

Minister for

Ministre du International Trade Commerce extérieur

## COMMUNIQUÉ

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## CANADIAN PROPOSAL PUT FORWARD TO RESOLVE LUMBER DISPUTE

The Minister for International Trade, the Honourable Pat Carney, announced today that Canada has put forward a proposal to the U.S. Administration designed to provide a solution to the softwood lumber dispute between the two countries.

Mr. Donald Campbell, External Affairs Assistant Deputy Minister, United States Branch, presented the offer of settlement today to his U.S. counterpart, Mr. Alan Woods from the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. Mr. Woods in turn will consult with U.S. industry. It is not known when the U.S. Administration will report back to the Canadian Government.

"This proposal was developed with the full participation of the provinces and in close consultation with Canadian industry and unions," said Miss Carney. "It represents a major effort to ward off continuing attacks on Canadian softwood lumber exports to the U.S."

The four provinces were already actively reviewing their forestry management practices and decided to accelerate the implementation of their conclusions in order to resolve the dispute. The four provinces under attack from U.S. lumber producers have made proposals to revise their forest management practices in order to raise additional revenues annually which will flow into provincial treasuries.

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