
comment on the comparatively high wages, longer vacations and shorter work week in Germany. While they conceded that product quality was high (notably automobiles), they were unable to identify reasons for the continued competitiveness of the country.

(ii) Impressions of Imports and Exports between Canada and Mexico

Respondents were probed on their impressions of the types of goods and services that might be traded between Canada and Mexico under a trilateral free trade agreement.

In general, respondents had a difficult time identifying goods or services that Mexico would export to Canada. Repeatedly, respondents pointed out that Mexico was poor, had a low standard of living and was not a manufacturer of goods that Canadians would want or need. When pressed on what Mexico might export to Canada, participants identified agricultural products (notably fruit), textiles, clothes, pottery and inexpensive art objects, and, in two groups, participants mentioned oil or petroleum products. Tequila and straw hats were also, jokingly, mentioned.

It was clear that Canadians were unable to identify products that were produced in Mexico for which there would be a market in Canada. Mexico is viewed as a poor nation with few goods and services to offer to more developed nations with considerably higher standards of living.

When respondents were asked what Canada might export to Mexico, a range of goods and services were identified. Interestingly, there was a pervasive view in Winnipeg and Vancouver that Canada could export technology and technological expertise. While some agricultural products, foods, fish, lumber and other resources

