



# Legal Watch

## PHILIPPINES, CANADA CONCLUDE SUCCESSFUL SECOND NEGOTIATING ROUND FOR BILATERAL FREE TRADE AGREEMENT



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### SUMMARY

The Philippines and Canada concluded the second round of negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) held in April 2026 in Mandaluyong City, with continued support from the Philippine Trade and Investment Center in Toronto. The talks mark a key step toward the Philippines securing its first FTA with a North American country, aimed at strengthening bilateral trade and investment relations.

Both sides are continuing intersessional discussions to refine proposals and expand market access opportunities, with a focus on diversifying export markets. The next negotiation round is scheduled for July 2026 in Ottawa, with both countries expressing optimism about concluding the agreement within the year.

### ACTIONABLE ADVICE

Export-oriented businesses should monitor developments in the Philippines–Canada FTA to prepare for potential tariff reductions and expanded market access. Companies should begin assessing product competitiveness and compliance requirements for the Canadian market.

#### \* Agency Name

Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)

#### \* Issuance Title

Philippines, Canada conclude successful second negotiating round for bilateral free trade agreement

#### \* Issuance Date

27 April 2026

#### \* Link

<https://www.dti.gov.ph/dti-overseas/dti-toronto/dti-toronto-news/dti-philippines-canada-conclude-successful-second-negotiating-round-bilateral-free-trade-agreement>

