

AGENDA

IMTC Steering Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 21, 2010
9:00am – 12:00pm

Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) Douglas Port-of-Entry,
Surrey, British Columbia

1. **Introductions**
2. **Current event updates**
3. **Governor/premier working group review/discussion**
4. **Project updates**
 - a. **TBCR recent activity**
 - b. **Aldergrove/Lynden Subcommittee update**
 - c. **Cascade Gateway Border Circulation Analysis update**
 - d. **Transport Canada BIFA Program application completed**
5. **2009 IMTC CVO Evaluation Survey Update**
 - a. **Database available**
 - b. **Review of online survey results** – Anne Goodchild, University of Washington
6. **IMTC project list update – preliminary discussion**
7. **2010 Vancouver Olympic Games: final overview of border operations** – James Rector, U.S. Customs & Border Protection & Wayton Lim, U.S. General Services Administration

WSDOT's new Olympics-related web page:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic/border/winterolympics>

2010 IMTC Meeting Schedule

Month	Day	Type	Country	Location
Jan	21	Steering Committee	Canada	CBSA, Douglas Facility, Surrey, BC
Feb	18	Steering Committee	USA	Blaine Boat Center, Blaine, WA
Mar	18	Steering Committee	Canada	Hazelmere Country Club, Surrey, BC
Apr	22	Core Group	USA	Bellingham Cruise Terminal, Bellingham, WA
May	20	Steering Committee	Canada	Occasions at the Pond, Surrey City Hall, Surrey, BC
Jun	17	Steering Committee	USA	Blaine Boat Center, Blaine, WA
Jul	15	Steering Committee	Canada	TBD
Sept	16	General Assembly	USA	TBD
Oct	21	Steering Committee	Canada	Ocean Promenade Hotel, White Rock, BC
Nov	18	Core Group	Canada	Hazelmere Country Club, Surrey, BC

Meetings usually occur between **9.00am - 12.00pm** on the third Thursday of every month. Locations alternate between the United States and Canada. *There will be no meeting in August or December.*

Meeting agendas and directions to the meeting location are e-mailed to the Steering Committee and Core Group members a week before the event.

All meeting dates and locations subject to change.

To receive meeting notifications and agendas, please email: melissa@wcog.org

Check the IMTC Website for the most up-to-date information:

www.wcog.org/imtc



Secretary Napolitano and Minister Van Loan Announce Initiatives to Combat Common Threats and Expedite Travel and Trade

 SHARE

Release Date: November 24, 2009

For Immediate Release
Office of the Press Secretary
Contact: 202-282-8010

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and Public Safety Canada Minister Peter Van Loan today announced initiatives between the United States and Canada.

Those initiatives build on their shared commitment to tackle common threats like terrorism and organized crime while ensuring the lawful flow of travel and trade across the border.

The announcement came after Secretary Napolitano and Minister Van Loan met for the second of their formal biannual meetings; the Secretary and the Minister have also met three other times this year.

Today they reviewed progress on the mutual goals they announced in May—including enhancing information sharing and expanding integrated law enforcement while protecting privacy and economic security.

“Close cooperation and coordination between the United States and Canada is critical to the national and economic security of both nations,” said Secretary Napolitano. “Minister Van Loan and I are committed to working together to combat transnational threats and facilitate lawful travel and trade on both sides of the border.”

“A shared understanding of the threats and risks we face is paramount to our common objective of enhancing U.S.-Canadian security. We are working together to achieve this,” said Minister Van Loan. “We have a joint responsibility to secure the safety of our citizens.”

Secretary Napolitano and Minister Van Loan also made announcements to strengthen both trade and security:

Streamlining Border Shipping: Canada and United States have agreed to work toward aligning the U.S. Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) and Canada’s Partners in Protection (PIP) program, in an effort to achieve harmonization as quickly as possible. These trusted shipper programs focus on improving the security of private sector supply chains and benefit shippers.

Maritime Emergency Cooperation: Canada and United States have created a Maritime Annex to the Joint Framework for the Movement of People and Goods During and Following Emergencies. This is an addition to the Framework the countries established in May. The new annex guides communication and coordination during incidents that affect shared waterways and ports, enabling both nations to assist one another during emergencies.

NEXUS and FAST Cards Now Accepted Everywhere: Canada will join the United States in recognizing NEXUS and Free and Secure Trade (FAST) trusted traveler program cards as valid identification documents in all lanes at all land and sea border ports of entry beginning Nov. 25. It was also announced that the programs are expanding with new enrollment centers opening in St. Stephen, New Brunswick – Calais, Maine and Lansdowne, Ontario – Alexandria Bay, N.Y

Immigration Information Sharing: Secretary Napolitano announced that the United States will join a biometric data sharing initiative involving Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom and, eventually, New Zealand – an initiative designed to strengthen the integrity of immigration systems and the security of each country while protecting privacy and civil rights. Minister Van Loan, with the Canadian Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism, Jason Kenney, welcomed the United States’ participation.

