

Canadian pork exports to the U.S. have been subject to a preliminary countervailing duty which was assessed at 7.7 cents per kilogram in May, then raised to eight cents per kilogram in July.

It is expected that the U.S. International Trade Commission will make a final ruling next week on whether Canadian imports of pork are harming the U.S. industry. Mr. Crosbie has said that if injury is found, he will initiate dispute settlement as to the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) consistency of the methodology used to determine the alleged subsidy.

Agriculture Minister Don Mazankowski reaffirmed that the federal government will use all avenues to defend Canada's trade interests.

"We will continue to work closely with the Canadian Pork Council, the Canadian Meat Council and the Government of Alberta to develop joint strategies that will ensure Canadian pork products are treated fairly in the U.S. market," Mr. Mazankowski said.

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