



Department for International Trade

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19 April 2022

Dear Angus,

Update on UK-Canada Free Trade Agreement Negotiations

I am writing to update you and your committee on the ongoing UK-Canada Free Trade Agreement Negotiations which I launched alongside my counterpart Minister Mary Ng on 24 March.

The UK hosted a delegation of 27 Canadians for technical talks in London, with a further 133 joining the talks virtually – for the first round of negotiations which began on 28 March and concluded on 1 April.

During this round, technical experts from both sides came together for discussions in 50 separate sessions covering 34 policy areas including: Trade in Goods, Trade in Services, Professional Business Services, Financial Services & Telecommunications, Investment, Innovation, Intellectual Property, Customs and Trade Facilitation, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Technical Barriers to Trade, Competition & Consumer Protection, Gender, Government Procurement, Mobility, Domestic Regulation, Transportation Services, SMEs, Sustainability, Transparency, Legal and Institutional Provisions, Trade and Development, Trade and Indigenous Peoples, Digital, Subsidies, State Owned Enterprises, Anti-Corruption, Remedies, Disputes, Labour, and Good Regulatory Practice.

The negotiations were productive and reflected our shared ambition to secure an ambitious, modern and comprehensive deal that goes further than the existing trade continuity agreement, removing existing trade barriers and creating new opportunities for business in the UK and Canada.

The second round of official level negotiations with Canada is due to take place in June 2022, which is expected to be taking place in Canada.

I will write again to update you on progress after the second round of negotiations. I would like to reiterate the commitment made by our Department to make the Chief Negotiator and relevant Senior Civil Service experts available to brief the committee in private as negotiations progress. Our Department is committed to being transparent and keeping Parliament updated.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anne-Marie Trevelyan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

THE RT HON ANNE-MARIE TREVELYAN MP
Secretary of State for International Trade
& President of the Board of Trade