

FREE TRADE IMPLEMENTATION

Canadian Organizational Structure

In Canada, implementation of the FTA falls under the auspices of the Minister for International Trade. To fulfill this mandate, a Free Trade implementation organization has been established within the U.S. Branch of External Affairs.

The U.S. Branch has been reorganized to reflect this additional function. Don Campbell, Senior Assistant Deputy Minister (United States) and Coordinator for the FTA, will head the new Branch (UGB). Under the Senior ADM, there will be two ADMs: I) Konrad von Finckenstein, Assistant Deputy Minister and Deputy Coordinator, in charge of Free Trade Policy and Operations (UFB); and II) a yet-to-be-named ADM, U.S. Relations (URB).

I) Free Trade Policy and Operations (UFB) has been established to:

- ensure implementation of the FTA;
- monitor compliance with the Agreement by federal, provincial and state governments;
- assist Canadian business in the resolution of any market access problems arising from implementation of the FTA;
- deal with bilateral trade irritants and work to resolve them prior to invocation of the dispute settlement process provided by the Agreement;
- engage in ongoing activities provided by the FTA in the areas of subsidies and trade remedies, accelerated tariff elimination, expansion of coverage of service industries, etc.;
- coordinate Canadian participation in bilateral consultative and technical working groups established by the Agreement;
- maintain close consultation and liaison with the provinces and private sector on FTA implementation issues;
- prepare Canadian submissions to bilateral panels established under Chapters 18 and 19 of the Agreement; and
- act as a focal point of advice and expertise on the FTA for the government, business community and general public.

Within Free Trade Policy and Operations (UFB), there will also be a Working Group on Subsidies and Trade Remedies headed by a Chairman (as yet unnamed).

The Group will develop the Canadian position for further negotiations on subsidies, countervail and anti-dumping as provided under Article 1907 of the FTA; and conduct negotiations once they start.

Also, two Bureaux have been created: the Free Trade Policy Bureau (UED) with Doug Waddell as Director General, and the Free Trade Management Bureau (UFD) Anthony Halliday, Director General.

Free Trade Policy Bureau (UED): Deals with policy issues arising from sectoral coverage of the FTA (i.e. agriculture, standards, energy, procurement, etc.), trade relations issues such as current countervail and anti-dumping cases, and tariff acceleration and market access issues, including tariff classification, marking and U.S.

customs regulations.

Free Trade Management Bureau(UFD): Deals with coordination of activities of all federal government departments and acts as the primary point of contact between the federal government, the provincial governments and the private sector with respect to the management of the FTA (interpretation, implementation and further development) and provides support to the Canada-U.S. Trade Commission when in session.

A Legal Services Unit will also provide advice on domestic and international legal issues arising from the implementation of the FTA.

All units of Free Trade Policy and Operations (UFB) are located at 50 O'Connor St., 17th Floor, Ottawa, Ont. KIA 1J1. Tel.: (613) 992-1133. Fax: (613) 996-7411.

II) U.S. Relations (URB) is comprised of the U.S. General Relations Bureau (URD) and the U.S. Trade, Tourism and Investment Development Bureau (UTD)--no change in personnel or functions of these Bureaux.

The U.S. General Relations Bureau (URD) is responsible for the overview and coordination of bilateral political relations, the supervision of the delivery of the immigration program, cultural relations and public affairs in the United States.

Included in URD's mandate are: bilateral fisheries issues; boundary and sovereignty questions; organization of ministerial visits; Congressional liaison; assessment of U.S. foreign policy; immigration and social affairs; management and coordination of Canadian communications in the United States; Canadian studies in American academic institutions; and management of post operations.

The Bureau also provides advice and analysis on the management of a wide range of bilateral questions in the environmental, energy transportation and communications sectors, such as acid rain, natural gas pipelines, border broadcasting and transborder trucking.

The Trade, Tourism and Investment Development Bureau (UTD) is responsible for programs which promote and develop trade with the United States in cooperation with provincial governments, International Trade Centres, and other government departments.

It also carries the mandate of promoting tourism from the U.S., and American investment in Canada, as well as technology inflow. In addition, UTD is External Affairs' main link with Canada's 27 trade posts in the U.S.

To assist small to medium-size Canadian businesses and potential new exporters take advantage of opportunities arising from the FTA, External Affairs' UTD will significantly increase the number of trade shows and sellers' missions to the U.S., as well as U.S. buyers' missions to Canada. The full program listing of these trade events will be featured in an upcoming issue of *CanadExport*.

For further information on U.S. trade opportunities, contact UTD at (613) 993-5914, or (613) 993-7343.

Free Trade Agreement workshops scheduled

A series of workshops on Free Trade are scheduled throughout Quebec between April 4 and June 13.

Using a "hands-on" approach, the workshops will give participants the opportunity to analyze their companies, meet business people involved in the United States market, and discuss with experts a variety of Canada-U.S.-related trade issues.

The workshops also will inform companies how they can take advantage of the new environment created by Free Trade; how they can start up or further develop trade activities with the United States; and how they can adapt to the new Free Trade arena.

Co-sponsors of the workshops (\$125 per participant) include the Quebec Chamber of Commerce, the Quebec Department of International Affairs, and Industry, Science and Technology Canada.

The workshop line-up is:

- Outaouais: Hôtel des Gouverneurs, Gatineau (April 4);
- Quebec (North Shore): Hôtel des Gouverneurs, Ste-Foy

- (April 11);
 - Quebec (South Shore and Beauce): Mont Rond-Point, Lévis (April 12);
 - Estrie: Auberge Élite, Sherbrooke (April 18);
 - Montreal (South Shore): Hôtel Roussillon, Longueuil (April 26);
 - Laval: Sheraton Hotel, Laval (May 2);
 - Montreal (West Island): Holiday Inn Hotel, Pointe-Claire (May 9);
 - Montreal (Centre): Le Méridien, Montreal (May 16);
 - Montreal (Centre and East): Le Méridien, Montreal (May 17);
 - Gaspésie: Hôtel des Gouverneurs, Rimouski (May 25);
 - Abitibi: Hôtel des Gouverneurs, Val d'Or (May 30);
 - Saguenay and Lac St-Jean: Hôtel des Gouverneurs, Chicoutimi (June 6); and
 - Trois-Rivières: Hôtel des Gouverneurs, Trois-Rivières (June 13).
- For further information on these workshops, contact Mrs. Lorraine Trudeau, World Trade Centre. Tel.: (514) 393-3355.