



A Rewarding Exchange

Canada and the United States exchanged over (U.S.) \$150 billion in goods and services in 1986—the largest and most complex two-way trade in the world. It is also among the most open—four-fifths of the goods move across the border tariff-free.

The freedom of movement is essential.

The barriers, which were relatively high in 1960, began to crumble with the historic Kennedy Round of trade negotiations, which began in 1964, and as they faded the trade grew. It has grown enormously in the last twenty years.

Both countries are committed to the reduction of the barriers that remain and, working together, they can do much to prevent the development of new moves toward protectionism that threaten international trade.

There is other work to be done.

Both countries hope to persuade their partners in GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) to include trade in services in the current round of multi-lateral negotiations.

Trade is often reported as if it were a contest—something like a World Series, in which one side wins each year and the other loses.

It isn't. Trade benefits both traders, and the trade between Canada and the United States is a prime example of a large-scale, mutually beneficial exchange of goods and services that enriches both. It makes a vital contribution to North American prosperity.

Canada

Canadian Embassy/Ambassade du Canada

