

AS WE ENTER TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, SOME IN CANADA ARE EXTREMELY CONCERNED WITH THE EFFECT THESE NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT HAVE ON CANADIAN CULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND THEREFORE ON OUR ABILITY TO EXPRESS AND DEVELOP OUR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY.

I RESPECT THEIR CONCERN. TWO QUESTIONS ARE AT ISSUE. ONE IS THE VITALITY AND SUPPORT OF CANADIAN CULTURE. THE SECOND IS THE NEGOTIATION OF TRADE RULES THAT MIGHT AFFECT CULTURAL INDUSTRIES. WE DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THESE QUESTIONS.

OUR GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO PROMOTE CULTURE IN CANADA THROUGH DIRECT FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS SIMPLY NOT AT ISSUE IN A TRADE NEGOTIATION. THE ISSUE OF WHETHER OR NOT SPECIFIC CANADIAN CULTURAL INDUSTRIES, REQUIRE SPECIAL MEASURES TO ASSIST THEM IS A DOMESTIC ISSUE THAT FALLS OUTSIDE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. NOR DO WE EXPECT THAT THE EXTENSIVE FRAMEWORK OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS IN THE U.S. WILL BE CONSIDERED IN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS EITHER.

NO COUNTRY IS MORE OPEN THAN CANADA TO FOREIGN CULTURAL PRODUCTS. ANYONE WHO DOUBTS THAT SHOULD LOOK AT OUR BOOK STORES, OUR THEATRES, OUR CINEMAS, OUR MAGAZINE RACKS, OUR BROADCASTING SYSTEM, OUR GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS. EQUALLY, NO