



September 3, 2003

Mr. Bob Mills, MP
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Bob:

More than 10,000 people came to Red Deer's BBQ Canada event on September 1, 2003. This event was hosted by the Kinsmen, Kinettes, and Red Deer Chamber of Commerce in order to promote the safety and quality of Canadian beef and to support Canada's beef industry.

Almost 10,000 people took that opportunity to sign their names to our giant petition which asks the Government of Canada to *"boost confidence in our beef, take the lead in re-opening international markets to live animal shipments, and provide stable funding for innovative and improved testing."*

Those who signed often added their thoughts to the eight strips of 3' by 24' banners. These include: *"Quit playing politics and get those borders opened."*

The Red Deer Chamber of Commerce is an organization of over 850 businesses. These businesses and the 10,000 individuals that signed our petition strongly urge the Government of Canada to work vigilantly and tirelessly to open the borders and invest in the future of this critical food source.

We hope that you can convey this critical message to the Minister of Agriculture.

Yours truly,

Glenn Simon
President (2003-04)