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# News Release

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## **CANADA REQUESTS NAFTA CONSULTATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES CONCERNING TRADE RESTRICTIONS AFFECTING CANADIAN SUGAR EXPORTS**

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, and the Honourable Ralph Goodale, Minister for Agriculture and Agri-Food, announced today that the Government of Canada has requested North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) consultations with the United States concerning trade restrictions affecting Canadian exports of refined sugar and sugar-containing products.

"We have concerns with a number of measures taken by the United States which have reduced Canada's access to the U.S. market for sugar and sugar-containing products," said Mr. Goodale.

"We are therefore availing ourselves of the NAFTA provisions to consult with the United States in this regard," added Mr. MacLaren.

The ministers noted that there has been close and regular consultation with the provincial governments and the industry on this matter.

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