

April 30, 2025.

Att. The Right Honourable Mark Carney Office of the Prime Minister 80 Wellington Street Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2 @CanadianPM

Dear Prime Minister,

<u>CIFFA Corp.</u> extends its sincere congratulations to you on your election as Prime Minister of Canada. We look forward to working collaboratively with your government to strengthen Canada's supply chains and advance our shared economic goals.

CIFFA's membership includes freight forwarders who manage about 80% of Canada's non-commodity trade, employing every mode of transport for both domestic and import/export shipments, but also the port truckers who move freight to and from ships, the warehouses where the goods are stored and even the customs brokers who ensure the rapid passage of goods through the complexities of customs and security. Our associate members include air, marine, rail and truck carriers, transportation law firms and cargo insurance companies. In short, we represent the full spectrum of Canada's supply chain.

In this communication, we aim to outline our members' key priorities and identify practical, quick wins that can enhance supply chain fluidity across Canada.

In October 2022, then-Minister of Transport Omar Alghabra welcomed the <u>Final Report</u> of the National Supply Chain Task Force. This Task Force was established in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic to examine the critical challenges affecting Canada's supply chain performance.

Mandated to recommend ways to strengthen the transportation supply chain and improve affordability for Canadians, the Task Force's Final Report emphasized three overarching themes: action, collaboration, and transformation.

To deliver tangible outcomes, it put forward 21 specific recommendations designed to improve the efficiency, resilience, and competitiveness of Canada's supply chain system.

We highlight the following six (6) as paramount longer-range priorities for our members:

- Easing port congestion;
- Addressing labour shortages and employee retention—while stressing the need to ensure labour stability in essential industries and the quick resolution of disputes;
- Maintaining a federal Supply Chain Office to unify relevant federal government activities;
- Protecting trade corridors, border crossings, and gateways from disruption;
- Developing a national transportation Supply Chain Strategy; and
- Engaging with the United States, as well as provinces and territories, to achieve mutual recognition of regulations, policies, and processes.

To move these priorities forward, CIFFA urges the federal government to act swiftly in implementing the most impactful recommendations of the Task Force. We stand ready to collaborate with policymakers



and stakeholders to support practical solutions that will strengthen Canada's supply chain and drive sustainable economic growth.

While longer-term planning is essential, there are several actionable steps that can be taken immediately to improve supply chain fluidity and demonstrate momentum.

CIFFA recommends the following six (6) quick wins:

- Digitize and streamline border processes: Implement digital solutions for customs and inspection procedures to reduce delays and increase throughput at border crossings and ports of entry.
- Implement a Single Window initiative: Integrating Transport Canada's PACT and the CBSA's E-Manifest reporting systems, enabling trade to file once and for government risk assessments to be completed simultaneously.
- Establish a pilot project to evaluate the CBSA "Authorization to Move" project: facilitating expedited movement of released containers after inspection without returning to port:
- Improve data sharing and coordination: Establish a centralized national platform for real-time supply chain data sharing among government agencies, carriers, freight forwarders, and importers/exporters to better anticipate and manage disruptions.
- **Prioritize critical infrastructure maintenance:** Ensure that essential transportation infrastructure—such as bridges, roads, and port facilities—is maintained and upgraded to prevent bottlenecks and ensure safe, efficient movement of goods.
- Issue a public progress update on the National Supply Chain Strategy document: A transparent update from the federal government would demonstrate commitment and clarify next steps, while also inviting stakeholder collaboration.

These targeted actions can serve as early wins for the federal government while building the foundation for broader, systemic improvements. CIFFA and its members remain committed to working collaboratively with all levels of government to ensure Canada's supply chain is modern, resilient, and globally competitive.

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