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For Immediate Release

## **SOFTWOOD LUMBER AGREEMENT IS A PROMISE MADE AND A PROMISE KEPT**

Ottawa: Myron Thompson, Member of Parliament for Wild Rose, says the Prime Minister's announcement of a Canada-U.S. softwood lumber agreement is a promise made and a promise kept.

"Stephen Harper promised to resolve the softwood lumber dispute and he delivered. Canada's bargaining position was strong, our conditions were clear and this agreement delivers," said Thompson.

The United States has accepted Canada's key conditions:

- This agreement is a long-term, 7 year deal.
- This agreement gives Canadian producers stable and predictable access to the U.S. market including no quotas and tariffs at current prices.
- This agreement returns at least \$4 billion in duties to Canadian producers.
- This agreement recognizes provincial differences and treats all provinces fairly.

"The resolution to this dispute demonstrates what can be accomplished when we replace phony rhetoric with hard work," stated Thompson.

"This agreement was vital to our national interests, our industry, to the communities that depend on softwood lumber and to forestry workers and their families. As the Prime Minister stated, this agreement doesn't solve all the challenges facing the forest industry but certainly is an important first step," concluded Thompson.

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