

## **NEWS RELEASE – Transportation ministers commit to ongoing collaboration to drive future long-term economic growth and enhance Canadians’ quality of life**

September 28, 2016, TORONTO, Ontario – Recognizing the important contribution of transportation to economic growth and quality of life, federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Transportation and Highway Safety today discussed the future of transportation in Canada, and reaffirmed their commitment to working together.

The Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport, provided an update on the work underway since the tabling in Parliament on February 25, 2016, of the *Canada Transportation Act Review Report*, and on the development of a long-term agenda for the future of transportation in Canada. “As the transportation system evolves and adapts, we need to better anticipate and prepare for the changes to come,” said Minister Garneau. “A long-term agenda for transportation in Canada will position the system to support economic growth, create jobs, promote a healthier environment, and strengthen Canada’s middle class and competitiveness in global markets.”

Ministers agreed on a number of shared priorities to help to meet challenges, as well as embrace opportunities that will make advancements towards maintaining, promoting and enhancing safe, competitive, seamless and sustainable transportation for Canada.

These priority areas for collaboration aim to:

- Enhance safety;
- Support internal and international trade corridors;
- Improve the traveller experience;
- Address climate change;
- Foster innovation; and
- Share information.

These key areas form the foundation for modern and efficient transportation in Canada. Safety remains a priority for all ministers as they are committed to pursuing a dialogue on road, rail and marine safety, and traveller experience, from coast to coast to coast with the public and private sector. Ministers have agreed to work together to address climate change, including mitigation and infrastructure adaptation, and provide leadership towards the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector.

Ministers underscored their commitment to improve the efficiency of trade and transportation corridors, including addressing infrastructure requirements and reducing internal barriers to trade. Ministers have agreed in principle on amendments to the

Memorandum of Understanding Respecting a Federal-Provincial-Territorial Agreement on Vehicle Weights and Dimensions. These amendments are in keeping with the agreement for a new [Canadian Free Trade Agreement](#) announced by Canada's Premiers in Whitehorse on July 22, 2016. Ministers discussed further harmonization measures for trucks such as electronic logging devices, and investing in efficient and seamless trade corridors to bring goods to markets.

Ministers discussed how governments can leverage new and innovative technologies that have the potential to enhance the efficiency and safety of transportation in Canada, such as emerging connected and automated vehicles. "The Ontario government is committed to working with our federal, provincial and territorial colleagues to improve the efficiency of our transportation infrastructure," added Minister Steven Del Duca. "Working together will help innovation and emerging technologies thrive and provide strong economic opportunities for all provinces, territories and for Canada."

Ministers also agreed that evidence-based decision making on transportation should benefit from shared information and analysis across governments on the capacity and performance of multimodal transportation.

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