

**CANADA - BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)**  
**ASIA-PACIFIC GATEWAY AND CORRIDOR**

This Agreement made as of May 3, 2007,

**BETWEEN:** **HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF CANADA**, (herein referred to as "Canada") represented by the Minister of International Trade, the Minister for the Pacific Gateway, and the Minister for the Vancouver-Whistler Olympics and the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities.

**AND:** **HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA** (herein referred to as "British Columbia") represented by the Premier and the Minister of Transportation).

**WHEREAS** Canada and British Columbia (herein referred to as "the Parties") recognize that, in an era of rapidly moving and integrated global supply chains, policies and investments need to be developed with entire transportation systems in mind - systems that connect, for example, all of Asia with our North American economic heartlands;

**AND WHEREAS** the Parties acknowledge and recognize the significant opportunities to develop Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor for the economic benefit of British Columbia and Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** the Parties wish to boost Canada's commerce with the Asia-Pacific region, increase the Gateway's share of North American bound container imports from Asia and improve the efficiency and reliability of the Gateway and Corridor for Canadian and North American exports, within a system that is secure and environmentally sustainable;

**AND WHEREAS** the Parties recognize the need to work cooperatively to achieve the aforementioned mutually beneficial objectives;

**AND WHEREAS** the Parties recognize that joint integrated policy and investment strategies that foster coherent planning, development and exploitation of Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor including investments in transportation infrastructure are fundamental to the quality of life of Canadians and necessary to ensure continued economic growth and support the Asia-Pacific Gateway ("the Gateway");

**AND WHEREAS** Canada and British Columbia are investing in the Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor as part of a coordinated approach;

**AND WHEREAS** Federal engagement will be guided by the APGCI merit-based, pan-western policy and program framework, as well as by the *National Policy Framework on Strategic Gateways and Trade Corridors* currently under development;

**AND WHEREAS** British Columbia has defined its Gateway Program as a response to relieve congestion and improve mobility for all modes of transportation, with particular focus on key public transit and goods movement corridors that are heavily congested;

**AND WHEREAS** it is recognized that British Columbia will have considerable infrastructure pressures and there will be opportunities for funding under other federal infrastructure funds flowing from Budget 2007;

**AND WHEREAS** the Parties agree that it is practicable and desirable for Canada and British Columbia to enter into a MOU; and,

**NOW THEREFORE**, in accordance with the MOU set out below, Canada and British Columbia hereby agree as follows:

**The Parties** agree to:

- Work cooperatively on a number of initiatives, including but not limited to:
  - Planning and implementation of infrastructure projects related to the Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor;
  - Establishing funding partnerships for Asia-Pacific Gateway investments involving other public and private stakeholders;
  - Discussion of competitiveness/non-infrastructure initiatives affecting the efficiency of the Gateway and Corridor including: skills and labour market issues;
  - Strengthened collaboration to improve timeliness of environmental assessments for Asia-Pacific Gateway projects;
  - Coordination and sharing of information regarding policies and activities within the respective jurisdictions of each party connected

with port expansion projects in Greater Vancouver and Prince Rupert, including community consultations and land use;

- Consultation and accommodation of First Nations issues in Prince Rupert and elsewhere, to ensure the smooth and expeditious resolution of any issues and progress on the future development of the Gateway;
- Discussion of potential Gateway and Corridor related environmental programs or measures to improve air quality and mitigate the effects on the environment of increased trade flows;
- Identification and implementation of actions to enhance reliability in container trucking services at ports;
- Identification, assessment and adoption of new processes and technologies to improve the efficiency, safety and sustainability of the Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor;
- Coordination on international marketing and promotion initiatives in Asia and United States; and,
- Collection and sharing of data to inform decision making on future Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor needs; and,
- Gateway and Corridor system analysis to determine optimal solutions and best practices for future initiatives.

