

Working under the umbrella of the Steering Group on Prosperity, the Business Services Consultation Group last year undertook wide-ranging consultations with business services industries to examine the major competitive issues facing the industry. The report of the Business Services Consultation Group, submitted in May 1992, contained about 80 suggestions for action by both government and industry.

"The services trade promotion program for the United States is illustrative of the Government's approach in responding to the issues raised through consultations with the services sector," the Minister said. "Through programs such as this, the services sector will help ensure its long-term competitiveness in international markets."

To date, a key element of the federal government's efforts to promote the international competitiveness of the Canadian services sector has been Services Month, in November. Last year, over 5,000 people participated in various Services Month events across Canada.

"I am pleased to launch Services Month '93, and I encourage all Services Month '92 partners to join us as "Partners for the Future," and to help build on the enthusiasm and commitment for action that was generated last year."

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