade and Investment.