



**Agenda for Annual Border Workshop
April 19-20, 2016**

SEMCOG Offices, 1001 Woodward Avenue Detroit MI (1/2 mile from Hotel)

“Border Crossings of Today and Tomorrow - Gateways to Global Competitiveness”

April 18, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Pre-event casual dinner at Andiamo Ristorante, located in the Renaissance Center and open to all attendees to meet and network.

DAY ONE

April 19, 2016

8:00 Coffee and Registration

8:30 Introduction and Welcome

Outline of the day’s sessions and the desired outcome

- **Cathy DeCoste-Whitlock**, Eastern Border Transportation Coalition
- **Tim Hoeffner**, Michigan Department of Transportation
- **Kathleen Lomako**, Executive Director, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

9:00 Consul Generals

This session will provide insights on the role of the border in the successful cross-border partnership that maintains and ensures the ongoing global competitiveness of both countries.

- **Nina Fite**, U.S. Consul General in Montreal
- **Douglas George**, Canada’s Consul General in Detroit

9:45 Overview of Market Forces at the Border

This session will focus on the key factors affecting the cost and fees associated with cross-border trade and goods movement and how this will impact future growth at the border.

- **William Anderson**, University of Windsor Cross-Border Institute
- **Dr. Daniel Lynch**, Dalhousie University, Centre for Trade and Transportation Innovation
- **Laurie Tannous**, Institute of Border Logistics and Infrastructure

10:45 Break

11:00 Current Status of the Border -

In this session, Canadian and U.S. federal agencies directly involved with border transportation and security operations will provide updates on key Beyond the Border initiatives and other border related programs such as The Free and Secure Trade (FAST) program.

- **Deborah Meyers**, Director of Canadian Affairs, U.S. Dep't. of Homeland Security
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection – speaker TBD
- **Chris Dingman**, Northern Border Liaison, U.S. Federal Highways Administration
- Public Safety Canada - speaker TBD
- Transport Canada - speaker TBD
- Canada Border Services Agency – speaker TBD

12:15 Lunch (to be provided)

1:15 Perspectives on Border, Session I

The challenges and opportunities of operating at the border today and the needs and prospects of cross-border operations in 2020 and beyond.

- **Athena Hutchins**, Niagara International Transportation Technology Coalition
- **Jennifer Fox**, Ontario Trucking Association / Canadian Trucking Alliance
- **Trevor Brydon**, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments

2:30 Break

2:45 Perspectives at the Border, Session II

- **Peter Petainen**, International Bridge General Manager, Sault Ste. Marie International Bridge,
- **Ron Rienas**, General Manager, Peace Bridge Authority
- **Garfield Dales**, Director, Windsor Border Initiatives Implementation Group (with responsibility for management and delivery of the Rt. Hon Herb Gray Parkway), Ontario Ministry of Transportation.

4:00 Summary and Wrap Up

4:30 Conclusion

DAY TWO
The Bi-National Pre-Clearance Agreement
Potential for Freight and Passenger Rail
April 20, 2016

Mark Fisher, Chief Executive Officer, Council of the Great Lakes Region, moderator

8:15 Introduction and Welcome

Outline of the day's sessions and the desired outcome

8:30 Table Setting on Status of Rail Preclearance agreement and next steps

Federal agencies directly responsible for implementing preclearance for all modes of transportation will give an overview of what is in the preclearance agreement, the current status of various elements and what are the next steps. The agencies will discuss their role in the drafting of enabling legislation. (speakers TBD)

- U.S .Department of Homeland Security
- Public Safety Canada
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- Canada Border Services Agency
- U.S. Federal Highway Administration
- Transport Canada

9:15 Passenger Rail Preclearance Status Report - Passenger Rail Operators

- **Ed Courtemanch**, Amtrak
- **Aaron Court**, VIA Rail

9:30 State & Provincial Rail Passenger Preclearance Status & Issues

Panelists will provide their perspective on preclearance and how it will affect operations. A facilitated group discussion would follow on the preclearance legislation, the business case, the role of inspection agencies, facility requirements and the timeline for implementation.

- **Brian Searles**, Special Project Consultant – Rail, State of Vermont- Agency of Transportation
- **Daniel Picotte**, Emissary for the Province of Quebec to advance preclearance discussions.
- **Washington State Department of Transportation** (invited)
- **Whatcom Council of Governments** (invited)

11:00 Break

11:15 Group Discussion on freight rail preclearance status and issues

Perspective on preclearance and its impact on rail freight operations. Followed by a facilitated group discussion on preclearance legislation, the business case, role of inspection agencies, facility requirements and the timeline for implementation.

- **Gérald Gauthier**, Vice President, Corporate and Public Affairs - Railway Association of Canada
- **Speaker TBD**, American Association of Railways -
- US Federal Railroad Administration (invited)
- Transport Canada – Rail (invited)

12:15 Moving forward to success; solutions for rail preclearance

Wrapping it all up with knowledge gained in the two facilitated discussion to determine next steps, timelines, milestones, and other keys to implementation for both freight and passenger operations.

12:45 End of Conference. Box lunch provided.