“Previous trials show that biometric information sharing works. For example, when the fingerprints of some asylum claimants in

Canada were checked against the U.S. database, more than a third matched and 12 percent of these individuals presented a different identity in the United States,” said Minister Kenney. “The data sharing helps uncover details about refugee claimants such as identity, nationality, criminality, travel and immigration history, all of which can prove relevant to the claim.”

Fighting Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing: Secretary Napolitano and Minister Van Loan announced that the two countries are in the final stages of completing a Memorandum of Understanding to share data on currency seized at the border. This will significantly enhance the ability of law enforcement officers in both countries to investigate and track illicit cash movement. It will disrupt the flow of funds that support the activities of criminals and terrorists.

Combating Human Trafficking: Secretary Napolitano and Minister Van Loan agreed to instruct their respective law enforcement agencies to enhance collaboration on efforts to combat human trafficking in both nations and across the U.S.-Canada border. As part of extensive existing cooperative efforts to ensure the security of the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games, both countries are already focusing on ensuring that the Games do not present a venue for criminals to engage in human trafficking.

Security Cooperation: Secretary Napolitano and Minister Van Loan also agreed to exchange best practices and broaden collaboration in the areas of critical infrastructure protection and countering violent extremism.

Continuing Cooperation: Minister Van Loan and Secretary Napolitano expect to meet again in approximately six months to continue their strategic work on mutual initiatives to combat security threats and expedite travel and trade.

For more information, visit www.dhs.gov or www.publicsafety.gc.ca.

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This page was last reviewed/modified on November 24, 2009.

Update: IMTC Border Circulation Analysis

At the June 2006 BC-WA cabinet meeting, the resulting *Transportation Protocol* endorsed completion of the IMTC Border Circulation Analysis for the Cascade Gateway “to help determine the improvements necessary at border crossings and related highways to meet increased border traffic in the future.”

In October 2007, funding was made available from the BC Ministry of Transportation (\$50,000 USD) to begin the project. The Whatcom Council of Governments (WCOG), lead agency of the IMTC coalition, has been managing and performing much of the work for the Circulation Analysis project.

The following work-elements have been completed to date.

- Summer 2007 & winter 2008 Cascade Gateway Travel Survey – conducted for IMTC by Western Washington University’s Border Policy Research Institute (BPRI) and WCOG.

- Scope definition report.

- Stakeholder interviews and preliminary strategy identification.

- Preliminary designation of cross-border road network (traffic-model assignment based on passenger-only vehicle trips from the 2007/8 surveys)

- Summer 2009 Commercial Vehicle Operations (CVO) Survey – conducted for IMTC by BPRI and WCOG.

- NEXUS feasibility survey at Aldergrove-Lynden and Hungtingdon-Sumas border crossings (BPRI and WCOG).

- Binational border-signage inventory.

Continued work on phase one will include completion of the following.

- NEXUS and FAST technical reports.

- Evaluation of border simulation modeling for phase II project-development.

- Traffic-model assignment of new commercial vehicle data (CVO study noted above) to identify a cross-border road network for trade flows.

- Identification of priority, cross-border travel and trade routes and challenges to continued sufficiency of those routes.

- Formulation of a continued intelligent transportation systems (ITS) strategy for the Cascade Gateway.

In December of 2008, an IMTC-approved shift of \$65,000 USD was made from a commercial-route study in Sumas, WA to the Circulation Analysis project. This funding will complete phase one which is expected to be finished in spring of 2010.

Phase two is currently unfunded. This phase will use tools developed and identified in phase one to engage cross-border stakeholders in identifying priority actions and projects needed to ensure ongoing effectiveness of BC-WA travel and trade across the Cascade Gateway.

Currently, information products from the Circulation Analysis are proving of great value as public and private stakeholders look closely at the future of the Lynden-Aldergove border crossing.

BIFA Pilot Project Program Application:
**Cascade Gateway Border Data Warehouse Upgrade
& BIFA Integration**

Goals:

- Support public and private planning and operations of the Cascade Gateway border system
- Advance the Border Information Flow Architecture (BIFA)

Objectives:

1. Improve the binational Cascade Gateway Border Data Warehouse
2. Use the BIFA template to develop a project architecture that will be compatible with both U.S. and Canadian regional ITS architectures
3. Provide guidelines for other regions considering the BIFA for their cross-border ITS projects, and recommendations for future BIFA development.

