

Canada, together with our trading partners, will have important decisions to make in the weeks ahead to ensure that the final negotiated package is a substantial and balanced one for us. We have been conducting these trade talks in full consultation with the private sector and the provinces. However, the prospects for bringing about this potentially historic trade deal continues to face major uncertainties internationally. It is by no means there yet. Canada's future growth and prosperity lie in sharpening our international competitiveness, more open global markets and fairer trade rules of the game, all of which a successful Uruguay Round will help to achieve.

I believe that this emerging big package of results will lead to a better environment for trade and investment world-wide and better prospects for growth here and abroad. It will help reduce the risks of protectionism, unilateralism, restrictive trade blocks and bilateral trade frictions.

Success in the Multilateral Trade Negotiations is important to Canada. I hope you share my view. I urge you again to speak to your colleagues, your employees and members of your community to help them understand the importance to you and to them of a freer, more stable, more open and more prosperous world marketplace.

Yours sincerely,

Michael H. Wilson