

small businesses as a group don't have that much power, so to have power and knowledge put into one system, it's quite exciting for us as small businesswomen.

STEFANYK: Ms. Lee, geographically you've got a bit of an advantage because Fredericton isn't all that far from the American border. Now, I know that you're in the food processing end of the industry, so what sorts of problems have you encountered trying to do business with the Americans?

BETTY LEE (Fredericton businesswoman): I agree with Arlene, but especially with food processing I think we have more hurdles to get over with. And I found the Canadian embassy personnel, they have an excess amount of knowledge to help me because there is more different kinds of restrictions than many other trades especially for the food processing. Even like the packaging and nitty gritty like that, we never thought of it. But...

STEFANYK: What sorts of restrictions? Your packaging has to meet certain standards?

LEE: Yes, the packaging has to meet certain standards and the nutrition values which we don't have in Canada. There are other restrictions. We also have to pass through the FDA inspections, that kind of thing. (Laughs)

STEFANYK: You're laughing about it now, but I'm sure that it's pretty frustrating when you're trying to get your stuff out.