

As Minister of International Trade and Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway, it gives me great pleasure to extend my warmest greetings to the North American Jimei Alumni Association.

My top priority is to pursue our government's low-tax, pro-trade plan for jobs, growth and long-term prosperity to benefit hard-working Canadians. In the process, we're helping open new doors for Canadian businesses to thrive and succeed in high growth markets around the world.

During my recent visit to China, I was impressed by the expanding business and people-to-people ties between our two countries. I was also pleased to witness first-hand the exciting opportunities which await those willing to invest in Canada's partnership with China. The opportunities are endless, thanks to factors such as China's rising middle class and consumer base, its rapidly developing infrastructure needs, and its

commitment to creating a greener, more sustainable economy. Especially gratifying is our evolving and expanding partnership in the field of education, and I applaud the inclusion of education as the fifth pillar of our bilateral relationship.

My message to all of you is this: You can count on our Government to continue to deepen Canada's trade and investment ties with China and to create the conditions for your success.

I look forward to meeting many of you during the year ahead and wish you continued success.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Ed Fast

Minister of International Trade and Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway