

Several still did not believe that Canada could come out as a "winner" from the negotiations because of the strength of the United States. Even those who believed that more American investments are needed for job creation, also believed that American influence in Canada must be limited.

### C. U.S. Protectionism

The majority said that they are now less inclined than before the United States' recent protectionist initiatives to support a Canada-U.S. free trade agreement. Most felt an agreement would not prevent them from doing the same thing in the future, whether or not there was an agreement, because of a belief that the U.S. always upholds its own interest, without consideration for the others. Other participants felt that the protectionist measures were used by the U.S. to force Canada into a trade agreement which may be unfavourable to Canada. Still others believed that the U.S. was not really interested in Canadian goods and services because they can produce these themselves and felt that Canada should, instead, be considering the sale of its goods and services to other countries which will behave better as trade partners.

Even those few individuals who believed that free trade is the answer to the protectionism wave in the United States, believed that Canada should be thinking of other trade arrangements with other countries more appreciative of our goods and services, and not limit our opportunities to U.S.- Canada bilateral trade.

Apart from increased emphasis on multilateral trade relations negotiations with other countries and limiting trade to Canadian products and services which can withstand competition with the Americans in both markets, no one could volunteer additional measures which could protect Canada from further American protectionist initiatives.