



ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN PORT AUTHORITIES
ASSOCIATION DES ADMINISTRATIONS PORTUAIRES CANADIENNES

NEWS RELEASE

ST. JOHN'S PORT AUTHORITY TO HOST 52ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN AUGUST

OTTAWA, ON, May 17, 2010 - The 52nd Annual General Meeting and Conference of the Association of Canadian Port Authorities will be held at the Sheraton Hotel Newfoundland, August 1 - 4, 2010. "All are looking forward to this year's annual conference in one of Canada's most historic cities," commented Tim Heney, President and CEO of the Thunder Bay Port Authority, and Chair of the Association. This year's Conference theme, *Transportation Links Us All*, speaks to the importance of transportation as the lifeblood of Canada's economy. St. John's is widely recognized as one of Canada's important port cities with the City of St. John's having one of the strongest economies in Canada. The conference will take a closer look at new port-related developments from several different perspectives including the federal framework related to new trade gateways and corridors as it affects Atlantic Canada. It will also hear about the economic outlook for the region and the country as a whole.

General economic projections point to positive growth for the country and the maritime sector in particular. Recent Canadian port statistics reveal that world trade is rebounding and it will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. The conference will have sessions that take a closer look at economic developments within important supply chains; how short-sea shipping is creating new opportunities for the maritime sector; a view from the US and how the maritime mode is doing south of the border; environmental challenges faced by the port community and much more. "This year's business program not only addresses issues of national importance, but looks at some of the unique challenges and opportunities faced by all ports," said Chair, Tim Heney. He went on to say that, "The conference provides an excellent opportunity for all in the port community to come together to discuss important issues and to reflect on the future of the port industry in Canada."

The conference also has an impressive social program that will show off the rich heritage of Canada's youngest Province and North America's oldest city.

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The Association of Canadian Port Authorities was founded in 1958 and groups together ports and harbours and related marine interests into one, national association. The ACPA represents all Canada Port Authorities, various government entities and companies doing business in the marine sector. The ACPA is the pre-eminent Association for the advocacy and advancement of the Canadian Port Industry. ACPA members contribute greatly to the local, regional and national economy of Canada with over \$162 billion worth of goods handled annually.