Interdependence and internationalization of capital markets underlie the Agreement's provisions respecting financial services. Both countries agree to maintain existing rights and privileges now extended to the other's financial institutions in each other's market. They undertake to improve access and competitive opportunities for traded services consistent with prudential and regulatory requirements.

The Agreement provides for improved and easier border crossing and temporary entry for persons involved in trading goods and services.

INVESTMENT

Both countries maintain existing laws, regulations, policies and practices. For example, restrictions in such sectors as energy, air transport, telecommunications and cultural industries remain. But they agree in the future to extend non-discriminatory treatment to each other's investors in:

- the establishment of new businesses;
- the acquisition of existing firms; and
- the conduct, operation and sale of established enterprises.

Canada retains the right to review significant direct acquisitions by non-Canadians and will phase-out the review of indirect acquisitions.

COMMITMENTS KEPT

As promised throughout the negotiations, Canada has in no way compromised its current and future scope to support cultural development, nor its pursuit of valued and necessary social policies, such as health care and unemployment insurance. The Agreement meets the legitimate concerns expressed by the people of British Columbia on these matters.

OBJECTIVE GAINED

In Parliament, Prime Minister Mulroney succinctly stated Canada's objective:

"It is to try to carve out a unique trading relationship with the United States of America that will create jobs, end trade harassment, introduce stability, eliminate trade barriers, enhance competitiveness, spur productivity and build an