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Canada, China ink trade agreement

BY DAVIDAKIN, PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU CHIEF

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Chinese President Hu Jintao, right, shakes hands with Prime Minister Stephen Harper before their meeting at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing February 9, 2012. (REUTERS/Diego Azubel/Pool)



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VLADIVOSTOK, Russia – Canada and China signed a trade agreement here Sunday that Prime Minister Stephen Harper said will give Canadian companies firmer legal footing when they invest in China.

Harper and Chinese President Hu Jintao witnessed the signing of the Canada-China Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (FIPA) after the two men held a private one-on-one meeting on the margins of the annual Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) summit.

"This agreement with China — the world's second largest economy — will provide stronger protection for Canadians investing in China, and create jobs and economic growth in Canada," Harper said in a statement.





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The two countries have been working on the FIPAfor several months, but the signing ceremony comes as the federal government considers whether it ought approve a \$15-billion bid by a Chinese state-owned company, CNOOC, for Calgary-based oil-and-gas producer Nexen.

Harper's cabinet is believed to be deeply divided over that potential acquisition.

One of the sticking points for those who oppose the deal is the issue of reciprocity, the notion that if Chinese companies can buy up Canadian firms, then Canadian companies ought to be able to buy Chinese firms.

The Bank of Nova Scotia has an eight-month old bid outstanding for a bank in China but approval for that bid is stuck in red tape in China.

The FIPAsigned by Canadian Trade Mnister Ed Fast and his Chinese counterpart Sunday will give Canadian firms better protection in Chinese courts and should help Canadian firms bid on more equal terms for business contracts in China.

It also gives Chinese firms the same rights in Canada.

Though parliamentary approval is not required for this FIPAwith China, the Conservatives said they will put it before Parliament for a 21-day period this fall before cabinet puts the agreement into force.

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Do you think this trade pact with China will benefit Canada? Yes \bigcirc No ○Time will tell ▶ VOTE

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Save The Sharks

Harper needs to ensure that Canadians can walk into China and buy property and businesses just like Chinese citizens can waltz into Canada and buy the same! if China won't permit Canadians and Canadian business the same courtesy and playing field then WE DON'T WANT THEIR BUSINESS!

Canada should then look to do business with countries that have democratic principles and ideology, there are plenty

1 w eek ago 38 Likes F Flag

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DanAtHome

Sure, we need businesses to be able to outsource more production and manufacturing to China. This is really going to help the Canadian economy.

Don't forget about 1.4 billion consumers, 1.3 billion making \$2.00 per hour!

1 w eek ago in reply to Save The Sharks 14 Likes F Flag

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Alleged PQ rally shooter wants

Hunter makes 5KM walk after

1

55

Montreal to separate

grizzly attack



hardworkinalbertan, life; it soon will be past; what we do for God is all that will last

But for many that's a small price to pay pardon the pun for the ability to purchase low quality fall apart, dangerous posinous products for the fraction of the cost of a properly made one. For a bonus they get to give up they're own jobs and quality of life, to be told they should be thankfully they can get minimum wage job

1 w eek ago in reply to DanAtHome 8 Likes F Flag

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Tim Devlin

There are more jobs created , receiving, processing, warehousing, stocking and selling import goods than there is jobs lost to China...its swings and rounds abouts...no imports...mega thousands of jobs lost...is that your idea?

1 w eek ago in reply to hardworkinalbertan 1 Like F Flag

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MrCannuckistan, Liberal Populist - Proportional Representation now!

Canadian Tire had warehouses in Canada before manufacturing was outsourced to China, India and Bangladesh.

Are you saying they didn't receive, process, stock and sell goods before outsourcing? Give me a break.

Mc

1 w eek ago in reply to Tim Devlin 1 Like F Flag

Like



BAFRAID

Absolutely right.

1 w eek ago in reply to DanAtHome F Flag

Like



A reader01

I agree with the tit for tat concept of purchasing business between countries but I do not support state owned companies of any country buying Canada's resources or strategic assets and services.

1 w eek ago in reply to Save The Sharks 7 Likes F Flag

Like



Tim Devlin

China is evolving...your opinion would push them back into the cold war and the people would never get Democracy...you think it can be done in a day...get real.

1 w eek ago in reply to Save The Sharks F Flag

Like



DanAtHome

Actually it was similar arguments that we heard when we were told about how global free trade was going to help eliminate poverty, spread democracy and capitalism. What we got was a growth in child labour around the world, sweat shops around the world, Wall Street executives who outsource all production to the cheapest source and pocket the profits.

In China, except for a very small weatlhy class and a small middle class most of the population is exploited with no benefits, minimum wages of less than \$2.00 per hour which limits what they can buy to made in China.

China rips off patents world wide.

It was a good dream.

Reality is different.

1 w eek ago in reply to Tim Devlin 8 Likes F Flag

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The Third Man

Dumb move.

What does China have that Canada needs? Answer: over a billion consumers.

What does Canada have that China needs ? Answer: Oil, natural gas, potash, other minerals, hydro-electricity, water, technology and manufacturing.....and so on.

We need to protect out natural resources. We don't need to make it easier for foreign countries to have easier

1 w eek ago 26 Likes F Flag

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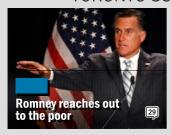


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