



**CANADA – UNITED STATES
CROSS-BORDER RAIL PEER EXCHANGE
May 25, 2011
BURLINGTON, VERMONT**

Registration and Continental Breakfast 8:00

Welcome to Vermont 8:30

Brian Searles, Secretary
Vermont Agency of Transportation

I. Current State of Cross-Border Rail Initiatives 8:35

Brian Searles, Vermont Agency of Transportation - Moderator

- National contexts
- Cross-border context
- Funding structures
- National/Regional Strategies
 - Transport Canada's Gateways Strategy
 - U.S. Federal Railroad Administration's National Plan

Presenters:

Carolyn Crook, Director - Rail Policy, Transport Canada

Janet Lee - Federal Railroad Administration

II. Future of Canada/U.S. Passenger Rail

9:15

Marc Aubin, Transport Canada - Moderator

- Viability of passenger rail
- Current state of infrastructure & operations
- Service expansions
- High Speed Rail (including higher speed/ intercity rail)
 - U.S. approach
 - Canadian approach
 - States/Provinces approaches (Quebec, Ontario, and BC, Vermont, New York, Washington State)

Presenters:

Raymond Chretien - Quebec Government Emissary for Discussions with U.S. Authorities Respecting the Montreal Rail Passageway – New York – Boston, and Partner, Strategic Advisor, Fasken Martineau

Gerry Kolaitis, Director, Strategic Planning, VIA Rail

Edgar E. Courtemanch, Senior Principal, Operations, Service Planning, Operations Department, AMTRAK National Passenger Rail Corporation

Refreshment Break

10:30

III. Future of the freight rail system

10:45

David Henry, Quebec Ministry of Transportation - Moderator

- Contribution to reducing congestion from highways
- Increasing integration of both countries systems
- Forecasts for increases in bi-national/international cargo movements
- Development of freight corridors and intermodal facilities

Presenters:

Michael Tamilia - Senior Manager, Customs and TransBorder Operations, Canadian National Railway

Chris Dingman – Northern Border Transportation Specialist, Federal Highway Administration

Lunch on your own

12-1:00

Enjoy the waterfront or downtown Burlington eateries!

IV. Cross Border Passenger and Freight Activity Issues And Trends

1:00 pm

Z. Kris Wisniewski, Eastern Border Transportation Coalition - Moderator

- Cross-Border Operations & Security
 - Expanded clearance requirements
- Passenger clearance issues
 - CBSA cost-recovery policy
 - Canadian post-processing
 - Remote clearance facilities – US & Canada
- Freight clearance issues
 - inspection of containerized cargo entering North America
 - e-manifest
 - border inspection facilities/technology

Presenters:

Eric McCrossin, Manager, Commercial – Secondary, Canada Border Services Agency

Mike Leahy, Business Design and Development Division, Canada Border Services Agency (E-Manifest)

Kevin Weeks, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Director, Boston Field Operations

Refreshment Break

2:30

V. A Vision for the Future of Cross-Border Rail

2:45

Tim Hoeffner, Michigan Department of Transportation – Moderator

Roundtable Discussion

- Integrated vision of future of cross-border rail operations
- Potential solutions for issues (e.g. technology, increasing bi-national mutual recognition of inspection regimes, etc)

Wrap-up

4:30