

Elliot, Nathan SSBC:EX

From: Periwai, Sukumar IGRS:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2011 8:12 AM
To: Chant, Jon GCPE:EX; Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Subject: Fw: Building Bridges to Prosperity Symposium June 10
Attachments: Building Bridges to Prosperity Symposium Registration.xls

Fyi as requested.

Thanks

From: Emrich, Sigrid [<mailto:EmrichS@state.gov>]
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2011 02:08 PM
To: Emrich, Sigrid <EmrichS@state.gov>
Subject: Building Bridges to Prosperity Symposium June 10


The US Consulate (Vancouver) is pleased to announce that **US Ambassador to Canada, David Jacobson**, will deliver the luncheon keynote address on **Friday June 10, 2011**, at the "Building Bridges to Prosperity" Symposium. The Symposium focuses on enhancing cross-border trade between Canada and the United States and will also feature **Premier Christy Clark** as the opening keynote speaker. Ambassador Jacobson's remarks will expand on the joint announcement in February 2011 by President Obama and Prime Minister Harper on "Beyond the Border" regulatory cooperation and promoting commercial ties.

The Symposium will take place at the Sheraton Guildford Hotel in Surrey (15269 – 104th Avenue, Surrey, BC), and tickets for the luncheon-only option are C\$75. Luncheon begins at 11:45 am and concludes at 1:30 pm.

For more information on the Symposium, please visit:

<http://www.pcb.ca/building-bridges.cfm>

Sigrid Emrich
Deputy Consul General
US Consulate General Vancouver
(604) 642 - 6659
emrichs@state.gov

 *Save trees - please do not print this email unless necessary.*

Building Bridges to Prosperity
<http://www.pcb.ca/building-bridges.cfm>

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

Option	Company Name	Registrant Name	Address	City, Prov/State
1	AMR Global Sourcing Inc.	Mick Arora		
1	Autogates Enterprises Ltd.	Tom Liu		
2	Business Council of BC (Association)	Greg D'Avignon		
2	Business Council of BC (Association)	Ken Peacock		
1B	Cascadia Center for Regional Development	Bruce Agnew		
1	City of Surrey - Investment & Intergovernmental Relations	Shaun Greffard		
1	CL Wood Inc.	Barry Wood		
1	FTS Forest Technology Systems	Brian Millward		
1	FTS Forest Technology Systems	Karen Birch		
1	Eagle West Equipment Inc	Ernie Pierini		
1	Granite Construction	Steve Harding		
1	Granite Construction	Tom Zamzow		
1	HSBC Bank of Canada	Ken Betts		
2 & 3	HSBC Bank of Canada	James Elwes		
1	Ministry of Jobs, Tourism & Innovation	Joshua A. Smith		
1	Ministry of Jobs, Tourism & Innovation	Richard Sawchuk		
1	Mitchell & Assoc	Roxanne Mitchell		
1	Mulvanny G2 Architecture	Wendy Unzelman		
1	Northwest Economic Council - Whatcom County	John Mitchener		
1	North West & Canada Cruise Association	Greg Wirtz		
1B	Pacific Woodtech Corporation	Dan Semsak		
1	Port of Bellingham	Rob Fix		
3	Retail Council of Canada	Shafiq Jamal		
1	South Surrey White Rock Chamber of Commerce	Cori Lynn Germiquet		

S22

1B Therapeutic Resources, Inc & Fechter Medical LLC
 1B VAN KAM Freightways
 1B VAN KAM Freightways
 1B VAN KAM Freightways
 1 Western Economic Diversification Canada
 Western Economic Diversification
 1B
 1 West Care Medical Ltd.

Nancy Campbell
 Doreen Cook
 Ken Martin
 Bill Henry

S22

Caroline Chapdelaine
 Garrett Wasny
 Danette Chapman

27 Full Day 3 Lunch 2 Reception

CANCELLED

1 Rolled Steel Products
 1B Saskatchewan Legislature
 1 Asta Marine Services

Robert Olson
 John T. Nilson
 Ardeshir Yousefi

S22

Postal Code Phone

Email

Paid

S22

Prefer to visit CBP border

S22

Elliot, Nathan SSBC:EX

From: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Sent: Thursday, June 9, 2011 6:53 PM
To: 'emrichs@state.gov'
Subject: Re: Request - name cards for VIP table

Many thanks Sigrid!
Bryant

Bryant Fairley
Executive Director, US Relations & Partnerships
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
Office of the Premier
My PH: 250 387-1134
My CELL: S17
My Office: 548 Michigan Street, Victoria, BC

From: Emrich, Sigrid [<mailto:EmrichS@state.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2011 06:44 PM
To: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Subject: Fw: Fwd: Request - name cards for VIP table

Hi Bryant,

Below are the lists for the VIP tableM. I have been with the Ambassador all day and don't know if any MLAs are attending. Let me check.

From: Yvette Fox [<mailto:yfox@pcb.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2011 06:05 PM
To: Graham, Karen M; Emrich, Sigrid
Cc: Greg Timm <glt@pcb.ca>
Subject: Fwd: Request - name cards for VIP table

Ladies - is this correct... please advise.

Breakfast VIP table - as follows:

Minister Counselor Richard Steffens
Mr. Glen Todd
Mr. Greg Timm
Mr. Robin Silvester
Mr. Matt Morrison
Deputy Consul General Sigrid Emrich
John Winter
Milt Kruger
Guest
Guest

Lunch VIP table

Ambassador David Jacobson
Consul General Phil Chicola
Minister Counselor Richard Steffens
Mr. Greg Timm
Mayor Dianne Watts
Ms. Tracey Orr
Mr. Stephen Murphy
Mr. Matt Morrison
Ms. Anna Biolik
? (Glen is no longer joining us)

Pacific Customs Brokers Ltd. and ABC Customs Brokers Ltd. offer a series of educational workshops and seminars to inform importers on various matters of Trade Compliance. For topics and schedules, visit our website at <http://www.pcb.ca/seminars> or for brokers trading terms visit <http://www.pcb.ca/importantlegalterms.cfm>. Please note that pursuant to the Customs Act in Canada, importers are fully responsible to the Canada Border Services Agency for the completeness and accuracy of all information provided, whether or not this has been transmitted using the services of a customs broker. Importers are also responsible for payment of all duties, taxes, fees, penalties and interest owing to CBSA.

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Elliot, Nathan SSBC:EX

From: Periwai, Sukumar IGRS:EX
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2011 9:33 AM
To: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX; Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Subject: attendance at Surrey event

Fyi from this morning's media:

Jacobson addressed a crowd of about **800 people** at the Sheraton Vancouver Guildford Hotel Friday, at the Building Bridges to Prosperity Symposium.



