

Responses to Public Consultations on Canada - Central America Free Trade Negotiations

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35	Telus Mr. Willie Grieve Vice-President Government and Regulatory Affairs Edmonton AB	05 Feb. 2001	Telecoms	For	<i>(Market access, investment and trade in services)</i> - Recognizes significant potential for exports to CentAm but finds it is important to deploy Canada's limited trade negotiating resources to focus on the WTO, NAFTA, the FTAA and APEC. - From a telecoms perspective, has not encountered directly or indirectly any market access barriers or regulatory impediments in CentAm. - Two issues to raise: 1) Foreign Ownership Restrictions: Two of the CA4 have no FOR limits. The Government of Canada should remove all Canadian FORs even in the absence of concessions in a trade negotiation. This would enhance competition and investment in Canada's communication industries and help position Canada as a hub throughout the Americas and in Asia and Europe 2) Scope liberalization in Communications: Canada should liberalize the terms of access in the communications industry in CentAm as broadly as possible. Reduce the uncertainty present in the NAFTA and the GATS created by a general exemption. The Government should use trade negotiations to clarify this point and ensure that all FTAs explicitly cover telecoms facilities.
36	Mr. Del Blackstock BC	01 Feb. 2001	Prebuilt Homes	Concerned	<i>(Market access, transfer of funds, services)</i> - Export interest in prebuilt manufactured homes. - If access to Canadian market improved for products from CentAm, could affect BC/Canada pulp & paper industry due to rapid crop replacement & low labour rates; and could hurt Western agri-crops - Should ensure real "free trade" in possible services negotiations. - Should be cautious in ease of transfer of funds to CentAm in industries which would be in competition with same Canadian industries.
37	Textile Rubber & Chemical Co. Ltd. Mr. Sam Elaraby VP & General Manager St-Jean-sur-Richelieu QC	18 Jan. 2001	Manufacturer - Industrial Coatings	For	<i>(General, market access)</i> - Concerned about the impact of imports of electronic components on Canadian businesses. - Net trade imbalance in 1999; expects situation to swing more favourably toward Canadian interests in the future.