



THE CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
LA CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE DU CANADA

Finding the Balance: Reducing Border Costs While Strengthening Security

by

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Le porte-parole des entreprises canadiennes MD



THE CANADIAN
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Mission

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce (CCC) is the national leader in public policy advocacy on business issues. Our goal is to foster a strong, competitive economic environment that benefits Canada and all Canadians.

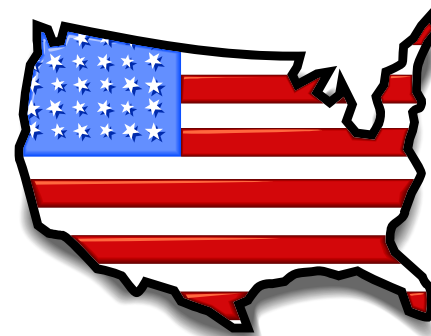
We are the national and international voice for Canadian business representing over 175,000 organizations across the country chambers of commerce/boards of trade (local and provincial), companies, small to large from all 10 provinces and the 3 territories of Canada



CCC: Canada – U.S. Issues

U.S. Top International Priority

- Canada – U.S. Border
 - Secure and efficient border
 - Effective implementation of Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative
- Regulatory cooperation
- Canada – U.S. Tax treaty (now passed)
- Other strategic issues:
 - International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITARs)





CCC: U.S. Advocacy

Effective strategy: Partner with like-minded U.S. organizations

- Relationship with U.S. Chamber
- Work with USCIB at ICC and BIAC
- Border – BCCC and BESTT
- Counterfeiting and Piracy – BASCAP and CACP
- Border costs report (co-chaired by U.S. Chamber)





Finding the Balance: Reducing Border Costs

- **Issue:** Escalating Border Costs becoming unsustainable and putting both Canadian & U.S. investment and jobs at risk
- **Co-chairs:** Canadian and U.S. Chambers
+ 43 Canadian and U.S. associations
- Addresses priority areas for reducing border \$\$
- Achievable recommendations within 18 months





Finding the Balance: Broad based Recommendations

Single Window Initiative/ International Trade Data System



- All Canadian and U.S. agencies/departments on board within 3 years

Mandate & Funding for 24/7 at Major Crossings



- Staffing primary & secondary inspections w/trained staff
- Includes other govt. depts. (OGD's) !

Border Contingency Planning





Finding the Balance: Trusted Shippers

Expand Known Low-Risk

- Spend time on unknown, non-certified low-risk
- Provide clear benefits: Establish goals, measure & report
- Reciprocity for freight security programs
- Remove duplicate inspections
- Waive APHIS fee for participants in trusted shipper programs





Finding the Balance: Food Importers

Low-Risk Food Importer and Pre-clearance Programs

- Expand availability of trusted shipper programs
 - Develop pilot project for low-risk food importer program
 - Develop preclearance processes for food processors

Agri-Food

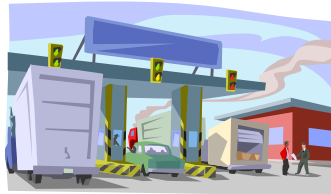
- Remove health certificate numbers on cases





Finding the Balance: Other Border Measures for Goods

- Fix Cda-Cda **in-transit** freight movement issue
 - Costing > \$1000 per shipment
- Pilot **Short Sea Shipping** project in Great Lakes
 - Treat same as rail and truck
- Work around for **Peace Arch Upgrade** (Washington – BC)





Finding the Balance: Trusted Travelers

Expand Known Low-Risk Enrolment:

- Expand NEXUS to 1 million over next 18 months
- Create formal review process - NEXUS rejections/revocations
- Establish a mechanism for multiple entries for executives, technical and professionals through enhanced NEXUS card





Finding the Balance: Additional Measures for Travelers

Enhanced Drivers' License

- Fund/resource rapid introduction & rollout of EDL
 - Essential for WHTI at land borders



Passcard

- U.S. passport alternative should be affordable (\$20) & accessible

Secure Flight Passenger Notification

- Exemption for Canadian over flights





Finding the Balance: Summary

- Provide **24/7** access at major crossings
- Implement electronic '**Single Window**'
- **Expand Trusted Shipper/Traveler** programs
 - Ensure clear benefits for participation
- Remove the **Costly Irritants**
 - Labeling, In-transit, over flights, etc.
- Robust & tested **Border Contingency Plan**
- Rapidly roll-out **Enhanced Drivers' Licenses**



Finding the Balance: Next Steps

Lots of interest

- 2008 Federal Budget
- SPP Ministerial and Leaders Meetings
- Media
- CBSA, Industry Canada, CBP, USDA
- Inter-Parliamentarian Group (MPs / Senators)

Need to Turn Interest into Action
- You Can Help -