Elliot, Nathan SSBC:EX

From: Periwai, Sukumar IGRS:EX
Sent: Tuesday, June 7, 2011 9:53 AM
To: Ritchie, Leanne GCPE:EX
Cc: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Subject: SN_ Building bridgesv1.docx



SN_ Building
bridgesv1.docx

Hi Leanne

Here are some suggested changes in track change mode. Thanks for your work – great speech!
Sukumar

*Sukumar Periwai
Executive Director, Strategic Policy and Planning
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
Office of the Premier
Government of British Columbia*

*Phone: (250) 387-0761
Fax: (250) 387-1920
Email: Sukumar.Periwal@gov.bc.ca*

Thank You:

Robin (Silvester, Port Metro Vancouver) for that introduction.

Please join me in acknowledging the Coast Salish people in whose traditional territory we are gathered today.

And thanking Pacific Custom Brokers, the U.S. Foreign Commercial Service and the U.S. Consulate General for organizing this event.

I am pleased to be here to welcome you this morning to discuss a topic near to all our hearts:

How to build stronger bridges between our businesses, our governments, and our countries...

...To create a prosperous future for us all.

I am delighted to be here among business people who have the vision to look across the border to create opportunities for families.

Speaking at the BC Export Awards last year, Rob McLeod, of Ritchie Brothers Auctioneers, made a comment that stuck with me.

When it comes to companies in the export market, he said:

*“It is really about having **the leadership, the vision and the guts** to go out there and make it happen.”*

I consider that my job as Premier is to create jobs.

Jobs are what keep the lights on and our families fed.

Jobs help generate the revenues we need to support health care, education, infrastructure, and critical social services.

That’s why my government is committed to supporting your leadership, your vision and yes, your guts...

With regional initiatives and cross border collaboration that makes a difference for business.

KEY THEME 1: Access for goods, services, investment and people to and from the United States is a pillar of British Columbia's prosperity.

The ability of goods, services, investment and people to be able to move across our borders is a pillar of British Columbia's prosperity.

In 2010, the U.S. was the number one destination for B.C.'s exports...

...With more than \$13 billion or 46 per of our commodity exports heading to US destinations like Washington, California, Illinois and Oregon.

Together, imports and exports between B.C. and the U.S. topped \$29 billion last year.

That's more than the World Bank's estimates for the GDP of Costa Rica.

And these figures do not include talent that flows as a consequence of the film and media production based in Hollywood.

If you saw *Iron Man 2*, or *Diary of a Wimpy Kid 2* this year, you saw talent from Hollywood North at work.

Nor do the figures include technology transfer and financial services arising from venture capital and other investments.

It is absolutely amazing what happens when innovative businesses from both sides of the border work together.

The commitment by states such as California and Washington to reduce emissions and use cleaner energy presents a tremendous economic opportunity for B.C. and U.S. companies...

...Companies in clean-tech, biomass, clean environmental electricity, and fuel cell technology.

British Columbia's clean-tech cluster includes more than 1,300 companies.

Together they employ about 22,000 people with growth at 11 percent annually.

And let there be no doubt: Together with US clean-tech companies, we are changing the world for the better.

Let me give you an example:

In May, I had the opportunity to visit PACCAR in Washington State.

PACCAR makes those heavy duty rigs you see moving goods in countries all over the world.

Well PACCAR is partnering with Westport Innovations out of Vancouver.

Westport started with a partnership out of the University of British Columbia in the early 1990s.

And the company has grown to 197 employees. They are on the leading edge of developing natural gas engines.

Together, Westport and Paccar are working to transition fleets of trucks to natural gas for companies like Hickman Water Resources and the EnCana Corporation.

Just imagine trucks that cost one third less at the pump than conventional gas.

Not a buck fifty a litre like we've seen lately, try a dollar a litre at the current prices.

And these natural gas vehicles (NGVs) produce approximately 20 to 35 per cent fewer greenhouse gas emissions than gasoline or diesel equivalent engines

That's the kind of value added potential cross border relationships hold...

...Relationships that lead to technological innovation, a healthier environment and to good family sustaining jobs.

KEY THEME 2: British Columbia and western states are leaders in finding innovative ways to broaden and deepen engagement for mutual benefit .

British Columbia and western states will continue to be leaders in Canada and the US...

... Finding innovative ways to broaden and deepen our engagement for mutual benefit.

Let me describe some of our work:

Each year, my government holds joint cabinet meetings with the State of Washington.

And we are members of the Pacific Coast Collaborative, which brings together government leaders from California to Alaska.

B.C. takes an active role in the Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER), which is the leading cross-border public-private partnership of its kind in North America.

~~And we are also an Associate Member of~~ we also work closely with the Western Governors' Association (WGA) and participate in its initiatives - most recently on those on regional approaches to energy and regional energy transmission.

We believe this kind of collaborative relationship with our

U.S. partners is crucial for ensuring we have strong relationships and we all continue to prosper.

Relationships take work.

And if you know your West Coast history, you know this kind of collaboration has not always been the case.

Let me give you an example:

In 1859, there was a lot of confusion over who controlled the San Juan Islands in the Salish Sea.

This ambiguity led to the death of a pig and then 13 years of border strife.

One pig and we had a dispute that lasted nearly twice as long as the last softwood lumber negotiations.

Known as the Pig War, the dispute started when hungry pig owned by an Irishman employed by the Hudson's Bay Company got into the garden of an American farmer.

The story goes that the American farmer shot the pig for eating his potatoes.

When confronted over the death of the swine, the American looked at the Irish man and said: "It was eating my potatoes"

To this the Irishman replied: "It is up to you to keep your

potatoes out of my pig.”

As I mentioned, this seemingly innocuous incident took 13 years and arbitration by Kaiser Wilhelm I of Germany to resolve.

That’s why an ongoing commitment to building strong relationships is important.

It ensures even if challenges arise, we have a pre-existing relationship and are able to focus on working collaboratively for our mutual gain.

When it comes to working together, British Columbia and Washington State have built a unique and close relationship unlike any other state and Canadian province.

An estimated 23,000 vehicles cross Washington and B.C.’s lower mainland border every day.

In the words of Washington Governor Gregoire:

“The people of British Columbia are our neighbours, friends and partners in the global economy. We will continue to work together to protect our shared coastline, secure our border and create jobs.”

By working together since 2005, we’ve developed the Enhanced Drivers’ License travel document, as well as additional, quicker border crossings with added NEXUS and FAST lanes.

We've made technology improvements, such as web-based public communications about border conditions.

We have a BC/ Washington State Joint Transportation Executive Council chaired by the Minister and Secretary responsible for Transportation.

They meet twice per year to shepherd an annual work plan on transportation-related initiatives.

And there has been considerable financial investment for roads and rail services, including upgrading the rail line used by Amtrak trains through the B.C. Lower Mainland.

We are working together closely with Washington to secure permanent commitment by our federal government to provide border clearance services for the second daily Amtrak train service between Seattle and Vancouver. The introduction of this second train was a key component of our vision for smooth and seamless travel across the border.

These initiatives were absolutely critical to the effective and efficient border management we all witnessed during the 2010 Olympics.

The amazing success at the border really is one of the untold stories from the 2010 Games.

Thanks to the work of the Canadian Border Services Agency and U.S. Customs and Border Protection...

~~... PNWER reported that the Blaine Washington White Rock e~~During the 2010 Winter Games crossing the border between Seattle and Vancouver was on average running at five minutes below average faster than average summer wait times during the Games.

This is amazing when you consider this is the third busiest US-Canada crossing by traffic volume.

You have to ask, why were we so successful?

I believe it is because all levels of government were willing to try new things to during the 2010 Olympic Games.

We had close cooperation and a reason to look for ways to make things work.

And we really brought home the gold.

KEY THEME 3: Governments will continue working to support cross border trade

I remain optimistic that all the hard work of British Columbia and the western states will continue to pay off for businesses and travelers.

We will continue to work together with the State of Washington, the private sector, and other regional partners to build on the successful approach to border management during the 2010 Winter Games.

Improved border services are key to promoting British Columbia as a destination for holiday travelers, convention-goers, and business partners.

Going back again to the Enhanced Drivers' License travel document, this has really proven to be a cost-effective and convenient alternative to the passport required by US authorities since 2009.

It demonstrates the commitment of BC and Washington State to act together to find solutions that work for our citizens.

To date, the Enhanced Drivers' License has been taken up by 68,000 British Columbians and about 2,300 per month are issued.

In Washington, 206,000 residents have Enhanced Drivers' Licenses and about 6,000 per month are issued.

~~BC benefits from the licenses issued by Washington, and vice versa.~~

But the Enhanced Drivers' License would have more up take if it were recognized as a valid form of identification for flying between our two countries.

It would also become more attractive if EDL holders were able to use NEXUS lanes at the border.

President Obama and Prime Minister Harper have signaled their intention to pursue an integrated approach to entry and exit to Canada and the US...

...As well as expanding trusted traveler and trader programs and streamlining border processing.

The objectives outlined in the Harper-Obama joint declaration on perimeter security and economic competitiveness are consistent with the vision we've been promoting.

As well as the vision of our partners in Washington, the Tourism Industry Association of BC, the Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER), and the International Mobility and Trade Corridor (IMTC).

We are optimistic with our federal counter-parts and industry on board, we can continue to expand these initiatives ~~to~~ for the benefit of all.

Conclusion:

I know some of you folks will be heading out to meet with representatives from the Canadian Border Services Agency and US Customs and Border Protection this afternoon.

So I thought I'd close with a story of interagency cooperation that came back through a real estate agent.

It's about a woman coming back to B.C. from the states.

Her mom had died in the past year and she had just sold her mom's home in the U.S.

Looking at her mom's house and missing her mother terribly, she decided to dig up the rose bushes her mother cherished and bring them back to plant in B.C.

When she got to the border, CBSA agents had to tell her that because those rose bushes were covered with dirt and soil, they could not be allowed in the country.

In fact, they should be seized and destroyed.

But upon hearing the woman's story, the agents were moved.

So they contacted their US counterparts, and had the plants sent back to the U.S. side.

Again, the return of the bushes to the U.S. from Canada should have prompted the destruction of the plants.

But US customs agents had heard the story from their Canadian counter parts.

They held the bushes until the woman's real estate agent could pick them up and have them professionally cleaned and packed.

I can tell you today those rose bushes are growing in a British Columbia garden...

... Not only in memory of a beloved mother, but now also a tribute to international co-operation.

They are growing because a group of Canadian and US border agents felt compelled to work together and find a way to make it happen.

So you see, the partnerships and benefits that blossom under the spirit of cooperation know no bounds.

Whether it's working towards jobs for families, enhanced business opportunities, a healthier environment or just human empathy...

That's the kind of spirit of cooperation I hope we can foster through the relationships we build today.

Thank you.

-End-

Elliot, Nathan SSBC:EX

From: Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2011 8:15 PM
To: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Cc: Fabbri, Claudia M IGRS:EX
Subject: Fw: Speaking notes needed

From Richard for the Premier's speech.

From: Sawchuk, Richard JTI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2011 05:23 PM
To: Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX
Subject: RE: Speaking notes needed

Sukmar, I've only addressed high-level economic/business items and have not addressed any of the government to government arrangements that facilitate our two-way trade with the U.S. In this respect, PCC should highlight BC's leadership in finding innovative ways to engage and build strategic alliances (bridges) with US partners at the regional level, e.g. PNWER, joint Cabinet meetings, PCC, WCI

With respect to trade and investment, two key points:

1. Reiterate that the U.S. is B.C.'s largest trading partner and that we expect that to continue for foreseeable future (see point 2 for why)

In 2010, the U.S. ranked number one as a destination for B.C.'s exports, receiving 46 per cent of B.C.'s commodity exports. Conversely, B.C. is an important market for the U.S., and in 2010 it imported \$15.8 billion of U.S. products.

B.C. origin exports to the U.S.: \$13.3 billion

B.C. imports from the U.S.: \$15.8 billion

Two-way trade: \$29.1 billion

These figures do not reflect the significant non-merchandise flows that occur as a consequence of the film and media production based in Hollywood, technology transfer and financial services arising from venture capital and other investment funding structures.

BC exports to key US States:

Washington-\$3.7 billion (rank #1); California-\$1.7 billion (rank #2); Illinois-\$1.3 billion (rank#3); Oregon-\$625 million (rank #4).

B.C. origin exports to China: \$4.1 billion (2010)

B.C. origin exports to Japan: \$4.2 billion (2010)

The United States offers opportunity to all of B.C.'s regions and all of B.C.'s key economic sectors (agrifood, clean energy & environmental technology, natural resources, life science, advanced manufacturing and digital media).

