

Canadian Embassy



Ambassade du Canada

501 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

October 24, 2000

Note No. 0294

His Excellency Richard Fisher  
Deputy United States Trade Representative  
Office of the United States Trade Representative  
600 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Fisher,

I am pleased to receive your letter of today's date,  
which reads as follows:

I have the honor to refer to the Softwood Lumber Agreement  
between the Government of the United States of America and  
the Government of Canada, signed in Washington on May 29,  
1996 (the "Agreement").

I propose that, in settlement of the arbitration brought by  
Canada pursuant to Article V of the Agreement regarding the  
U. S. Customs Service's June 9, 1999, revocation of rougher  
headed lumber ruling letters (the "arbitration"), Article II  
of the Agreement be amended to add an additional paragraph  
12 to that Article which will read as follows:

"12. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, in the year  
ending March 31, 2001, Canada may  
allocate an additional 72.5 million  
board feet among softwood lumber  
exporters for which no fee shall be  
collected on issuance of a permit for  
export to the United States."

This amendment will permit such additional amount to be  
exported fee-free from Canada to the United States of  
America. This amendment will be effective upon entry into  
force as set out below, will not be retroactive and will  
remain in force until the expiration of the Agreement on  
March 31, 2001.