



ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN PORT AUTHORITIES
ASSOCIATION DES ADMINISTRATIONS PORTUAIRES CANADIENNES

NEWS RELEASE

PORTS SECTOR APPLAUDS FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S BORDER ACTION PLAN

OTTAWA, ON – December 7, 2011: The Association welcomes the federal government's announcement on the action plan to enhance the long-standing trading relationship with Canada's strongest trading partner, the United States. Canada Port Authorities are an important part of the federal government's trade agenda and ports have shown their importance as key economic engines in the regions they serve with over 250,000 direct and indirect jobs supporting the movement of goods and people.

Karen Oldfield, President and CEO of the Halifax Port Authority and Association Board member said, "I fully support the Prime Minister's announcement that this initiative cements the most important trading relationship in the world. It helps Canada's major ports facilitate trade with the United States leading to more jobs for Canada all along critical supply chains moving import and export goods to market." The proposed new integrated security strategy to pre-screen cargo away from the borders at the first point of entry - with pilot projects at the Port Authorities of Prince Rupert and Montreal - will help build on Canada's strong reputation for port security around the world.

The Association strongly supports the federal government's trade initiatives including the federal policy framework on trade corridors and gateways as well as the continued signing of free trade agreements with countries around the globe. Ms. Oldfield went on to say that, "This Border Action Plan is an important piece in the economic puzzle ensuring a more fluid and secure border as well as providing better access to the largest economy in the world." These efforts will enhance the competitiveness of Canada and the United States and strengthen both economies.

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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.