

May 28 Federal-Provincial Trade Ministers meeting in Vancouver concludes Canada should proceed to free trade negotiations.

March 18 At the Quebec Summit, the Prime Minister and President sign the Declaration on Trade in Goods and Services setting as a common goal a more secure climate for bilateral trade.

International Trade Minister Kelleher begins cross-country consultations with private sector and trade association groups.

February 23 In an interview, Donald Macdonald, chairman of the Royal Commission on the Economic Union and the Development Prospects for Canada and a former Finance Minister, says that "I now realize that we need a global agreement with the U.S. to control non-tariff barriers."

January 29 The discussion paper "How to Secure and Enhance Canadian Access to U.S. Markets", is issued and favours a two-pronged approach: multilateral trade negotiations and a new trade agreement with the United States.

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December 19 Trade Minister Kelleher and provincial trade ministers agree to develop a national trade strategy aimed at securing Canadian access to U.S. market.

December 10 In major speech to Economic Club of New York, the Prime Minister says Canada wants to "rebuild its image" as a reliable trading partner and as a good place to invest. He points to plans to abolish NEP and replace FIRA with Investment Canada as proof of the government's intentions.

November 8 Finance Minister Wilson indicates in "Agenda for Economic Renewal" that refurbished relations with