

This Agreement offers Canadians a choice — a choice between looking outward and building bridges to other lands; or looking inward and building walls around our country.

It is a challenge for all of us: a challenge to seize the opportunities in the largest and most dynamic market in the world and to use those opportunities as a springboard to other lands.

It offers Canadians a vision of the future — a prosperous, confident and mature society with a flourishing culture and compassionate social system.

And it expresses a broader message for the world: that national independence and global interdependence can be reconciled and that only through a more open and secure trading system can all nations develop their full potential and help their peoples.

That is why this Agreement is not just a matter of immediate costs and benefits, of merely solving today's problem. It is an agreement for the future with the promise of a stronger, more prosperous Canada in the year 2000.