

December 12th, 2011

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

We are writing on behalf of Canadian businesses to express our support for Canada entering into consultations toward joining the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations.

Joining the TPP is critical as it is becoming the main trade liberalization instrument for the Asia Pacific region. Strategically strengthening Canada's trade and investment relationship with this region is a priority for Canadian businesses in light of the region's growing economic importance. Moreover, through the TPP Canada could further advance its interests to ensure rules-based trade.

As your government intensifies its discussions with the original nine parties to the negotiations, we encourage you to signal Canada's willingness to table ambitious and comprehensive offers that promote Canada's best economic interests.

As Canada negotiates its accession to the TPP and assuming we become a party to the negotiations, you can rely on our organizations to engage the Canadian business community and work with Canada's negotiating team to ensure the TPP leads to a net increase in Canada's exports of domestically produced goods and services, as well as higher levels of production, investment and employment in Canada.

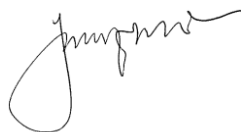
From a strategic perspective, we also suggest that the government consult closely with our NAFTA partners to leverage each other's presence at the negotiating table when our interests converge, and ultimately achieve an outcome that reflects our common trade and economic priorities. Moreover, please note that we can engage Canadian business allies in the TPP region such as Canadian companies present in these markets, their suppliers and customers to voice their support for Canada joining the TPP as it is in our trading partners' best interests.

We thank you for your leadership on this issue and look forward to continuing to work with you and your government to create a more prosperous Canada.

Sincerely,




Jayson Myers
President & CEO
Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters



James Quick
President & CEO
Aerospace Industries Association of Canada



Jerry Engel
President
AMC-Agricultural Manufacturers of Canada



Matt Sawyer
Chairman
Alberta Barley Commission



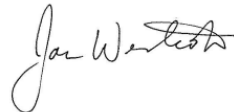
Doug Sawyer
Chair
Alberta Beef Producers



Doug Price
Chairman
Alberta Cattle Feeders' Association



Rick Tachuk
National Vice-President & Policy Chair
AMCHAM Canada



Jan Westcott
President/CEO
Association of Canadian Distillers



T. Howard Mains
Canadian Public Policy Advisor
Association of Equipment Manufacturers
(AEM)



Peter A. Brenders
President & CEO
BIOTECanada



Edouard Asnong
Chair
Canada Pork International



Russell Williams
President
Canada's Research-Based
Pharmaceutical Companies (Rx&D)



Kathleen Sullivan
Executive Director
Canadian Agri-food Trade Alliance



Dave Collyer
President
Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers



Jay Nordenstrom
Executive Director
Canadian Association of Railway Suppliers



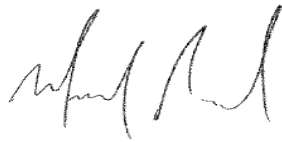
Rick White
General Manager
Canadian Canola Growers Association



Travis Toews
President
Canadian Cattlemen's Association



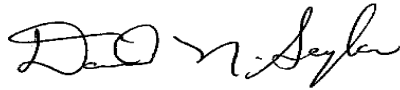
Shannon Coombs
President
Canadian Consumer Specialty Products
Association



Murray Abramovitch
President
Canadian Die Casters Association



Roger Larson
President
Canadian Fertilizer Institute



David N. Seyler
President
Canadian Foundry Association



Jim Keon
President
Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association



Ed Whelan, P.Eng.
President
Canadian Institute of Steel Construction



Jim Laws
Executive Director
Canadian Meat Council



Jurgen Preugschas
Chair
Canadian Pork Council



Ron Watkins
President
Canadian Steel Producers' Association



Sandra Marsden
President
Canadian Sugar Institute



Emerson Suphal
President
Canadian Tooling & Machining Association



Don E. Moore
Executive Director
Canadian Transportation Equipment Association



JoAnne Buth
President
Canola Council of Canada



Anthony Ariganello, CPA (DE), FCGA
President and Chief Executive Officer
Certified General Accountants



Richard Paton
President and CEO
Chemistry Industry Association of Canada



Jim Taggart
President/CEO
Electro-Federation Canada



Chris Dekker
Chief Executive Officer
Enterprise Saskatchewan



Nancy Croitoru
President and Chief Executive Officer
Food & Consumer Products of Canada



Avrim Lazar
President
Forest Products Association of Canada



Richard Phillips
Executive Director
Grain Growers of Canada



Wayne K. Bassett
Chairman, Canadian Council
Metals Service Center Institute



Bill Jameson
Chairman
National Cattle Feeders' Association



Lionel Labelle
President and CEO
Saskatchewan Trade & Export Partnership



Wade Sobkowich
Executive Director
Western Grain Elevator Association

Cc: The Honourable Ed Fast, Minister of International Trade