

Did the government heed the concerns of environmentalists during the negotiations?

-- Yes. The NAFTA contains more environmental provisions than any other trade agreement.

-- Throughout the negotiating process, the government actively sought input from provinces and environmental groups. Environmentalists sit as members of the ITAC and the SAGITs.

-- As an example of consultations, a workshop organized by the government last spring brought together 46 ITAC and SAGIT members, as well as environmental groups, for a NAFTA briefing. Discussions centred on how negotiators would ensure that environmental concerns were addressed in the NAFTA.

-- ITAC and SAGIT environmental representatives were invited to meet the NAFTA Environmental Review Committee.