

- for Canadian farm women, the Free Trade Agreement will improve access for agricultural products to the U.S. market and in so doing, make that access more secure;
- women entrepreneurs, whose numbers and successes continue to grow, will benefit from new business opportunities;
- women as consumers will find that the Agreement's elimination of tariffs will result in more competitively priced products and a wider selection of quality goods and services; and
- finally, the economic growth created by free trade will mean an expanded financial foundation for our social programs.

REGIONAL BENEFITS

All regions will benefit, with real income gains ranging from 2.3 percent in the Atlantic Region and Quebec to 2.7 percent in Ontario. Central Canada will benefit from the expansion of the manufacturing sector. Other regions will benefit from lower prices for manufactured goods, the greater scope for further processing their resources and improved prospects for diversifying their economies.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

B.C. is a major exporter, not only to the U.S., but also to the rest of the world. In 1986, the province exported \$13.5 billion worth of goods, of which \$6.3 billion, or 51 per cent went to the U.S.

B.C.'s forest products industry accounts for 45 per cent of the province's exports. The industry has been subject to much harassment in the past from U.S. trade actions. The industry should benefit from the new dispute settlement provisions.

The Agreement will restore the U.S. duty-free treatment of western red cedar shingles when current emergency tariffs on the product are terminated. Canada will also retain its controls on log exports, preserving jobs in B.C. mills.

In 1986, B.C. exported \$103 million worth of fish products to the U.S., which represented 18 per cent of its total production. The Free Trade Agreement is a good deal for B.C.'s 19,000 fishermen and 50 processing plants in the province.

Energy is a key factor in the B.C. economy. B.C. is Canada's largest coal producer, second largest gas producer, and third largest oil producer. B.C. exports of hydro-electric power to the western U.S. are assured under the Agreement. Secure and expanding markets in the U.S. mean new investment in B.C. energy resources. This means jobs and energy security in the province.

The province will gain major benefits from the removal of U.S. market access barriers for Canadian shipments of electricity, crude oil, refinery products and other energy exports. The U.S. will require the Bonneville Power Administration to treat B.C. Hydro in the same way as U.S. utilities located outside the Pacific Northwest as far as access to power transmission lines is concerned, letting B.C. sell hydro power in California.