



RESPONSE TO PETITION

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PETITION No.: **421-02051**

BY: **MR. McCAULEY (EDMONTON WEST)**

DATE: **FEBRUARY 9, 2018**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **Signed by the Honourable Chrystia Freeland**

Response by the Minister of Foreign Affairs

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

SUBJECT

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

ORIGINAL TEXT

REPLY

The Government of Canada welcomes the opportunity to modernize the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and is working with the United States and Mexico to make what is already a good agreement, better. When the Government announced Canada's negotiating objectives on August 14, 2017, it was stressed that the overarching goal is to protect NAFTA's record of economic growth, make the Agreement more progressive, and uphold the elements of NAFTA that are key to our national interest.

The Government of Canada recognizes that provisions that support the mobility of business people play an important role in growing businesses, expanding trade, and enabling cross-border opportunities for Canadians. One of Canada's main objectives is to update and modernize the labour mobility provisions in Chapter 16 of the Agreement in order to keep pace with today's economy.

The Government of Canada will continue to work with NAFTA partners with a view to ensuring that the business mobility provisions in the Agreement continue to support the needs of Canadians.