



News Release

Communiqué

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CANADA-U.S. TRADE COMMISSION MEETS IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

The Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, the Honourable Michael H. Wilson, and U.S. Trade Representative Carla A. Hills said today that implementation of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA) continues to proceed smoothly as the Agreement moves towards the end of its third year.

Mr. Wilson and Ambassador Hills met today in Seattle, Washington, for the fifth meeting of the Canada-U.S. Trade Commission, which reviews the progress and overall management of the FTA.

"We are very pleased with the progress made since the Commission met nearly a year ago," Mr. Wilson said. "Businesses, industries and associations continue to take increasing advantage of the opportunities presented by the FTA."

"We have accomplished a great deal in the last two and a half years and we will work hard to ensure the continued success of the FTA," Ambassador Hills said.

Trade in goods and services between the two countries reached C\$203 billion in 1990, up from C\$197 billion in 1989 and from C\$191 billion in 1988.

Mr. Wilson and Ambassador Hills noted progress in a number of areas since the last Commission meeting on October 11, 1990:

- The second round of accelerated tariff reductions is now in force. This means that since the Agreement entered into force, the two countries, at the request of the private sector, have agreed to more rapid elimination of duties on products valued at more than C\$8 billion.

- The architectural societies of Canada and the U.S. have established criteria that will recognize the qualifications of architects from each other's country.

Mr. Wilson and Ambassador Hills also discussed a number of outstanding trade issues and noted the importance of the FTA in helping to resolve bilateral issues.

They added that the FTA is helping to achieve the trade and economic objectives in both countries and that it complements and reinforces other international trade agreements and negotiations.

Attached is a summary of decisions taken by the Trade Commission on August 18, 1991.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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CANADA-U.S. TRADE COMMISSION

FIFTH MEETING

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

AUGUST 18, 1991

BINATIONAL SECRETARIAT

The Commission received the report of the Binational Secretariat. The number of countervailing duties and dumping cases under Chapter 19 was twelve in 1989 and four in 1990. Three cases have been filed in 1991, one of which was withdrawn. In addition, the Extraordinary Challenge Committee was formed to review the U.S. International Trade Commission's determination involving fresh, chilled and frozen pork from Canada.

The Commission agreed to a process to amend Chapter 19 Rules that will be submitted to it by the Binational Legal Working Group, which is currently working on the amendments. The Commission is pleased with how the FTA dispute settlement process is working to resolve differences between Canada and the U.S.

SUBSIDIES AND TRADE REMEDIES WORKING GROUP

The Commission accepted the Working Group's recommendation that Canada and the U.S. await the outcome of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations before deciding what further work needs to be done to fulfill obligations set out in Articles 1906 and 1907.

THE JOINT MONITORING REPORT OF THE AGRICULTURAL WORKING GROUPS

This report outlines the varying degrees of progress made by the technical working groups examining regulations and standards affecting agricultural and fishery trade between Canada and the U.S. The Commission is pleased with the progress made to date and recognizes that its work programs have long-term objectives.

TARIFF ACCELERATION ELIMINATION

The Working Group on Tariff Acceleration reported that Round Two of Accelerated Tariff Reduction was provisionally implemented as planned on July 1, 1991. These accelerated tariff reductions affect approximately C\$2 billion in two-way trade and over 200 products. Since 1989, the two countries have implemented accelerated reductions on some C\$8 billion in bilateral trade, at the request of the Canadian and U.S. private sectors.

RULES OF ORIGIN AND CUSTOMS WORKING GROUP

The Commission has approved the amendment to the rules of origin on oilseed products and proposed amendments to a number of other products, subject to the approval processes in both countries, as recommended by the Working Group. This will clarify and remove a number of uncertainties in border procedures.

TEMPORARY ENTRY

The Commission received the report of the Temporary Entry Consultative Group. It noted that the necessary domestic review processes have been completed for the amendments to Chapter 15 approved by the Commission at its October 11, 1990 meeting and that those amendments would be implemented upon publication by both countries (see Appendix A).

APPENDIX "A"

Note: Changes to the text of the Agreement are indicated in bold capital letters.

AMENDMENTS TO SCHEDULE 2 TO CHAPTER 1502.1

<u>PROFESSION</u>	<u>MINIMUM EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS/ ALTERNATIVE CREDENTIALS</u>
Accountant	BACCALAUREATE DEGREE, OR C.P.A., C.A., C.G.A., C.M.A.
Animal breeder	BACCALAUREATE DEGREE
Computer systems analyst	BACCALAUREATE DEGREE, OR POST- SECONDARY DIPLOMA AND THREE YEARS EXPERIENCE
GEOCHEMIST	BACCALAUREATE DEGREE
Hotel Manager	baccalaureate degree IN HOTEL/RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT, OR POST-SECONDARY DIPLOMA IN HOTEL/RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT and three years experience IN HOTEL/RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT
INDUSTRIAL DESIGNER	BACCALAUREATE DEGREE, OR POST- SECONDARY DIPLOMA AND THREE YEARS EXPERIENCE
INTERIOR DESIGNER	BACCALAUREATE DEGREE, OR POST- SECONDARY DIPLOMA AND THREE YEARS EXPERIENCE
<u>MEDICAL/ALLIED PROFESSIONAL</u>	
- MEDICAL LABORATORY technologist (CANADA)/ Medical technologist (U.S.) *	BACCALAUREATE DEGREE, OR POST- SECONDARY DIPLOMA AND THREE YEARS EXPERIENCE
Scientific technician/ technologist	Must a) work in direct support of professionals in the following disciplines: agricultural sciences, astronomy, biology, chemistry, ENGINEERING, forestry, geology, geophysics, meteorology, or physics; b) possess theoretical knowledge of the discipline; AND c) solve practical problems in the discipline, OR apply principles of the discipline to basic or applied research.

* MUST PERFORM CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, HAEMOTOLOGICAL, IMMUNOLOGIC, MICROSCOPIC AND BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS, PROCEDURES, EXPERIMENTS AND ANALYSES IN LABORATORIES FOR DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT AND PREVENTION OF DISEASE.