



News Release

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MINISTER APPOINTS NEW INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND NAMES CHAIRPERSONS FOR SECTORAL ADVISORY GROUPS

The Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, the Honourable Michael H. Wilson, today announced members of the reconstituted International Trade Advisory Committee (ITAC) and the incoming Chairpersons for 15 Sectoral Advisory Groups on International Trade (SAGITs).

"I have asked committee members to work closely with Canada's trade negotiators on issues directly related to the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN) and the negotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)," Mr. Wilson said. "I will also call on the ITAC and SAGITs to interact with the Government in implementing the Canada-U.S Free Trade Agreement and in examining issues affecting Canada's competitiveness, especially those issues directly related to international markets and marketing."

Mr. Wilson said by helping to guide Canada's trade policy, the advisory committee system will advance Canada's export objectives. But he added that trade policies alone will not guarantee Canada's future prosperity. "Better marketing and a commitment to competitiveness will be needed for long-term prosperity."

"Canadian companies are proving they can compete -- and win -- in some of the toughest export markets in the world. By adopting a positive outlook and taking advantage of new and expanding opportunities, we will continue as a force to be reckoned with in world markets. Some three million jobs across Canada depend on our exports. It is not hard to see why competitiveness is the key to our high standard of living today, as well as our prosperity tomorrow."

The 53-member ITAC provides for an ongoing two-way flow of information and advice between the Government and the private sector on international trade matters. The ITAC complements the 15 SAGITs, which provide in-depth sectoral expertise. Taken together, they cover the full spectrum of Canadian economic activities and comprise more than 200 prominent individuals from the business, labour, environmental, academic, consumer, research and cultural communities. Members serve on a voluntary basis without remuneration.

The chairperson of each SAGIT is also a member of the ITAC. The full list of SAGIT members for the coming two years will be announced in the near future.

The Minister earlier announced that Marshall A. "Mickey" Cohen, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Molson Companies Limited, has succeeded Senator Trevor Eyton as Chairman of ITAC. Senator Eyton, Chairman of Brascan Limited, served as ITAC Chairman for the past three years.

Attached is a list of the members of the International Trade Advisory Committee, as well as background information on the International Trade Advisory Committee System.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office
External Affairs and International Trade Canada
(613) 995-1874

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SYSTEM

I. MANDATE AND STRUCTURE

This permanent advisory committee system has been established to provide an ongoing, confidential, two-way flow of information and advice between the Government and the private sector on international trade matters. It is the main channel for communicating to the Government the views of the Canadian private sector.

The advisory committee system, which reports to the Minister for International Trade, ensures that the Government has the benefit of private sector views in its deliberations relating to trade policy and trade development issues that arise in Canada's international trade relationships, both bilateral and multilateral.

The advisory committee system has two components -- the International Trade Advisory Committee (ITAC), which has broad terms of reference on all international trade matters; and the 15 Sectoral Advisory Groups on International Trade (SAGITs), which ensure that sectoral views are fully considered in the advisory process.

On issues directly related to the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN) and the negotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), both components of the advisory committee system work closely with the Canadian trade negotiators.

In addition to the above issues, the ITAC and SAGITs interact with the Government in the implementation of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and in the examination of issues that affect Canada's competitiveness, especially those directly related to international markets and marketing.

II. MEMBERSHIP - APPOINTMENT AND TENURE

Members of both the ITAC and SAGITs must be Canadian citizens and are appointed by the Minister for International Trade. Members serve for a period of two years, subject to suitable arrangements being made for sensible rotation and the need for continuity.

Members serve without remuneration and may be reappointed for one or more additional periods. However, at all times, members serve

at the discretion of the Minister for International Trade. The Minister may create additional sectoral advisory groups as required.

One of the unique characteristics of the advisory committee system is the openness with which members exchange information and advice with the Government. The nature of these exchanges is often of a confidential nature.

In this context, before they take their position on a committee, all members are required to sign a security declaration undertaking to respect the confidentiality of classified information provided to them by the Government.

The International Trade Advisory Committee (ITAC)

The membership of this committee is broadly representative and reflects regional, sectoral and demographic interests. ITAC members are selected from the business, labour, environmental, academic, consumer, research and cultural communities.

Sectoral Advisory Groups on International Trade (SAGITs)

The 15 SAGITs are as follows:

1. Agriculture, Food and Beverage
2. Apparel and Footwear
3. Arts and Cultural Industries
4. Consumer and Household Products
5. Energy, Chemicals and Petrochemicals
6. Financial Services
7. Fish and Fish Products
8. Forest Products
9. Industrial and High Technology Equipment
10. Minerals and Metals
11. Business and Professional Services
12. Telecommunications and Computer Services
13. Textiles, Fur and Leather
14. Transportation Equipment
15. Transportation Services

Members of the ITAC and SAGITs serve in their individual capacities, not as representatives of specific entities or interest groups.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. John Alleruzzo
Canadian Director
Amalgamated Clothing and
Textile Workers' Union
Don Mills, Ontario

Mr. Laurent Beaudoin
Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer
Bombardier Inc.
Montreal, Quebec

M. Ivan Bernier
Directeur général
Centre québécois de relations internationales
Québec (Québec)

Mr. John Bulloch
President
Canadian Federation of Independent Business
Willowdale, Ontario

Mr. James William Burns
Deputy Chairperson
Power Corporation of Canada
Montreal, Quebec

Mrs. Shirley G.E. Carr
President
Canadian Labour Congress
Ottawa, Ontario

Mr. John Cassaday
President and Chief Executive Officer
CTV Television Network Ltd.
Toronto, Ontario

