
Many government programs and services which support the adaptation process are already in place. As well, the Federal Government announced on January 11, 1988 the formation of the Advisory Council on Adjustment to assist the Government by:

- examining the possibilities for Canadian businesses and workers to position themselves for optimum benefit from the Agreement;
- identifying specific adjustment issues or circumstances; examining various Government programs that support adjustment by firms, workers and communities; and
- recommending any changes to those programs which would improve their effectiveness, efficiency or equity as instruments to facilitate adjustment to the opportunities or issues arising from the Agreement.

Conclusion

Canadian manufacturing approaches free trade from a base of strong growth, with a powerful history of benefiting from trade, and a proven capacity to deal with and profit from change.

The Agreement will provide a means of remedying existing weaknesses in the overall industrial base, especially with respect to Canada's competitive position. It will generate increased investment, provide larger markets, afford access to new products and processes, and reinforce the level of competition. These effects will all serve to help Canada meet the increasingly competitive international markets of the future.