2. New Two-Way Opportunities for BC / US Companies

Looking ahead, the commitment by states such as California/Washington State to reduce emissions and use cleaner energy presents a tremendous economic opportunity for B.C. and U.S. companies in cleantech, biomass, clean environmental electricity, and fuel cell technology. Use the example of PACCAR and Westport

Innovations as illustrating the type of economic (value-add; supply chain) relationship that we are trying to foster between BC and US companies. PCC can site her personal visit to PACCAR...

See the briefing note prepared for PCC. Westport exports it's natural gas conversion technology to PACCAR while BC and Canada import trucks and other vehicles from PACCAR.

Background

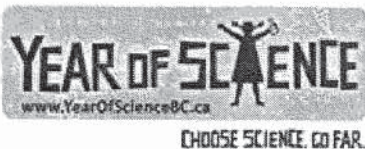
The B.C. cleantech cluster comprises over 1,360 companies, employing about 22,000 people with growth at 11 percent annually. Related merchandise exports generated \$1.39 billion in export revenues (2008). (Total excluding electrical energy was \$817 million). In 2008, electrical energy was B.C.'s largest green commodity export accounting for 41 percent (\$573 million). Wastewater management and renewable biomass products were second and third for exports, at 13 and 11 percent respectively. B.C.'s largest trading partner in green products is the U.S., accounting for \$1.02 billion in exports (73 percent of all green commodity exports).
(Globe Foundation)

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<http://trade.britishcolumbia.ca>

From: Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2011 4:53 PM
To: Sawchuk, Richard JTI:EX
Subject: RE: Speaking notes needed

Always good to have your expert input.

Have a good weekend!



From: Sawchuk, Richard JTI:EX
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2011 4:36 PM
To: Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX
Subject: RE: Speaking notes needed

Ok, no problem...I'm sure can anticipate my bullets ☺

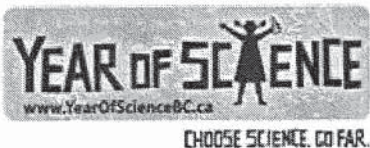
R

Richard M. Sawchuk, LL.B.
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richard.sawchuk@gov.bc.ca
<http://trade.britishcolumbia.ca>

From: Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2011 4:33 PM
To: Sawchuk, Richard JTI:EX
Subject: RE: Speaking notes needed

Would the middle of next week be okay? We don't need to write the whole speech, just to have bullets/factoids relevant for her speechwriters to use. I'll provide general border messages.

Thanks Richard.



From: Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2011 1:58 PM
To: Sawchuk, Richard JTI:EX
Cc: Fabbri, Claudia M IGRS:EX; Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Subject: FW: Speaking notes needed

Hello Richard

In s.22 this week, may I initiate a request for some bullets from you that could be used in crafting the Premier's speech to the event below?

June 10 Premier – "Building Bridges to Prosperity Symposium" event in Surrey-- 20 minutes. it's an opportunity for Canadian and American businesses to network. US Ambassador to Canada is in attendance.

Any help you might be able to provide in suggesting what the Premier might speak to the business interests would be most appreciated.

Thanks
Sukumar

Elliot, Nathan SSBC:EX

From: Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2011 2:57 PM
To: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Cc: Fabbri, Claudia M IGRS:EX
Subject: Re: BN Request - June 10 Mtg

Hi Bryant

s.22

First I've seen of the formal BN request.

I did ask JTI-Richard Sawchuk last week for any commercial messages for use by Premier at this event. He said he'd get back to me. Will send you his email.

Not Responsive

Standard border messaging should be adequate for purpose of speech. Could draw on recent estimates note for that, supplemented by Richard's commercial stats.

s.22

Thanks

From: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2011 02:19 PM
To: Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX
Cc: Fabbri, Claudia M IGRS:EX
Subject: FW: BN Request - June 10 Mtg

This BN request for the Premier's participation in the June 10 Border Symposium would have been better sent to you last week. Or perhaps you were already working on this.

Think we need:

- Some points to be provided to GCPE/Jon Chant for Premier's Speaking Points for Symposium.
- Not Responsive
- Possibly a separate BN providing background for the Symposium.

What is your advice on how to proceed?

Are you in a position to take this on this week?

Do we need to draw in JTI re the Symposium

Not Responsive

Thanks. Hope you are doing well.

Bryant

From: Brubacher, Kelly IGRS:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2011 10:28 AM
To: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Cc: Dawes, Sandra IGRS:EX
Subject: BN Request - June 10 Mtg

Hi Bryant,

Will you be preparing this BN? If so, how about a due date of June 2? We can look at preparation of the speaking points separately once you return.

Thank you,

Kelly Brubacher | Executive Coordinator | Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat | Office of the Premier | Government of British Columbia
Tel: 250.387.0752
Fax: 250.387.1920
Email: Kelly.Brubacher@gov.bc.ca

From: Felker, Karen IGRS:EX
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2011 2:51 PM
To: Brubacher, Kelly IGRS:EX
Cc: Dawes, Sandra IGRS:EX
Subject: RE: Appointment Request for Ambassador David Jacobson with Premier Clark

Karen

250.356.1139 Phone
250.356.2814 Fax

From: Brubacher, Kelly IGRS:EX
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2011 1:37 PM
To: Felker, Karen IGRS:EX
Cc: Ouellette, Marc-Andre IGRS:EX; Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Subject: RE: Appointment Request for Ambassador David Jacobson with Premier Clark

Hi Karen,

If you'd like to fill out the attached Request for BN form, and forward to me with a cc to Sandra, I can get the request going and set a deadline. If speaking points are required, there is a form for this as well, attached.



Request for BN
Checklist.doc

Thank you,

Kelly Brubacher | Executive Coordinator | Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat | Office of the Premier | Government of British Columbia
Tel: 250.387.0752

From: Felker, Karen IGRS:EX
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2011 12:29 PM
To: Brubacher, Kelly IGRS:EX
Cc: Ouellette, Marc-Andre IGRS:EX; Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Subject: FW: Appointment Request for Ambassador David Jacobson with Premier Clark

Hi Kelly:
How do we generate a BN for this?

Karen

250.356.1139 Phone
250.356.2814 Fax

From: McCallum, Judy PREM:EX
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2011 12:13 PM
To: 'Emrich, Sigrid'
Cc: Felker, Karen IGRS:EX; Davidson, Tamara PREM:EX; Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX; Ouellette, Marc-Andre IGRS:EX; Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX; Mills, Shane PREM:EX; Halford, Trevor M PREM:EX; Dley, Stacie PREM:EX; Chalmers, Jennifer PREM:EX
Subject: RE: Appointment Request for Ambassador David Jacobson with Premier Clark

Sigrid, I am pleased to confirm Premier Christy Clark's availability to address this Symposium on Friday, June 10th at 8am for 20 minutes

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

I must remind everyone who is copied on this email that Premier Christy Clark must depart the hotel no later than **8:50am** in order that she not miss her flight to Victoria where she is fully committed with meetings on arrival.

