

Manitoba passes legislation to reduce interprovincial trade barriers

By **Anosha Khan**

Law360 Canada (June 3, 2025, 12:05 PM EDT) -- The Manitoba government has announced that Bill 47, the *Fair Trade in Canada (Internal Trade Mutual Recognition) Act*, has received royal assent. The bill includes amendments to the *Commemoration of Days, Weeks and Months Act* for Buy Manitoba, Buy Canadian Day.

After being introduced in May, Bill 47 was passed, according to a June 2 news release, for “strengthening the economy and protecting Manitobans from tariffs.” It passed with the support of both government and opposition members, a “rare, but welcome, show of unity” for the province’s economic future.

“Everyone listened to the business community and worked across party lines because we know how important this bill is,” said Business, Mining, Trade and Job Creation Minister Jamie Moses in a statement. “We all agree that this is a win for Manitoba and Canada. This bill puts Manitoba businesses and workers first by making it easier to sell products and services across Canada.”

Bill 47 removes trade barriers between Manitoba and other jurisdictions in Canada for goods and services. Eliminating interprovincial trade barriers was called for by prominent Manitoba business organizations, which included the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce, Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and the Business Council of Manitoba.

“This is another step for Manitoba and Canada to freer internal trade,” said Lauren Stone, opposition finance critic, in a statement. “While more work needs to be done, we were pleased to work co-operatively to ensure the benefits to Manitoba families and businesses are realized quickly.”

“Our Progressive Conservative team fully supports removing any remaining barriers to interprovincial trade and labour mobility and certification within Canada,” she said. “We have ensured the expedited passing of Bill 47, the *Fair Trade in Canada Act*, as another step towards achieving free trade within Canada.”

The passing of the bill also aligned broadly with the federal government’s goal of free trade across the country by Canada Day, July 1, the province said. Internal trade was also expected to be a key point of discussion for the first ministers’ meeting (FMM), also held June 2.

“That we are able to pass this bill in time for the FMM positions us as a leader among provinces in terms of internal trade,” said government house leader Nahanni Fontaine. “This signals that we can get great things done for Manitobans by working together.”

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