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CANADA’S PORTS WELCOME THE OCEANS PROTECTION PLAN

OTTAWA, Ontario – The Association of Canadian Port Authorities today commended the Federal government’s steps to protect Canada’s oceans and coasts as announced in the Oceans Protection Plan. Following on the steps of the Transportation 2030 Vision announced last week, and the significant support for trade-enabling and green infrastructure within last week’s Fall Economic Statement, the Oceans Protection Plan is an additional essential element for protecting the marine environment while growing Canada’s economy.

“We are pleased to see marine protection and commerce well-resourced and supported in this plan,” explained, Wendy Zatylny, President of the association, “We see the integrated and collaborative approach of the government to build the knowledge, networks and assets that will be needed to safely and sustainably grow marine shipping and the economy as a positive foundation for the future.”

While ACPA applauds this strengthened environmental protection and prevention and response capacity, it also reminds the government that Canada has a fourth coast; namely, the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes, and that the Plan should be extended to include that fourth coast, particularly through critically-needed enhanced icebreaking assets. “With this final step, all of Canada’s crucial waterways will have the policies and capacity needed to protect the environment and grow jobs,” Zatylny concluded.

About the Association of Canadian Port Authorities

Founded in 1958, the Association of Canadian Port Authorities brings together 18 ports and related marine interests into one national association. As the leading Association for the advocacy and advancement of Canada’s port industry — representing all Canadian Port Authorities, various government entities and companies doing business in the marine sector — ACPA is the champion for Canadian ports in matters related to government policy, trade, competitiveness and public awareness in order to contribute to sustainable transportation.

Taken together, Canada’s Port Authorities handle over $203 billion worth of cargo; contribute $14.7 billion to Canada’s GDP; and create tens of thousands of direct and indirect jobs that pay higher than average wages.

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