



November 24, 2021

Dear members of Parliament:

In accordance with the enhanced transparency requirements set out in the amended Policy on Tabling of Treaties in Parliament, I am pleased to notify the House of Commons of the [Canada-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement](#) free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations between Canada and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)<sup>1</sup>. The Government of Canada intends to commence negotiations by holding a first round of negotiations with ASEAN no earlier than 90 days from the date of this notice.

Expanding trade and investment with fast-

The Government of Canada held public consultations from September 1 to October 16, 2018, to solicit the views of Canadians on a possible Canada-ASEAN FTA. Overall, views received expressed support for a Canada-ASEAN FTA and highlighted the significant opportunities for Canadians and Canadian businesses in the ASEAN market across a broad range of sectors, including agriculture and agri-food, fish and seafood, natural resources, manufacturing, and financial services. A [summary of the feedback](#) received has been published online.

A Canada-ASEAN FTA would provide Canadians with enhanced access to Southeast Asian supply chains and trade and investment opportunities. An FTA would benefit Canadian exporters of goods and services by eliminating tariffs and other barriers; enhancing market access and protection for investors; and creating a more transparent, predictable and accessible environment for international trade and investment. In approaching such an agreement, the government is committed to ensuring that an FTA reflects the interests of all Canadians, including creating new opportunities for the middle class, small and medium-sized enterprises, women, and Indigenous people.

In accordance with the Policy on Tabling of Treaties in Parliament, negotiating objectives for a Canada-ASEAN FTA will be tabled in the House of Commons no later than 30 days before Canada holds its first round of negotiations with ASEAN. Should negotiations be successfully concluded, the government will also table an economic impact assessment of the final agreement at such a time as the implementing legislation for a Canada-ASEAN FTA is tabled.

I look forward to working closely and transparently with Parliament throughout negotiations for a Canada-ASEAN FTA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary Ng', is written over a light blue and pink background. The signature is fluid and cursive.

The Honourable Mary Ng, P.C., M.P.