



THE CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
LA CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE DU CANADA

*The Voice of Canadian Business™*  
*Le porte-parole des entreprises canadiennes<sup>MD</sup>*

January 16, 2009

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Langevin Block, 80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

*Office of the President and  
Chief Executive Officer*

*Cabinet du président  
et chef de la direction*

Dear Prime Minister:

The inauguration of President-elect Obama will give Canada an opportunity to set new priorities with the United States and reinvigorate our long-standing partnership. The pains of the global recession that are being felt throughout North America make a coordinated response with our U.S. neighbours even more important than it would normally be.

Mr. Prime Minister, under your leadership, Canada can bring forward a clear plan for mutually-beneficial collaboration between our two countries on the most important shared issues. You have already taken an important initiative in pursuing a North American cap and trade system. Canada can build upon this type of action and make considerable progress if we focus our efforts on strategic areas that respond to the current economic realities while building a competitive and secure North America for the future.

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce recommendations, on behalf of our over 175,000 members from every region of our country, focus on five key areas our members hope will form the economic component of your Canada-U.S. agenda:

- A shared Canada – U.S. border and transportation vision;
- North American energy security;
- Environmental cooperation;
- Regulatory cooperation; and
- Protecting our intellectual property rights.

I have taken the liberty of attaching a more detailed submission on these five components. I hope that you will find our presentation helpful and would be pleased to further discuss these issues with you at any time.

Sincerely,

Perrin Beatty

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The Honourable Peter Van Loan, Minister of Public Safety  
The Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of the Environment  
The Honourable John Baird, Minister of Transportation  
The Honourable Lisa Raitt, Minister of Natural Resources  
The Honourable Tony Clement, Minister of Industry  
Ambassador Michael Wilson  
Darrel Reid, Director, Policy, Prime Minister's Office

