

MY OFFICE, IN ADDITION, HAS RESPONSIBILITIES TO ENSURE TOGETHER WITH THE CANADIAN TRADE AND TARIFFS COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY MR. COUILLARD, THAT ADEQUATE CONSULTATION TAKES PLACE WITH CANADIAN PRIVATE SECTOR INTEREST GROUPS AND THAT A TWO-WAY FLOW OF INFORMATION, BENEFICIAL TO BOTH SIDES, IS MAINTAINED. ALREADY, OF COURSE, THE GOVERNMENT HAS RECEIVED HUNDREDS OF BRIEFS FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR, MANY OF THESE HAVE BEEN UPDATED AND MANY FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSIONS HAVE TAKEN PLACE THROUGH THE CTTC AND OTHERWISE (OVER 425 BRIEFS AND SUPPLEMENTAL SUBMISSIONS HAVE, IN FACT, BEEN RECEIVED). NOW THAT THE HORSE-TRADING STAGE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS IS APPROACHING, I SUGGEST INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS ASSURE THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S INFORMATION BASE IS FULLY CURRENT. THE CTTC WOULD BE GLAD TO RECEIVE SUCH FURTHER BRIEFS AND TO CONSULT ON THESE. AS COORDINATOR, I HAVE ALREADY MET WITH THE EXECUTIVES OF A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS AND I LOOK FORWARD TO THE MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH DIALOGUE ON THE MAIN ISSUES FOR CANADA AND CANADIAN INDUSTRY OVER THE PERIOD AHEAD.

IT IS MY IMPRESSION THAT GOVERNMENT/PRIVATE SECTOR COOPERATION AND CONSULTATION TO DATE HAS BEEN