

- World's soundest banking system according to World Economic Forum
- Outstanding quality of life

But we will not rest on our laurels. Our competitors are not sitting still. We will continue making Canada the destination of choice for businesses and investment.

We have taken unilateral action by eliminating nearly all of the tariffs on productivity-improving machinery and equipment as well as manufacturing inputs with the remaining tariffs to go to zero by 2015. This will make Canada the first G-20 country to become a tariff-free zone for manufacturing.

As this report clearly shows, Canadian exporters are continuing to diversify into the fast-growing economies of the world, including many small and medium exporters. Many of them are using the Trade Commissioner Service (TCS) to help them do it. From offices across Canada and around the world, our Trade Commissioners provide a range of services to help Canadian businesses

navigate—and succeed in—global markets. This publication contains the results of a new study that shows that businesses that use the service have exports that are 18 per cent higher than firms that do not. We are committed to helping more Canadian businesses realize these benefits by tapping into the many tools the TCS provides.

We must continue working together to stay ahead of the curve in this increasingly competitive and rapidly changing global economic environment. Together, we can ensure that Canada remains the best location in the world from which to run a global company, to export and in which to invest, work, live and create.



*The Honourable Peter Van Loan
Canada's Minister of International Trade*