Many thanks, Sigrid.

From: Emrich, Sigrid [mailto:EmrichS@state.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2011 6:21 AM
To: McCallum, Judy PREM:EX
Cc: Felker, Karen IGRS:EX; Davidson, Tamara PREM:EX; Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Subject: RE: Appointment Request for Ambassador David Jacobson with Premier Clark

Dear Judy,

Thank you for the message. An 8AM speaking time at the Symposium for the Premier

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

Sigrid

From: McCallum, Judy PREM:EX [mailto:Judy.McCallum@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2011 4:17 PM
To: Emrich, Sigrid

Cc: Felker, Karen IGRS:EX; Davidson, Tamara PREM:EX; Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Subject: RE: Appointment Request for Ambassador David Jacobson with Premier Clark

Thank you for this extra information, Sigrid. We have a scheduling meeting with the Deputy Chief of Staff tomorrow morning, at which time, I hope to get a sense of whether or not Premier Christy Clark will be able to address the Symposium, given the other demands on her time that day.

Is it possible to consider an **8am** speaking time for the Premier, f

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

Will be in touch after our scheduling meeting tomorrow.

Judy McCallum
Executive Scheduling Coordinator
Office of the Premier
250-387-1686

From: Emrich, Sigrid [mailto:EmrichS@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2011 4:05 PM
To: Felker, Karen IGRS:EX
Cc: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX; Davidson, Tamara PREM:EX; McCallum, Judy PREM:EX
Subject: RE: Appointment Request for Ambassador David Jacobson with Premier Clark

Dear Karen,

The Symposium will take place at the **Sheraton Vancouver Guildford Hotel**; 15269 104th Avenue, Surrey, BC

We would like to ask the Premier to serve as the opening keynote speaker for the Symposium. Our request is that she provide 15-20 minutes of remarks between 8:20 and 8:45 in the morning. However, we have some flexibility between 8 and 9 AM.

The focus of the Symposium is on facilitating trade between the US and Canada. With the declaration by Prime Minister Harper and President Obama in February on facilitating trade while increasing security collaboration, there is a renewed focus on the border and on building the bilateral trading relationship, including the creation of a North American perimeter. Besides several general sessions on regional economics and border issues, the symposium also offers two practical information tracks, "Sell to Canada" and "Sell to the USA".

British Columbia has been a regional leader on many of these issues. By working so closely with US states - especially Washington State - BC has developed several pilot projects here that have been implemented across the border. The enhanced drivers license is one such example. We would be very honored and delighted to have Premier Clark address our audience. If you think it appropriate, we would like to have her address these regional initiatives and how they have made a difference along the border; how cross border collaboration can and has made a difference.

The Ambassador will give the luncheon key note address.

Not Responsive

Not Responsive


The program for the Symposium is included in the link below. Many thanks. Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Best regards, Sigrid

Building Bridges to Prosperity

<http://www.pcb.ca/building-bridges.cfm>

*Sigrid Emrich
Deputy Consul General
US Consulate General Vancouver
(604) 642 - 6659
emrichs@state.gov*

 Save trees - please do not print this email unless necessary.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Felker, Karen IGRS:EX [mailto:Karen.Felker@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2011 2:36 PM
To: Emrich, Sigrid
Cc: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX; Davidson, Tamara PREM:EX; McCallum, Judy PREM:EX
Subject: RE: Appointment Request for Ambassador David Jacobson with Premier Clark

Dear Sigrid,
We would be pleased to help facilitate this request. As per Marc-André's e-mail - please provide me with further details regarding the symposium :
Not Responsive It would be helpful to know the time, location, and event roll-out for the symposium, and the proposed topic of discussion at the meeting.
Best regards,

Karen Felker
Manager|Honours Program and Protocol Officer|Office of Protocol
Office Location | 548 Michigan Street | Victoria, BC V8V 1S2
250.356.1139 Phone
S17
250.356.2814 Fax

<http://www.protocol.gov.bc.ca/>

Request for Briefing Note Checklist

Function	Premier Clark addresses the inaugural 'Building Bridges to Prosperity' Symposium and meets with US Ambassador David Jacobson
Date	June 10, 2011
Event Time	08:00 – remarks and 08:30 meeting
Location	Sheraton Vancouver Guildford Hotel; 15269 104th Avenue, Surrey, BC
Contact	Karen Felker
Host	TBC
IGRS Staff	TBC
Participants	TBC
Objectives	See below
Gift (Y/N)	N
Media Opp (Y/N)	Y
Notes	<p>See http://www.pcb.ca/building-bridges.cfm</p> <p>The focus of the Symposium is on facilitating trade between the US and Canada. With the declaration by Prime Minister Harper and President Obama in February on facilitating trade while increasing security collaboration, there is a renewed focus on the border and on building the bilateral trading relationship, including the creation of a North American perimeter. Besides several general sessions on regional economics and border issues, the symposium also offers two practical information tracks, "Sell to Canada" and "Sell to the USA".</p> <p>British Columbia has been a regional leader on many of these issues. By working so closely with US states - especially Washington State – BC has developed several pilot projects here that have been implemented across the border. The enhanced drivers license is one such example. We would be very honored and delighted to have Premier Clark address our audience. If you think it appropriate, we would like to have her address these regional initiatives and how they have made a difference along the border; how cross border collaboration can and has made a difference.</p>

Request for Speaking Points Checklist

Function Date	June 10, 2011
Name of Function	Premier Clark addresses the inaugural 'Building Bridges to Prosperity' Symposium
Number of attendees expected	See http://www.pcb.ca/building-bridges.cfm
Sponsor/Host	Pacific Customs Brokers, in cooperation with the U.S. Foreign Commercial Service and the U.S. Consulate General (Vancouver)
Contact name and number	
Event Theme	facilitating trade between the US and Canada
Speech topic	address regional initiatives and how they have made a difference along the border; how cross border collaboration can and has made a difference.
Recommended arrival time	0745
Time Minister/DM will be introduced	0800
Speech length	20 minutes
Q&A time?	(Y/N) (length)
Anticipated departure time	0825
Appropriate Dress	Business
Address/ directions to function	Sheraton Vancouver Guildford Hotel; 15269 104th Avenue, Surrey, BC
Parking arrangements	
Contact meeting Minister/DM at location/ cell number/phone	
Name and title of person introducing Minister/DM	TBC
Media anticipated	TBC
About the Audience	See http://www.pcb.ca/building-bridges.cfm
Name and title of other notable guests	HE David Jacoboson, US Ambassador to Canada
Recent special achievements to acknowledge	
Gift required/ Document	n/a