**Canada** agrees to:

- Move forward expeditiously on the examination of policies and the implementation of changes as necessary, to national transportation framework legislation that affects the efficiency and competitiveness of the Gateway (e.g., Canada Marine Act, Canada Transportation Act, Port Integration Regulations);
- Work cooperatively with British Columbia on the implementation of approved projects that address the international trade and intermodal system efficiency objectives of the federal government's merit-based approach to infrastructure for the Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative; and,
- Continue working with public and private sector stakeholders to ensure that Canada's transportation and border systems remain among the safest and most secure in the world, to augment our global competitive advantage.

**British Columbia** agrees to:

- Provide the information required by Canada to fulfill its due diligence and accountability obligations;
- Implement projects in accordance with the Canada-British Columbia Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative Transportation Infrastructure Fund Contribution Agreement;

- Ensure that Canada's contributions are fully acknowledged in any and all communication activities and are in accordance with the Communications Protocol outlined in this MOU;
- Continue with the data collection, transportation modelling and analysis required to better understand and describe Gateway traffic activities and share the results of this work with Canada;
- Maintain a supportive policy environment such as through the Ports Property Tax Act and property assessment changes; and,
- Assess and evaluate the requirement to preserve an industrial land base sufficient to support the Gateway capacity requirements.

## **MOU GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE:**

### *Coordinating Committee*

The Parties agree to a Canada-BC Gateway Coordinating Committee as the key federal/provincial collaborative forum to administer this MOU.

The Parties agree that the Gateway Coordinating Committee's main function is to act as a forum for information exchange, discussion, collaboration and coordination on the activities described in this MOU.

This Committee shall be comprised of senior officials and political staff from Transport Canada and International Trade and the BC Ministry of Transportation, co-chaired by a senior official of each government. Senior representatives of other ministries of both governments would participate as needed.

The Parties would agree to meet regularly at the senior officials level.

The Parties agree to form working groups to focus on specific issues, where necessary, to advance the initiatives described in this MOU.

The Committee co-chairs would report to their ministers on Committee activities, and would make recommendations for their consideration.

Ministers would meet at least twice a year and if possible quarterly, to review the Committee's progress.

### *Stakeholder Engagement*

The Parties agree that stakeholder discussions could be conducted with consultative bodies, including the Executive Committee of senior representatives of government, ports, airports and railways; the Greater Vancouver Gateway Council; and WESTAC in order to advance the objectives of the Canada-BC Coordinating Committee.

## **COMMUNICATIONS PROTOCOL:**

The Parties agree to develop jointly a domestic and international communication strategy outlining a set of key messages and consultative arrangements to be used for communication and media activities on Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor initiatives.

More specifically, with respect to cost-shared initiatives, the Parties agree to collaborate closely on:

- The timing of official public announcements: To be held at appropriate milestones agreed to by both Parties. Parties agree to making their best efforts to give reasonable advance notice for such events unless the Parties agree otherwise.
- The content of official public announcements: Key messages are to be agreed by both Parties in advance of the announcement.
- Joint public announcements (where feasible): Public statements and timing for joint announcements are to be worked on in partnership and agreed to by both Parties. Such communication activities shall recognize the contribution of all Parties and be consistent, effective, and transparent.
- Signage will correspond to agreed federal and provincial policies.

## **OTHER:**

This MOU will become effective upon signing by all Parties and remain in effect for 2 years, unless extended/amended or terminated. This MOU may be amended or extended by written agreement, and may be terminated at any time by either Canada or British Columbia upon 60 days written notice to the other Party.

In the Presence of:

**HER MAJESTY IN RIGHT OF CANADA**

_____ Witness	_____ Date	_____ <b>Minister of International Trade, Minister for the Pacific Gateway, and Minister for the Vancouver-Whistler Olympics</b> The Honourable David Emerson
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_____ Witness	_____ Date	_____ <b>Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities</b> The Honourable Lawrence Cannon
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**HER MAJESTY IN RIGHT OF  
BRITISH COLUMBIA**

_____ Witness	_____ Date	_____ <b>Premier</b> The Honourable Gordon Campbell
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_____ Witness	_____ Date	_____ <b>Minister of Transportation</b> The Honourable Kevin Falcon
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