

**Responses to Public Consultations on Canada - Central America Free Trade Negotiations  
January - February 2001**

**Volume I**

**Réponses aux consultations publiques en vue des négociations de libre-échange Canada - Amérique centrale  
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70	<b>Mr. Matthew McLaughlin</b> Montreal QC	29 Jan. 2001	Canadian citizen	Opposed	<i>(Protection of national interests)</i> - No need for freer trade; with few exceptions all countries have enjoyed de facto free trade since the Industrial Revolution. - Majority of trade restrictions in place are to protect the health, environment, and social well-being of citizens. - Consider the possibility of Canada being forced to drop its commitment to medicare, public education and the protection of natural resources. Preservation of quality of life is not protectionism.
71	<b>Maxidrill International</b> Mr. Bernard Messier QC	19 Jan. 2001	Manufacturer	For	<i>(Tariffs)</i> - Export interests: drills & drill parts, hydraulic & mechanical parts. - Must eliminate tariff barriers.
72	<b>MDS Inc.</b> Mr. Brian Harling Vice President, Corporate Affairs and Chair of the MHCPs SAGIT Etobicoke ON	07 Feb. 2001	Health Product and Services  Medical and Health Care Products and Services SAGIT	For	<i>(Standardization)</i> - The SAGIT is in support of FTAs, with the exception of the member representing labour. - Support the principle of expanded trade, though Central America is not a major client for this sector. - Product approval for distribution is a larger trade barrier than tariffs. Recommend improved standardization and harmonization of regulatory issues and procedures for product approval. - Will add issue to next SAGIT meeting.
73	<b>Micro Mac Products Ltd.</b> Ms. Lois McIntosh President Calgary AB	07 Feb. 2001	Exporter	For	<i>(Tariffs)</i> - Tariffs are sufficiently high to deter local companies from buying Canadian products. - Essential to include all sectors, not just priority items. - Calls for reciprocal tariff reduction/elimination
74	<b>McCain International Inc</b> Mr. Paul Tol Vice President NB	12 Feb. 2001	Food products	For	<i>(Tariffs)</i> - McCain is a major exporter to the region and an FTA would further increase sales volumes of frozen potatoes, vegetables, desserts, pizzas, etc. - Remaining issues include high duties on certain products.