Presentation details	
Staff attending event	TBC
Notes/Comments	

Elliot, Nathan SSBC:EX

From: Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2011 1:56 PM
To: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Subject: FW: Speaking notes needed

Fyi – I will initiate contact with Richard Sawchuk for the 'Bridges to Prosperity' symposium for you to take over when you are back (and I am away next week).
thanks



From: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2011 1:50 PM
To: Ouellette, Marc-Andre IGRS:EX; Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX; Fabbri, Claudia M IGRS:EX; Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX; Ouellette, Marc-Andre IGRS:EX
Cc: Haney, Donald IGRS:EX; Dawes, Sandra IGRS:EX; Brubacher, Kelly IGRS:EX
Subject: FW: Speaking notes needed

Please work on bullets – decide among yourselves who does what – I will be the conduit to Stacey.

s.22

From: Mills, Shane PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2011 1:37 PM
To: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX; Sweeney, Neil GCPE:EX
Cc: Denis, Louise L GCPE:EX; Pantazopoulos, Dimitri PREM:EX
Subject: Re: Speaking notes needed

Hi Pierrette

If you send bullets to Stacie Dley and I, we will co-ordinate the notes.

Shane

From: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2011 05:36 PM
To: Sweeney, Neil GCPE:EX; Mills, Shane PREM:EX
Cc: Denis, Louise L GCPE:EX; Pantazopoulos, Dimitri PREM:EX
Subject: Speaking notes needed

Neil, Shane:

I wonder if you or your team can provide us with some assistance.

For both events below, we can provide a bullets/suggest messages targeted specifically to the audience, however a speech is needed. Can you assist:

June 8 John LES, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier -- Meeting with the BC Consular Corps, Vancouver (RVYC) 15 minutes (diplomats based in Vanc representing approx. 40 countries)

June 10 Premier – “Building Bridges to Prosperity Symposium” event in Surrey-- 20 minutes. it’s a Canada-US relations event – opportunities for Canadian and American businesses to network. US Ambassador to Canada is in attendance. US Consulate in Vancouver being our main interlocutor).

Thanks,

Pierrette

Elliot, Nathan SSBC:EX

From: Felker, Karen IGRS:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2011 10:37 AM
To: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX
Cc: Periwai, Sukumar IGRS:EX; Ouellette, Marc-Andre IGRS:EX; Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX; Geiger, Karen IGRS:EX; Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX
Subject: RE: Amb. Jacobson Mtg Request
Attachments: 20110510100006.pdf

FYI- Premier Clark was also invited to present a keynote address at a symposium (see attached) being organized by the US Consulate and Foreign Services at which the Ambassador will be in attendance. The recommendation from IGR was that this would be an excellent opportunity for PCC to promote BC's key messaging around border management and trade issues. We've asked that the Consulate channel these requests through Protocol so we can facilitate the arrangements. I can follow up with PO and Consulate regarding these requests.

Karen

250.356.1139 Phone
250.356.2814 Fax

From: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2011 4:40 PM
To: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Cc: Periwai, Sukumar IGRS:EX; Ouellette, Marc-Andre IGRS:EX; Felker, Karen IGRS:EX
Subject: Re: Amb. Jacobson Mtg Request

Will find out

Pierrette Maranda
Associate Deputy Minister
Intergovernmental Relations
Secretariat

Phone: 250-387-0752
Fax: 250-387-1920

From: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2011 04:38 PM
To: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX
Cc: Periwai, Sukumar IGRS:EX; Ouellette, Marc-Andre IGRS:EX; Felker, Karen IGRS:EX
Subject: FW: Amb. Jacobson Mtg Request


Not Responsive

From: Emrich, Sigrid [<mailto:EmrichS@state.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2011 4:24 PM
To: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Subject: RE: News Release: Premier, Governor discuss actions to support economy

Thanks Bryant!
It would be good to touch base. Let me know when you will next be in Vancouver.

Not Responsive

*Sigrid Emrich
Deputy Consul General
US Consulate General Vancouver
(604) 642 - 6659
emrichs@state.gov*

 *Save trees - please do not print this email unless necessary.*

Building Bridges to Prosperity
<http://www.pcb.ca/building-bridges.cfm>

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

JUNE 10



Consulate General of the
United States of America
1095 W. Pender Street, 19th Floor
Vancouver, BC V6E 2M6

April 21, 2011

The Honourable Christy Clark
Premier of British Columbia
PO Box 9041
Victoria BC
V8W 9E2

Dear Premier,

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to present the breakfast keynote address at our "Building Bridges to Prosperity Symposium" in Surrey, B.C. on Friday June 10, 2011. This one day symposium is being organized by the U.S. Consulate and Foreign Commercial Service in Vancouver, in cooperation with Pacific Customs Brokers. The event will be the largest of its kind in British Columbia in 2011, attended by business leaders and key officials from both sides of the border with the objective of increasing and expediting trade flows between our two countries.

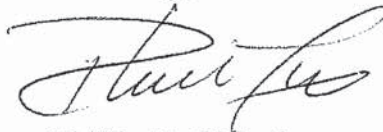
With over \$1 billion in daily trade between Canada and the United States, the border itself is one of the most important elements in the world's largest trading relationship. In light of the "Beyond the Border" joint announcement by President Obama and Prime Minister Harper in February, U.S. Ambassador to Canada David Jacobson will present luncheon keynote remarks on the border and facilitating trade. We welcome your remarks to the Symposium to highlight the ongoing close relationship between British Columbia and adjacent U.S. states, and trade topics of importance to B.C. The Symposium will also feature:

- An update from PNWER on key economic and trade issues such as impact of the exchange rate and regional transportation corridors.
- Breakout dialogue sessions for Canadian and U.S. delegates on issues such as Customs requirements, export financing, and work permits. Sessions will feature participation by the Canadian Border Services Agency and U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

- Expert Canadian and American speakers on such topics as immigration and business law, packaging and labelling, and transportation and warehousing.
- Networking opportunities throughout the day, including a concluding reception.

We would be honored by your participation as our breakfast keynote speaker. Should you have any questions, please feel welcome to contact me at ChicolaPT@state.gov or call my office at 604-642-6669.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phillip T. Chicola". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "C".

