

Securing access to foreign markets

is an important part of Canada's efforts to ensure prosperity for its citizens. The Government of Canada is working in close consultation with Canadians to bring down barriers in key markets.

Canada is a major trading nation; one job in four depends on exports. We trade about \$2.4 billion every day. This amount represents about 43% of our gross domestic product. Canada's trade contributes enormously to our country's economic stability and growth.

Open trade means better jobs, higher incomes, greater revenues for social programs and lower prices for consumers. It is in Canada's best interests to remove trade barriers and promote free and fair trade.

Opening Doors to the World: Canada's International Market Access Priorities 2002 describes the past year's achievements that significantly open markets. It also outlines the government's priorities for further improving access to foreign markets in the year ahead.

The report sets out the range of initiatives that the government will pursue in 2002 at the multilateral, regional and bilateral levels, and it provides details on specific obstacles to be tackled in various markets. In addition, this year's report highlights the importance of international trade to the provincial economies of Ontario and Quebec.

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