

For immediate release

## **Federal, provincial, and territorial transportation and highway safety ministers reach agreement to improve the movement of goods across Canada**

### **[New Memorandum of Understanding on interprovincial/territorial trucking contributes to reducing barriers and further aligning rules within the trucking industry](#)**

June 12, 2026 Council of Ministers Responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety

Federal, provincial, and territorial governments are committed to improving trade within Canada to create jobs, help businesses, improve consumer choice, and make life more affordable for Canadians. That's why these governments are working diligently to further align trucking rules across Canada.

Today, the Council of Ministers Responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety announced the signing of a [Memorandum of Understanding on Interprovincial Trucking](#) that will reduce trade barriers and enhance trade in the Canadian trucking sector.

The memorandum will benefit Canadians by allowing for the conciliation of certain regulations to achieve greater alignment, fostering internal trade within Canada, increasing supply chains efficiency, and helping to reduce costs within the sector.

The memorandum spans 14 measures. Highlights include:

- Completing the implementation of pan-Canadian Mandatory Entry Level Training (MELT) for commercial truck drivers across Canada;
- Clarifying and improving processes for oversized and overweight vehicles permit applications;
- Implementation of the newly established minimum standards to align signage, lighting, and flag requirements for oversized vehicles and escort vehicles;
- Further aligning rules for long combination vehicle training requirements;
- Working towards greater harmonization of safety standards for commercial trucking; and,

- Developing a web-based, [Canadian Trucking Regulations Hub](#) that will serve as a comprehensive source of regulatory information that assists with route planning.

Moving forward, the Council of Ministers Responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety will continue work on supporting a robust trucking sector, including addressing labour, tax and safety rules in the commercial trucking industry associated with the “Driver Inc.” model, in which workers who should be treated as employees are being instead labelled as independent contractors. This issue was noted as an ongoing priority at the recent Council of Ministers Responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety meeting in Vancouver in February 2026.

## Quotes

“I am delighted to see the federal, provincial, and territorial governments all come together on this Memorandum of Understanding to improve the movement of goods within Canada. The Memorandum demonstrates our shared willingness to accelerate the reduction of trucking barriers, while improving interprovincial/territorial trade, which benefits Canadians everywhere.”

*The Honourable Steven MacKinnon  
Minister of Transport and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons*

“Provinces, territories and the federal government are working collaboratively to get trucks moving across Canada more efficiently and effectively. These improvements will help Canadians buy Canadian-made products wherever they are in the country. Together, we are building Canada Strong and securing a more prosperous future for all Canadians.”

*The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc  
President of the King’s Privy Council for Canada and Minister responsible for Canada-U.S. Trade, Intergovernmental Affairs, Internal Trade and One Canadian Economy.*

“By working with our colleagues throughout Canada, we are able to make meaningful improvements for the trucking industry - improvements that will promote greater trade between provinces, support businesses, help with affordability, and benefit all of us.”

*The Honourable Tony Wakeham  
Premier, Newfoundland and Labrador*

“Today’s agreement allows provinces and territories to remove unnecessary restrictions so goods can move across the country much more efficiently. By working together at a provincial, territorial and national level we are ensuring a stronger, safer trucking industry that will ultimately benefit people and economies across Canada.”

*The Honourable Mike Farnworth*

*B.C Minister of Transportation and Transit and COMT co-chair*

## Quick facts

- In September 2024, the Committee on Internal Trade announced the launch of a project to reduce barriers in the trucking sector. All provincial and territorial governments were part of this [initiative](#).
- Work on this memorandum began in September 2024. In February 2025, during a meeting in Québec City, the Council of Ministers Responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety agreed to work towards concluding the memorandum. This process was accelerated further at a ‘Trucking Hackathon’ event held in July 2025 in Toronto, Ontario. The Hackathon gathered federal, provincial, and territorial representatives, alongside key stakeholders from the trucking industry, to identify new ways to reduce certain barriers to trade, further align trucking rules in Canada, and increase supply chain efficiencies while maintaining safety standards.
- Through the Memorandum, governments in Canada commit to aligning some rules and taking actions to allow trucks and the goods they carry to move across Canada more effectively, without compromising the safety, security, and the integrity of highway networks.
- The Memorandum is part of ongoing trucking alignment efforts undertaken by federal, provincial, and territorial governments, which notably include the Memorandum of Understanding respecting a federal-provincial-territorial agreement on the adoption of a National Safety Code in 1987, and the Memorandum of Understanding Concerning a Federal-Provincial-Territorial Agreement on Vehicle Weights and Dimensions in 1988.
- The Council of Ministers Responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety has been successfully implementing alignment initiatives in the trucking sector since the late 1980s. The memorandum builds on the momentum by federal, provincial and territorial governments to facilitate trade and boost Canada’s economic productivity.

- The Canadian Trucking Alliance and other industry groups participated in the Hackathon and have been instrumental in working towards addressing internal trade barriers.

## Associated links

- [Ministers Meet to Drive Progress on Internal Trade](#)
- [Council of Ministers Responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety](#)

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## Contacts

### Marie-Justine Torres

Press Secretary

Office of the Honourable Steven MacKinnon

Minister of Transport and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Ottawa

[marie-justine.torres@tc.gc.ca](mailto:marie-justine.torres@tc.gc.ca)

613-327-5918

### Media Relations

BC Government Communications and Public Engagement

Ministry of Transportation and Transit

250-356-8241

### Media relations

Transport Canada, Ottawa

613-993-0055

[media@tc.gc.ca](mailto:media@tc.gc.ca)