Phillip T. Chicola
U.S. Consul General

Elliot, Nathan SSBC:EX

From: Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2011 2:43 PM
To: Davidson, Tamara PREM:EX
Cc: Ouellette, Marc-Andre IGRS:EX; Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX; Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX; Felker, Karen IGRS:EX
Subject: RE: Advice - Requesting for PCC to give Breakfast Keynote on June 10, US Consulate Building Bridges to Prosperity Symposium

Hi Tamara,

The recommendation from IGR is that this would be excellent opportunity for PCC to promote BC's key messaging around border management and trade issues. Let me know if you require further information or if you wish for us to coordinate with US Consulate General. Thanks.

Manjit

From: Davidson, Tamara PREM:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2011 10:05 AM
To: Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX
Subject: Advice - Requesting for PCC to give Keynote on June 10, US Consulate Building Bridges to Prosperity Symposium

Hi Manjit,

I have been asked to get advice on the attached invitation/request for the Premier, please.

Thanks and feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Tamara Davidson

Scheduling Clerk

Office of the Premier

Phone: (250) 356-2089 Fax: (250) 356-7133

Email: Tamara.Davidson@gov.bc.ca

<http://www.gov.bc.ca/premier>



Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Elliot, Nathan SSBC:EX

From: Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2011 1:11 PM
To: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX; Ouellette, Marc-Andre IGRS:EX; Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX
Cc: Felker, Karen IGRS:EX
Subject: RE: Advice - Requesting for PCC to give breakfast Keynote on June 10, US Consulate Building Bridges to Prosperity Symposium

Yes, I completely agree with Bryant.
thanks



From: Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2011 12:31 PM
To: Periwal, Sukumar IGRS:EX; Ouellette, Marc-Andre IGRS:EX; Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX
Cc: Felker, Karen IGRS:EX
Subject: FW: Advice - Requesting for PCC to give breakfast Keynote on June 10, US Consulate Building Bridges to Prosperity Symposium

Subject to Sukumar's advice, I think this would be a great opportunity esp. around border management and trade files.
What do you think Sukumar?
Bryant

From: Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2011 11:42 AM
To: Ouellette, Marc-Andre IGRS:EX; Fairley, Bryant D IGRS:EX
Cc: Felker, Karen IGRS:EX
Subject: FW: Advice - Requesting for PCC to give breakfast Keynote on June 10, US Consulate Building Bridges to Prosperity Symposium

Would appreciate your comments and feedback. You'll note that US Ambassador David Jacobson is presenting the luncheon keynote.

From: Davidson, Tamara PREM:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2011 10:05 AM
To: Khaira, Manjit IGRS:EX
Subject: Advice - Requesting for PCC to give Keynote on June 10, US Consulate Building Bridges to Prosperity Symposium

Hi Manjit,

I have been asked to get advice on the attached invitation/request for the Premier, please.

Thanks and feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Tamara Davidson

Scheduling Clerk

Office of the Premier

Phone: (250) 356-2089 Fax: (250) 356-7133

Email: Tamara.Davidson@gov.bc.ca

<http://www.gov.bc.ca/premier>

 Please consider the environment before printing this email.

David Jacobson – U.S. Ambassador to Canada

David Jacobson was sworn in as U.S. Ambassador to Canada on September 25, 2009, having been nominated by the President and unanimously confirmed by the Senate. On October 2, 2009, Ambassador Jacobson presented his credentials to the Governor General of Canada and became the 22nd U.S. Ambassador to Canada. Before coming to Ottawa, Ambassador Jacobson served as Special Assistant to the President for Presidential Personnel. Prior to serving in the White House, Ambassador Jacobson spent 30 years as a lawyer in Chicago gaining expertise in the areas of complex commercial, class action, securities, insurance and business litigation as a partner at the law firm Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal LLP. He has also gained extensive experience working with regulatory and administrative agencies and all levels of government. In addition to his litigation experience, Ambassador Jacobson has helped clients large and small to address the legal and business issues they confront as they adapt their business models to incorporate new technologies. He has written and spoken extensively on the importance of new technologies and the novel legal issues they present.

While working as a partner at Sonnenschein, Ambassador Jacobson also founded AtomWorks, an organization to bring together corporate, civic and academic leaders in order to foster nanotechnology in the Midwest. He served as a member of CEOs for Cities, a national bipartisan alliance of 75 mayors, corporate executives, university presidents and nonprofit leaders organized to advance the economic competitiveness of cities. He has served on other boards, including the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago and the Better Boys Foundation. Ambassador Jacobson received a J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center and was the Administrative Editor of the Georgetown Law Journal. He received his B.S. from the Johns Hopkins University.

Ambassador Jacobson and his wife, Julie, have two children, Wynne and Jeremy.



Not Responsive

Accompanying Party

1. **Mr. Phillip Chicola, Consul General**
2. **Ms. Sigrid Emrich, Deputy Consul General**

Contact Information

Friday, June 10th– Vancouver

08:40 Premier arrives at Sheraton Guildford Hotel and is met by **Glenn Todd, President and CEO of Pacific Customs Brokers and US Deputy Consul General Sigrid Emrich** and escorted to the Guildford Ballroom to deliver keynote address.

Ms. Sigrid Emrich
Cell: S22

Mr. Glenn Todd
Cell: TBC

Introductions by **Robin Silvester, Port Metro Vancouver CEO**

08:45 Premier Clark addresses the inaugural 'Building Bridges to
to Prosperity' Symposium
09:05

Location: Sheraton Vancouver Guildford Hotel, Guildford Ballroom
15269 104th Avenue, Surrey, BC

Topic: Address regional initiatives and how they have made a difference along the border; how cross border collaboration can and has made a difference.

Notes: Hosted by Pacific Customs Brokers, in cooperation with the U.S. Foreign Commercial Service and the U.S. Consulate General (Vancouver), the 'Building Bridges to Prosperity' Symposium will be the largest of its kind in B.C. in 2011 and presents a rare opportunity for Canadian and American businesses to dialogue and network with leading players and policymakers.

Thank you and Gift from John Winter, President and CEO, BC Chamber of Commerce

Not Responsive

S22

09:35 Premier departs hotel en-route to Victoria

Judy McCallum
Tel: 250.387.1686

Prepared by: Office of Protocol
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
1st Floor – 548 Michigan Street
Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, V8W 9V1
Business: (250) 387-1616 Fax: (250) 356-2814
Website: www.protocol.gov.bc.ca

Contact

Ms. Karen Felker, Protocol Officer
Mr. Manjit Khaira, Protocol Officer
Ms. Lucy Lobmeier, Protocol Officer
Mr. Mark Collins, Protocol Officer
Ms. Karen Geiger, Protocol Officer
Mr. Marc-André Ouellette,
Executive Director and Chief of Protocol

Business

250.356.1139
250.356.9459
250.356.6177
250.387.0744
250.356.9414
250.387.4304

Mobile

S17

Thank You:

Robin (Silvester, Port Metro Vancouver) for that introduction.

