

THE CROSS-BORDER TRADE ARRANGEMENTS THAT EXIST TODAY ARE INADEQUATE. WE NEED A FAIRER DEAL WITH THE US, TO MAINTAIN THE JOBS WE HAVE, TO ENCOURAGE NEW INVESTMENT, AND TO CREATE NEW JOBS.

WE MUST SEEK BETTER RULES TO GOVERN OUR TRADE BY SECURING THE ACCESS THAT WE HAVE, IMPROVING IT WHERE WE CAN AND ENSHRINING THE RESULTS OF NEGOTIATIONS IN A NEW BINDING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ONTARIO?

36% OF ONTARIO'S GNP IS EXPORTED. 90% OF THIS GOES TO THE UNITED STATES. IT IS FINE TO SAY TO THE AMERICANS, AS WE ALWAYS DO, THAT THE US EXPORTS MORE TO ONTARIO THAN IT DOES TO JAPAN.

BUT THERE IS A REVERSE SIDE TO THAT COIN. NO OTHER REGION IN CANADA IS AS DEPENDENT ON TRADE WITH THE US AS IS ONTARIO. WITH THE RISE OF PROTECTIONISM IN THE US, THE EXPORTS OF ONTARIO ARE AT RISK, AND SO ARE THE JOBS THAT ARE DEPENDENT ON EXPORTS. DOING NOTHING MEANS LOSING ONTARIO JOBS, LOSING ONTARIO MARKETS.

WE SIMPLY CANNOT STAND PAT, FOR THAT MEANS GOING BACKWARDS, IT MEANS FEWER JOBS, LESS INVESTMENT AND A POORER CANADA.