Mr. Marshall A. Cohen
President and Chief Executive Officer
The Molson Companies Ltd.
Toronto, Ontario

Mr. Kenneth Copeland
President
Digital Equipment of Canada Ltd.
Toronto, Ontario

Mr. F. Thomas Cowan
Vice-President, Operations
Cold Springs Farm Limited
Thamesford, Ontario

Prof. John Crispo
Professor of Political Economy
Faculty of Management Studies
Toronto, Ontario

Mr. Thomas Paul D'Aquino
President and Chief Executive Officer
Business Council on National Issues
Ottawa, Ontario

M. Fernand Daoust
Président
Fédération des travailleurs
et travailleuses du Québec
Montréal (Québec)

Mr. Arthur A. DeFehr
President
Palliser Furniture Ltd.
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Mr. Marcel Dutil
Chairperson and President
The Canam Manac Group Inc.
Montreal, Quebec

Mr. Clifford R. Evans
International Vice-President
and Canadian Director
United Food and Commercial Workers
Rexdale, Ontario

M. Guy Laflamme
Président
Industries de la Rive sud
St-Croix (Quebec)

Mr. Bernard Lemaire
President
Cascades Inc.
Kingsey Falls, Quebec

Dr. Richard G. Lipsey
Professor of Economics
Simon Fraser University
Vancouver, British Columbia

Ms. Marilyn Lister
National President
Consumers Association of Canada
Ottawa, Ontario

Mr. James A. McCambly
President
Canadian Federation of Labour
Ottawa, Ontario

Mrs. Wendy B. McDonald
Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer
B.C. Bearing Engineers Limited
Burnaby, British Columbia

Mr. John Roland McDougall
Poole Chair in Management for Engineers
Faculty of Engineering
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta

Mr. J.J. Munro
National President
IWA-Canada
Vancouver, British Columbia

M. Bertin F. Nadeau
Président du Conseil
Provigo Inc.
Montréal (Québec)

Dr. Robert Page
Dean, Faculty of Environmental Design
University of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta

Mr. Timothy Reid
President
Canadian Chamber of Commerce
Ottawa, Ontario

M. Donald Savoie
Directeur général
Université de Moncton - IRCDA
Moncton (Nouveau-Brunswick)

Mr. Thomas S. Simms
Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer
T.S. Simms & Co. Ltd.
Saint John East, New Brunswick

Mr. William Stinson
Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Pacific Enterprises Ltd.
Montreal, Quebec

Mr. Terry Summach
President
Flexi-Coil Ltd.
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Mr. L. James Taylor
President
Canadian Exporters' Association
Ottawa, Ontario

Mr. Gordon D. Ulrich
President
Luscar Ltd.
Edmonton, Alberta

Mr. Stephen H. Van Houten
President
Canadian Manufacturers' Association
Toronto, Ontario

Dr. Michael A. Walker
Executive Director
The Fraser Institute
Vancouver, British Columbia

Mr. Robert White
National President
National Automobile, Aerospace
and Agricultural
Willowdale, Ontario

Dr. Gilbert R. Winham
Professor of Political Science
Dalhousie University
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Mr. Victor Young
Chair of the Board and Chief Executive Officer
Fishery Products International Ltd.
St. John's, Newfoundland

SECTORAL ADVISORY GROUPS ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE
(SAGITS) - CHAIRPERSONS

FOREST PRODUCTS

Mr. T.M. (Mike) Apsey
President & Chief Executive Officer
Council of Forest Industries
of British Columbia
Vancouver, British Columbia

TEXTILES, FUR AND LEATHER

Mr. Eric Barry, President
Canadian Textile Institute
Ottawa, Ontario

**ENERGY, CHEMICALS AND
PETROCHEMICALS**

Mr. G. Firman Bentley
Senior Vice-President
Nova Corporation of Alberta
Sarnia, Ontario

FINANCIAL SERVICES

M. André Bérard
Chair of Board and CEO
Banque Nationale du Canada
Montreal, Quebec

**INDUSTRIAL AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY
EQUIPMENT**

M. L. David Caplan
Président et Chef de la Direction
Pratt & Whitney Canada Inc.
Longueuil (Quebec)

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND
COMPUTER SERVICES**

Mrs. Jocelyne Côté-O'Hara
Vice-President, Government Relations
British Columbia Telephone Company
Ottawa, Ontario

TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT

Mr. Kenneth W. Harrigan
President and Chief Executive Officer
Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited
Oakville, Ontario

APPAREL AND FOOTWEAR

Mr. Jack Kivenko
Vice-President and Chief Executive Officer
Jack Spratt Manufacturing Co. Inc.
Montreal, Quebec

**CONSUMER AND HOUSEHOLD
PRODUCTS**

Mr. Alasdair J. McKichan
President, Retail Council of Canada
Toronto, Ontario

FISH AND FISH PRODUCTS

Mr. Donald A. McLean
President and Chief Executive Officer
British Columbia Packers Limited
Richmond, British Columbia

MINERALS AND METALS

Mr. David Morton
Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer
Alcan Aluminium Limited
Montreal, Quebec

ARTS AND CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

Mr. Ronald W. Osborne
President and Chief Executive Officer
Maclean Hunter Limited
Toronto, Ontario

**BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL
SERVICES**

Mr. Alain Perez
President, SNC-Lavalin Inc.
Montreal, Quebec

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Dr. Donald S. Reimer
Chair, President and CEO
Reimer Express Enterprises Limited
Winnipeg, Manitoba

AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND BEVERAGE

Mr. William Vaags
Past President, Canadian Pork Council
Dugald, Manitoba