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PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

August 11, 2008

Perrin

Dear Mr. Beatty:

Thank you for your letter of July 2, 2008, regarding the World Trade Organization (WTO) Doha Round negotiations and Ministerial conference. I appreciated receiving the views of the Chamber of Commerce with regard to Canada's position at the WTO negotiations.

The Government recognizes that the growth and prosperity of Canadian manufacturers, service providers, and agricultural producers depend on expanded access to new markets. We are a strong supporter of the WTO Doha Round of negotiations and have pressed for an ambitious outcome that would create new export opportunities for Canadian industries.

While disappointed at the breakdown of the recent negotiations, the Government remains committed to the multilateral process and will be there to advance Canada's interests and trade liberalization whenever the WTO talks resume. At the same time, we will continue to seek new trade opportunities through bilateral agreements.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of our correspondence to the Honourable Michael Fortier, Minister of International Trade, and the Honourable Gerry Ritz, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, for their information.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Perrin Beatty
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