

That speaks of some of the obstacles we want to discuss with the Americans, in the interest of Canadian jobs and security.

But let's also look at the opportunities.

A better, fairer, more open trade arrangement with the United States would create new jobs, and better jobs. It would encourage new investment, not only foreign investment, but investment by Canadians as well, and that would build our industries and make them more competitive throughout the world. We would, in other words, be selling more products not only to the United States but to the rest of the world as well. Because we would be more competitive.

There are a great many Canadian producers who relish the challenge of greater access to a market of 250 million people. They are confident about their capacity to compete in a more certain North American environment. They have confidence in their capacity as managers and in the skills, know-how and diligence of their workers.

The Government wants these firms to flourish. We know that this is a more promising avenue to growth and employment than bailouts -- or taking a plunge into our own brand of protectionism.