

September 30, 1993/le 30 septembre 1993 1700/17h00

**The Daily: Platforms, Positions and Statements
of the Major Federal Parties on Subjects of Interest to EAITC****Le Quotidien : Plates-formes, positions et déclarations des partis
fédéraux principaux sur les sujets d'intérêt à l'AECEC****External Affairs/Affaires extérieures****Culture/Culture****Party platforms:**

The **Liberals** would explore investment tax credits for the production of film, records and books, as well as income averaging for artists.

The **National Party** would institute a tax credit system for arts investment and restore CBC and Canada Council funding to old levels.

The **NDP** would eliminate the GST on books and eliminate the cuts to cultural agencies from the 1993 budget. The Canada Council would be made a separate agency. Copyright legislation would be a priority as would the introduction of film distribution legislation.

The **PCs** would continue protecting cultural industries in international trade agreements.

Reform would reduce subsidies to the NFB and CBC by 25% and favours the privatisation of cultural industries. It would repeal the Multiculturalism Act and dismantle of all programs subsidizing ethnic and racial organizations.

International Trade/Commerce extérieur**NAFTA/ALENA -- FTA/ALE**

Former PM John Turner said in the Financial Post that the Liberal pledge to renegotiate the FTA would be difficult to fulfil, but added he wasn't quarrelling with his party's position on the issue.

... Earlier in the campaign Jean Chrétien had said that if he was elected, he would seek that NAFTA be renegotiated to bolster Canada's position by seeking subsidies, an anti-dumping code and a stronger dispute-settlement mechanism, however the 30SEP Post reported that the **Liberals** have "quietly reassured" the Mexicans and the Americans that they will drop their demands. The U.S. and Mexican sources said that the softened stand would depend on a successful end to the GATT round. If the round fails, the **Liberals** would then look to a three country working group to study the Liberal concerns about NAFTA.

... Liberal trade critic Roy McLaren did not discuss the claim saying that "the Liberal government would implement the agreement when it is in Canada's interest."

... Meanwhile CP reports that Trade Minister Tom Hockin called Jean Chrétien "two-faced" and "scoffed" at the idea that the Americans would reopen NAFTA without exacting a price.

Other issues/Autres questions :**Government restructuring/Restructuration au gouvernement**

CJOH Midday News reported that three local **NDP** MPs have said that the **NDP** would freeze the current restructuring process initiated under PM Campbell.

Dept. of External Affairs
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