



International Maple Syrup Institute Preserving Integrated North American Maple Supply Chains Under USMCA/CUSMA/T-MEC June 19th, 2026

The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc

President of the King's Privy Council for Canada
Minister responsible for Canada-U.S. Trade, Intergovernmental Affairs, Internal Trade and
One Canadian Economy
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
Canada

The Honourable Jamieson Greer

United States Trade Representative
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20508
United States

The Honorable Marcelo Ebrard Casaubon

Secretary of Economy
Ministry of Economy
Pachuca 189, Col. Condesa
Cuauhtémoc Borough
C.P. 06140
Mexico City
United Mexican States

Re: Preserving Integrated North American Maple Supply Chains Under USMCA/CUSMA/T-MEC

Dear Ministers,

On behalf of the International Maple Syrup Institute (IMSI), we write to express our strong support for a modern, stable, and effective United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA/CUSMA/T-MEC) and to highlight the importance of preserving the integrated North American supply chains that support the maple sector.

The maple sector represents one of North America's most successful examples of agricultural integration. Canada and the United States together produce more than 99 percent of the world's maple syrup and maple products, creating a uniquely North American industry built upon generations of cooperation, innovation, and trade. The growth of the



International Maple Syrup Institute Preserving Integrated North American Maple Supply Chains Under USMCA/CUSMA/T-MEC June 19th, 2026

maple sector over the past several decades has been supported by open markets, strong business relationships, and the efficient movement of goods across borders.

While maple production is concentrated in Canada and the United States, consumers throughout North America benefit from a stable and integrated maple supply chain. USMCA/CUSMA/T-MEC has helped create the certainty necessary for producers, processors, manufacturers, and retailers to invest in long-term growth while ensuring consumers have continued access to high-quality maple products.

The success of this sector depends on the efficient movement of maple products, production equipment, packaging components, and related goods throughout North America. Approximately 60 percent of Canadian maple exports are destined for the United States market, while American maple producers rely heavily on Canadian-manufactured equipment, technology, and expertise. Producers, processors, equipment manufacturers, researchers, and industry organizations work together across borders every day to support a growing market for maple products both domestically and internationally.

Maple production relies on a highly integrated manufacturing and supply chain network. Specialized equipment- including stainless-steel evaporators, reverse osmosis systems, filtration technologies, tubing systems, pumps, and other essential components- supports maple operations throughout North America. In many cases, raw materials, components, and finished products cross borders multiple times during manufacturing, assembly, distribution, and production before ultimately reaching producers and consumers. The efficient movement of these goods is essential to maintaining a competitive and innovative maple industry.

The maple sector supports thousands of jobs throughout North America, not only on maple farms, but also in manufacturing, transportation, processing, packaging, retail, tourism, and research. The industry contributes significantly to the economic vitality of rural communities and helps sustain a network of family-owned businesses, equipment manufacturers, and service providers whose success depends on reliable access to North American markets.

Maple producers are also long-term stewards of North America's forest resources. Successful maple production depends upon the responsible management and long-term health of maple forests, many of which have been cared for by the same families for generations. The continued success of the maple industry encourages the preservation and active management of working forests while supporting economic opportunities in rural regions.



International Maple Syrup Institute Preserving Integrated North American Maple Supply Chains Under USMCA/CUSMA/T-MEC June 19th, 2026

The maple sector also demonstrates how integrated North American supply chains contribute to food security, economic resilience, and agricultural prosperity throughout the region. The ability of producers, processors, manufacturers, and distributors to work together across borders has strengthened the industry's ability to respond to market demands while ensuring a reliable supply of maple products for consumers.

As governments undertake the 2026 review of USMCA/CUSMA/T-MEC, we encourage all parties to build upon the agreement's successes and maintain the certainty that has allowed North America's maple sector to thrive. Predictable market access, efficient border procedures, and the continued movement of goods across North America remain essential to supporting investment, innovation, and long-term growth throughout the industry.

The introduction of tariffs, additional trade barriers, or unnecessary regulatory burdens would increase costs throughout the supply chain, create uncertainty for businesses, discourage investment, and ultimately impact producers and consumers alike. At a time when businesses are making long-term investments in production capacity, manufacturing, and market development, stability and predictability remain critical to future growth.

The International Maple Syrup Institute respectfully encourages the governments of Canada, the United States, and Mexico to reaffirm their commitment to a strong, predictable North American trading partnership that supports rural economies, strengthens agricultural competitiveness, promotes food security, preserves the seamless movement of maple products, production equipment, packaging components, and related goods, and provides businesses with the certainty they need to invest, innovate, and grow.

We appreciate your leadership and your continued commitment to policies that strengthen North American agriculture and support the communities, businesses, and families that depend upon it.

Sincerely,

Genevève Clermont
President
International Maple Syrup Institute

Peter Christopher
Vice-President
International Maple Syrup Institute