



ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN PORT AUTHORITIES
ASSOCIATION DES ADMINISTRATIONS PORTUAIRES CANADIENNES

PRESS RELEASE

CANADA PORTS GROUP HIGHLIGHTS IMPORTANCE OF MOVING CANADA'S RESOURCES IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

OTTAWA, September 6, 2011 - Mr. Robin Silvester, President and CEO of Port Metro Vancouver, was recently elected Chair of the Association of Canadian Port Authorities (ACPA) at its annual conference hosted by the Sept-Iles Port Authority in Sept-Iles, Quebec. Mr. Silvester said, "This year's 53rd annual conference addressed critical issues related to the opportunities and ongoing investments in Canada's resource sector which will see ports like the Sept-Iles Port Authority triple the cargo shipped in the next five years,"

Canada's major ports experienced an upturn in their fortunes in 2010 with several Port Authorities realizing record volumes. There is also a renewed focus on Canada's abundant supply of natural resources as a key economic driver underpinning Canada's strong economy. "The Association recognizes the tremendous investment in Canada's natural resource extraction and it will continue to highlight the critical role played by Canada's major ports in moving bulk commodities and other cargo around the globe," said Mr. Silvester. He further noted that, "The Association could not have held its annual conference in a better place than Sept-Iles to highlight the importance of ports as a critical node in the shipment of bulk cargo."

Pierre Gagnon, President and CEO of the Sept-Iles Port Authority commented that, "We were delighted to host the Association's annual conference to highlight the significance of the North Shore in Canada's strong natural resource sector and the strategic alliances created to expedite bulk cargo shipments to international customers." It was clear that both levels of government recognizes the important role played by Canada's major ports with the federal minister speaking at the conference, Hon. Denis Lebel, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities as well as Quebec's Minister for Natural Resources and Wildlife, Serge Simard.

The ACPA continues to advocate for a strong port system from coast to coast so that Canada can accommodate the increasing volume of trade imported and exported to more than 160 countries around the world. The Association was pleased to hear in the most recent Speech from the Throne that the federal government is currently pursuing free trade agreements with 40 countries. Mr. Silvester noted that, "Canada is fundamentally a

trading nation and the federal government's strong focus on new free trade agreements will add to the volume of trade expected in the coming years, with strong benefits for the Canadian economy.”

At the Annual General Meeting of the Association in Sept-Iles, Robin Silvester, President and CEO, Port Metro Vancouver, took over as Chair from Bruce Wood, President and CEO, Hamilton Port Authority. Other members of the Executive are Vice- Chair, Sylvie Vachon, President and CEO, Montreal Port Authority; and Treasurer, Tim Heney, President and CEO, Thunder Bay Port Authority; Corporate Secretary, Pierre Gagnon, President and CEO, Sept-Iles Port Authority; and Past Chair, Bruce Wood, Hamilton Port Authority. Elected Directors are: Jim Quinn, President and CEO, Saint John Port Authority; Karen Oldfield, President and CEO, Halifax Port Authority; Angus Armstrong, Chief of Security and Harbour Master, Toronto Port Authority; Brad Madelung, President and CEO, Port Alberni Port Authority; and Kevin Obermeyer, President and CEO, Pacific Pilotage Authority, representing the Affiliate Members.

Next year, the Association's 54th Annual Meeting and Conference will take place in Hamilton from August 19-22, hosted by the Hamilton Port Authority.

For more information please contact:

Association of Canada Port Authorities

The Leading Voice of Canadian Ports

Tel: 613-232-2036
Fax: 613-232-9554
Web: www.acpa-ports.net

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 \$160 billion worth of goods handled annually.