



No. 066

March 23, 1988.

GATT PANEL REPORT
PROVINCIAL LIQUOR BOARD PRACTICES

The Minister for International Trade, the Honourable Pat Carney, stated today, "There seems to be confusion in the press reports with regard to the issue of a possible phase out period for the discriminatory practices on the sale of foreign wines."

"I have at no time cited that it would take up to twelve years to phase out these discriminatory practices" said Miss Carney. She noted that a previous proposal of this nature had been on the Table and was in bilateral negotiations but was not agreed to by the European Community. Miss Carney said: "We have now allowed the adoption of the GATT panel report but we need to go back to the provinces and the industry to discuss what kind of action plan we can agree to in order to be consistent with GATT rules".

Canada has until the end of the year to report back to the GATT on this issue and on the timeframes that might be involved in removing the discriminatory provincial practices.

- 30 -

Minister for
International
Trade

Ministre du
Commerce
extérieur