

August 27, 2019

The importance of a fully-ratified United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) to the U.S. and our partner countries cannot be overstated. Considering that Arizona's trade relationship with Mexico and Canada exceeds \$20 billion and supports more than 228,000 jobs annually, it is absolutely vital to the health of Arizona's booming economy.

Our economies, trade relationships and cross-border investment projects have all evolved at unprecedented levels since NAFTA was originally negotiated 25 years ago. It is time to make official the updated USMCA trade agreement, which is designed specifically to meet the needs of conducting business in the 21st century and beyond.

The USMCA provides the tools modern businesses need, such as market certainty to encourage investment, stronger provisions protecting intellectual property and an increased focus on trading digital goods and eliminating corruption.

The economic vitality, increasing wages and nation-leading population growth Arizona has experienced in recent years is a result of strong business environment and collaborative relationships created by state and community leaders through forward-looking policies.

We have a generational opportunity ahead of us, and it is critical that we capitalize on it. The ratification of the USMCA will ensure the same pro-business, pro-growth environment extends across all of North America, providing crucial stability for Arizona's economic future and helping our state maintain its competitive position in the global economy.

Sincerely,



Sandra Watson
President & CEO
Arizona Commerce Authority

