

**Report to the**  
**TRADE AND INDUSTRY STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**To the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the**  
**CANADIAN HORTICULTURAL COUNCIL**  
**The Westin Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario**  
**March 10, 2011**

**To the President and Members of the**  
**Canadian Horticultural Council**

First, the WTO is currently stalled – no one knows if or when it will ever start again in earnest.

Bilaterals

Canada is signing Free Trade Agreements with many countries – I will not bore you with the list but details directed at agriculture/horticulture in particular are at an extremely high level, which means that details (where the devil is) are not provided by the department to us at a practical application (i.e. how will it affect us).

The government of Canada seems to lack some understanding of what happens on our farms.

Fair & Ethical Trade – PACA Trust

Part of the NAFTA agreement is for reciprocity of treatment for both sides. Currently US producers and Canadian shippers selling in the US have protection of payment with the PACA Trust. Canada has no such legislation – we have tried before and are now trying again to make this happen.

Meetings have been held through the year, some progress has been made. Some – actually only a little. The CHC has requested that the government contract the George Morris Centre (or the like) to evaluate and make recommendations as to how this can be achieved in Canada (the end result is our goal). At the time of this report (January 17) no acceptance of contract is known; contracts will be sent shortly and we will keep up the pressure...but.

Respectfully submitted,



Ken Forth  
Chair  
Trade and Industry Standards Committee  
March 10, 2011