

## Chapter 5

# EXAMINATION OF THE EXISTING MEASURES LIMITING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF TRADE AND INVESTMENT

### 5.1 Introduction

Canada and Japan share a long history of mutually beneficial trade and investment. Although this relationship remains healthy and largely problem-free, our ability to fully exploit the potential of the bilateral trade and investment relationship can often be limited by existing measures, as well as informal constraints to trade such as foreign business customs. However, in order to overcome these limitations, it is first necessary to identify and understand them. Drawing from input received from the Canadian and Japanese private sectors during roundtable consultations, held in Tokyo and Toronto in April and June 2006 respectively, as well as other sources, this chapter examines existing measures in both Canada and Japan that are seen to limit the full potential of trade and investment between the two countries.

In order to guide the work of the Joint Study Working Group, Canada and Japan conducted consultations with the private sector, in line with the Japan-Canada Economic Framework. The representatives and experts of various sectors were invited to express their views on existing measures of the two countries that may hinder the full development of potential trade and investment, and any other views that would enhance the existing economic relationship. Based on requests from some of the speakers and to preserve confidentiality, this report will not attribute remarks to specific groups or individuals.

Domestic consultations with the private sector have played a vital role in the development of this Joint Study. The valuable input of the private sector and other key stakeholders in both