

- The agreement is subject to a final approval process in Canada and the United States. In the United States, the process includes a review of the package by the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee. The Committees have 60 days for that review, following which the necessary amendments to the U.S. Tariff Schedule will be made by Presidential Proclamation. In Canada, the agreement will be implemented through Order-in-Council amendments to the Customs Tariff, following pre-publication in the Canada Gazette to allow interested parties an opportunity to comment.
- In light of the approval processes in both countries, it is expected that the agreement will be implemented on April 1, 1990.
- The tariff acceleration process was established by the two governments in response to representations that were being made by Canadian and U.S. industries interested in faster tariff elimination. Interested parties were invited in March to submit specific requests. Nearly 350 applications were made to the Canadian government and the U.S. government received over 200 petitions.
- On July 15, the consolidated list of requests received by the Canadian and U.S. governments was published in the Canada Gazette. During the domestic consultation period which followed, over 1,200 written submissions were received by the Government from industry associations, labour unions, and individual firms. The Government also solicited and received advice from its industry advisory groups, the International Trade Advisory Committee (ITAC) and the Sectoral Advisory Groups on International Trade (SAGITs), and from Provincial governments.
- In the Free Trade Agreement, Article 401.5 provides for accelerated elimination of tariffs subject to bilateral consultation.
- The Government is willing to pursue in the future requests that enjoy broad industry support.

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