



# communiqué

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## MINISTER KELLEHER ADDRESSES CANADIAN EXPORT ASSOCIATION ON CANADA-U.S. TRADE RELATIONS

On October 7, 1985, the Minister for International Trade, James Kelleher, addressed the annual meeting of the Canadian Export Association. Mr. Kelleher's speech touched on Canada-U.S. trade relations.

Highlights of Minister Kelleher's address were the following:

- \*The most significant step to improve Canada's Trade Performance is the government's decision to explore the scope and prospects of a new bilateral trade agreement with the United States.
- \*Mr. Kelleher noted "This is not a step we took blindly, or precipitously. We have prepared the ground with great care."
- \*He said the government has not committed itself to negotiations, but to explore the prospects for negotiations. "If the price is too high or the demands unreasonable, we will say thanks but no thanks..."
- \*Mr. Kelleher stated that Canada's access to the American market is in serious danger of being eroded. "We can't afford to lose the business and the arrangements we've got now are just not good enough". "A better, fairer, more open trade arrangement with the United States would create new jobs and better jobs".

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