Please join me in acknowledging the Coast Salish people in whose traditional territory we are gathered today.

Acknowledge:

- Hon. David Jacobson, US Ambassador to Canada
- Mr. Phillip Chicola, Consul General (Vancouver)
- Minister Counselor Richard Steffens of the US Embassy
- Ms. Sigrid Emrich, Deputy Consul General
- Glenn Todd, and Greg Timm of Pacific Customs Brokers
- Matt Morrison, Pacific Northwest Economic Region
- John Winter, President and CEO of the BC Chamber of Commerce.

And thank Pacific Custom Brokers, the U.S. Foreign Commercial Service and the U.S. Consulate General for organizing this event.

For those of you in the room who are from Canada, I think you'd all agree with me that as Canadians we have a sensitivity to **"the border."**

We experience the border in a way that is different from most Americans.

In a way, it's part of our national psyche.

The majority of Canadian cities are within 100 miles of the border.

Not so for our U.S. counterparts.

I would argue in some ways it means more to us than it does to Americans.

Every Canadian has their own "border" story.

Most us can remember being kids, in the back of the car coming back towards the Canadian border...

And Dad leaning over the back seat as he drives toward the booth, saying "Kids keep quiet."

Our hearts race a little bit as we go across the border.

And yet, most of us live right next to it.

America is so important to who we are.

Our human and economic relationships define the success and fiscal prosperity of B.C. and Canadian families.

There are no two nations more interdependent than ours.

In the history of modern nations I do not believe there are any two nations who are as culturally, spiritually, emotionally or economically interconnected as our two.

Never can the border sever those connections.

And yet we cannot disregard it is there.

Key Theme 1: Building Bridges that get us through and over the border both strengthens and is fundamentally necessary for our nation.

That's why my government is committed to doing all we can within the Canadian family to keep our border functioning.

Arguably, British Columbia has a bit more at stake than other provinces.

We have massive international ports that bring goods from afar through Canada and into the U.S.

The vast majority of containers you see stacked in Vancouver and Prince Rupert are either coming from or going to the U.S.

These two ports are vital economic enablers for our province.

If there is a problem with the border, there is a problem with our ports.

If there is a problem with our ports, then there is a problem with the entire provincial economy.

That's why it is so important we continue to work together to ensure we keep our borders as open as possible.

We are intertwined in so many ways.

I saw a great example of that just last month.

In May, I had the opportunity to visit PACCAR in Washington State.

PACCAR makes those heavy duty rigs you see moving goods in countries all over the world.

Well PACCAR is partnering with Westport Innovations out of Vancouver.

Westport started with a partnership out of the University of British Columbia in the early 1990s.

And the company has grown to almost 200 employees. They are on the leading edge of developing natural gas engines.

Together, Westport and Paccar are working to transition fleets of trucks to natural gas.

And these natural gas vehicles (NGVs) produce about 30 per cent fewer greenhouse gas emissions than gas or diesel.

That's the kind of value added potential cross border relationships hold...

...Relationships that lead to technological innovation, a healthier environment and to good family sustaining jobs.

Key Theme 2: Speaking of working together, most people may not know this but the governments of British Columbia and Washington State hold joint cabinet meetings each year.

I look forward to co-chairing my first meeting with Governor Chris Gregoire who I've already had the great pleasure of meeting.

Our governments take an active role in the Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER), which is the leading cross-border public-private partnership of its kind in North America.

And we are members of the Pacific Coast Collaborative, which brings together government leaders from California to Alaska.

If you know your West Coast history, you know this kind of collaboration has not always been the case.

Let me give you an example:

In 1859, there was a lot of confusion over who controlled the San Juan Islands in the Salish Sea.

This ambiguity led to the death of a pig and then 13 years of border strife.

One pig and we had a dispute that lasted nearly twice as long as the last softwood lumber negotiations.

Known as the Pig War, the dispute started when hungry pig owned by an Irishman employed by the Hudson's Bay Company got into the garden of an American farmer.

The story goes that the American farmer shot the pig for eating his potatoes.

When confronted over the death of the swine, the American looked at the Irish man and said: "It was eating my potatoes"

To this the Irishman replied: "It is up to you to keep your potatoes out of my pig."

As I mentioned, this seemingly innocuous incident took 13 years and arbitration by Kaiser Wilhelm I of Germany to resolve.

That's why an ongoing commitment to building strong relationships is important.

It ensures even if challenges arise, we already have a relationship.

We are neighbours and we are friends who are able to work together and deal with the challenges to our mutual benefit.

Key Theme 3: The border isn't just a line in the ground. A good working border means a lot to families right across the province.

It means a strong provincial economy. It means jobs for families right across the province.

It also means being able to go on vacation, or go see your extended family.

It isn't just a line that divides two people, it is also something that unites us.

I'd like to finish with a story I heard from a member of my staff.

It's a story about the border bringing people together.

A story of what it means to be a good neighbour.

It's about a woman coming back to B.C. from the states.

Her mom had died in the past year and she had just sold her mom's home in the U.S.

Looking at her mom's house and missing her mother terribly, she decided to dig up the rose bushes her mother cherished and bring them back to plant in B.C.

When she got to the border, Canadian border agents had to tell her that because those rose bushes were covered with dirt and soil, they could not be allowed in the country.

In fact, they should be seized and destroyed.

But upon hearing the woman's story, the agents were moved.

So they contacted their US counterparts, and had the plants sent back to the U.S. side.

Again, the return of the bushes to the U.S. from Canada should have prompted the destruction of the plants.

But US customs agents had heard the story from their Canadian counter parts.

They held the bushes until the woman's real estate agent could pick them up and have them professionally cleaned and packed.

I can tell you today those rose bushes are growing in a British Columbia garden...

... Not only in memory of a beloved mother, but now also a tribute to international co-operation.

They are growing because a group of Canadian and US border agents felt compelled to work together and find a way to make it happen.

So you see, the partnerships and benefits that blossom under the spirit of cooperation know no bounds.

The border unites us in our humanity.

Whether it's working towards jobs for families, enhanced business opportunities, a healthier environment or just human empathy...

That's the kind of spirit of cooperation I hope we can foster through the relationships we build today.

Thank you.

-End-