Funding Request:

- \$245,000 USD requested from Transport Canada
 - \$100,000 USD committed as match from US FHWA
 - \$145,000 USD planned from WSDOT
 - \$15,000 USD committed as website maintenance from WCOG
- Support letter also from
TransLink

BIFA Pilot Project Program Application:
**Cascade Gateway Border Data Warehouse Upgrade
& BIFA Integration**

EXISTING DATA SETS

- NB cars (Peace Arch, Pacific Highway, Lynden, Sumas)
- NB trucks (Pacific Highway)
- SB cars at (Peace Arch, Pacific Highway)

PLANNED DATA SETS

- NB trucks (Lynden, Sumas)
- SB trucks (Pacific Highway, Aldergrove, Huntingdon)
- SB cars (Aldergrove, Huntingdon)
- I-5 corridor truck transponder data
- WIM volume & classification data
- GPS truck data (all crossings)
- BTS freight value & weight data

Full application online at: <http://www.wcog.org/Border> under the FUNDING section

International Mobility & Trade Corridor Project (IMTC) Future Project Priority List

S = STUDIES C = CONSTRUCTION UP = UNPRIORITIZED

Priority	Project Title	Description	Possible Sources of Funding/Support					
			Estimated Cost	TBCR	BIFA	CBI	Re-Authorization	WA/BC Agreement
S-1	Cascade Gateway Border Circulation Analysis Phases II and III	<p>Conduct a Cascade Gateway border circulation network transportation analysis for commercial and passenger vehicles in order to evaluate both existing and potential routes on both sides of the international boundary needed to accommodate current and future cross border transportation needs between Highway 99 (BC) / Interstate 5 (WA) and Highway 11 (BC) / SR 9 (WA).</p> <p>Phase I is underway and is characterizing the gateway's existing state, which includes baseline assignments of trips to individual crossings; model runs with border-access and east-west connector road alternatives, and border processing time scenarios using micro simulation tools. Phase II will identify which tools to be used for Phase III, the completion of a system-wide plan for improvements.</p>	\$500,000	✓		✓	✓	✓
S-2	NEXUS Marketing	Based on previous marketing efforts, this project will continue to promote regional NEXUS enrollment.	\$200,000			✓	✓	✓
S-3	Regional Economic Policy Model	Decision-making tool consisting of two models that are designed to estimate the regional economic effects of investment and policies regarding transportation, planning, and infrastructure.	\$1,000,000			✓	✓	
C-1	Expanded Passenger ATIS	Expansions to existing northbound and southbound ATIS systems to include: passenger wait times for southbound Aldergrove and Huntingdon ports-of-entry; system travel-time information for trip segments (i.e. Bellingham-Vancouver); 2010 Vancouver Olympics traveler information; and tying in to the CascadeGatewayData.com archive.	\$4,000,000	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
C-2	Pacific Central Station Passenger Improvements	The existing inspection area at Pacific Central Station shared by U.S. and Canadian inspectors needs to be modified to handle higher volumes of Amtrak Cascades passengers and to support possible adoption of pre-clearance of rail travelers bound for the U.S., as per the requirements of the Canada Pre-Clearance Act.	\$750,000				✓	

International Mobility & Trade Corridor Project (IMTC) Future Project Priority List

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Priority	Project Title	Description	Estimated Cost (2008)	TBCR	BIFA	CBI	Re-Authorization	WA/BC Agreement
C-3	Expanded Commercial ATIS	Information to be developed will include real-time estimates of commercial vehicle wait times and cross-border corridor travel times. These data will be availed through the CascadeGatewayData.com border data warehouse. This information could be coupled with other sources of information used for routing decisions, systems operations (agency decisions), and roadway advisory and incident response protocols.	\$1,000,000	✓	✓	✓	✓	
C-4	SR 539 Lynden/Aldergrove Congestion Relief, Birch Bay-Lynden Road to the Border	This project will widen State Route 539 (Guide Meridian) to four lanes from Birch Bay-Lynden Road to the border crossing. Inputs to this project will come from the Cascade Gateway Border Circulation Analysis. The project construction will begin where the current WSDOT widening projects ends, and will include better division of commercial and passenger vehicles approaching the border. It will also provide an opportunity for a dedicated lane for pre-approved commercial vehicles enrolled in the FAST program.	\$40,000,000			✓	✓	
C-5	Swift Customs Facility Capacity Improvements	Increase rail capacity at the Swift rail inspection facility near Blaine to improve security and schedule reliability for Amtrak trains.	\$10,000,000				✓	
C-6	Exit 274 Interchange Design	This project will design revisions to the I-5 interchange in Blaine, constructing a full interchange with southbound off-ramps and northbound on-ramps. The design process will also include: preparation of environmental documentation and address connections for eastbound traffic headed towards alternate border crossings via SR 539 and SR 546; improve access to the rapidly-growing Birch Bay area; and evaluate a grade separated rail crossing at Bell Road (SR 548). The design will be based on data from the Border Circulation Analysis and from the IMTC Blaine I-5 APDR Study.	\$6,000,000			✓	✓	
UP	Cross-Border Transit Pilot Project	Pilot of a fixed cross-border transit service between Whatcom County and the Lower Mainland of B.C. Intended connections with B.C. TransLink bus routes would provide a cross-border public transportation service between Bellingham WA and White Rock or Surrey, B.C.	\$1,800,000	✓		✓	✓	✓
UP	I-5 Slater Road to Grandview Master Plan	WSDOT project as part of Ferndale long-term planning.	\$300,000				✓	