

The Honourable Pablo Rodriguez, Minister of Transport

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Dear Minister,

CIFFA represents some 10,000 employees of freight forwarder, drayage/port truckers, customs brokers, freight brokers and warehouse company members in Canada who manage about 80% of freight traffic, both domestic and international. They are the key players in Canada's freight supply chain.

As the federal budget approaches we wanted to write to emphasize the importance to our membership of adequate funding for the new Supply Chain office.

As you will recall, this new organization was one concrete action by your government in response to the disasters which befell Canada's supply chain during the Covid pandemic and the floods in British Columbia. The possibility of similar disruptions in the future is a concern for anyone involved in transportation and we supported this initiative, while recognizing how challenging the work will be.

Since its inception we have maintained contact with the Office and we have been impressed by the coherence of its proposed workplan and the commitment of its personnel. The Budget of 2024 will be the first time your government can equip this Office with the resources it needs to have a positive impact, increasing the security and resiliency of our supply chains.

Budget 2024 will be the first opportunity the government has to demonstrate its commitment to this new organization, and we look forward to congratulating you and your colleagues for adequately supporting it to take on the complex and challenging issues involved in protecting our national supply chains. We also recognize that the government is consulting on the development of the National Transportation Supply Chain Strategy and opportunities for collaborative action, and we look forward to seeing the strategy outlined and in place, with concrete deliverables.

With thanks,

Bruce Rodgers            Executive Director, CIFFA

Julia Kuzeljevich        Director, Policy and Regulatory Affairs, CIFFA