

# AGENDA

## IMTC Steering Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 16, 2012

9:00am – 12:00pm

Hazelmere Country Club, Surrey, British Columbia

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### 1. Current event updates

- a. Recap of BPRI and Canadian Consulate February 10 symposium: *Beyond the Border One Year Later*
- b. Re-cap of February 10 Governor/Premier meeting
  - i. JTEC border video viewing

### 2. Project updates

- a. Sumas-Abbotsford: NEXUS-related roadway improvements: northbound, southbound, marketing preparations.
- b. Pacific Highway southbound truck-approach reconfiguration & FAST lane improvements.
- c. Other regional port approach improvements

### 3. Topic Focus: Rail

- a. Amtrak Cascades passenger rail update: corridor improvement projects, station design process, long-term funding challenges, and cross-border initiatives to improve corridor performance. John Sibold, WSDOT Co-Director, Freight Systems Division.
- b. Review of regional freight rail trends – BTS data, Melissa Miller

### 4. Change to IMTC Objectives list – addition of BBAP language to the objectives for 2012.

### 5. Review objectives for IMTC at upcoming meetings

- a. March: IMTC Core Group in March
- b. April: TBWG in Seattle
- c. May: Consideration of an IMTC General Assembly?

<http://www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/2012/02/wa-bc-focus-on-jobs-border-and-emergency-preparedness.html>

## **Sixth annual WA-B.C. joint cabinet produces 2012 Action Plan**

OLYMPIA, WA - Premier Christy Clark and Washington State Governor Chris Gregoire announced today that Washington State and British Columbia have concluded a series of agreements to strengthen their cross-border partnerships, attract investment and create new jobs.

"Building strong working partnerships, as Washington and British Columbia have done, make our region stronger, safer, and more competitive," said Governor Gregoire. "Over the years, these collaborative efforts have led to quicker border crossings, upgraded rail service, and emergency preparedness. Today's meeting will have the same long-lasting impact that will help continue to help our economy, families, and environment."

"Over the past six years, Washington and British Columbia have built a relationship that is truly unique in North America," said Premier Clark. "The more that we talk to each other, the more we recognize our goals are the same: safe communities, a clean environment, and jobs to support families. And by working together, I'm very pleased we're able to agree on concrete, specific actions to help us reach our goals and better serve our citizens."

The 2012 Action Plan on Jobs maintains the strong partnership between Washington and British Columbia on border management and cross-border infrastructure development to make the region more globally competitive while ensuring borders are safe and secure. As part of the plan, Gregoire and Clark signed a joint letter to President Barack Obama and Prime Minister Stephen Harper commending the U.S.-Canada Beyond the Border Action Plan and committing British Columbia and Washington to support and expedite federal commitments to improve the flow of people, goods and services across the border.

Other key features of the 2012 Action Plan on Jobs include:

- Flowing from Washington State's New Energy Strategy announced in December and British Columbia's Natural Gas Strategy announced earlier this month, specific actions to better align and maximize opportunities for energy efficiency, clean transportation, and low-carbon energy, including natural gas.
- Developing a regional jobs and investment strategy to leverage "clean economy" opportunities across West Coast jurisdictions.
- Specific measures to enhance regional transportation co-ordination and efficiency, ranging from improved information sharing and analysis, to the AMTRAK Cascade Corridor, to the identification of future border and highway infrastructure needs.

The meeting set the 2012 priorities for environmental co-operation, including preparation for the removal of Japan tsunami debris, and the governor and premier signed a proclamation celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the WA-B.C. Environment Cooperation Agreement.

Other topics included joint emergency preparedness plans for major earthquakes and promoting the Pacific Northwest Emergency Management Agreement as a model for a broader North American Mutual Aid Agreement.

Since their first cabinet meeting in 2005, Washington state and B.C. have built a unique bilateral working relationship unlike any other Canada-U.S. interaction. This partnership has resulted in a number of mutual benefits including:

- The Enhanced Drivers' License travel document as well as additional, quicker border crossings with added NEXUS and FAST lanes.
- Technology improvements such as web-based public communications about border conditions.
- Considerable financial investment for roads and rail services, including upgrading the rail line used by Amtrak trains through the B.C. Lower Mainland.
- Resources and support during emergencies through the Pacific Northwest Emergency Management Arrangement.
- Formalized cross-border collaboration on preparation, response and recovery for public health emergencies, such as pandemic flu and the West Nile virus.

**Contacts:**

Governor's Communications Office  
360 902-4136

Robert Pauliszyn  
Communications Director  
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat  
250 213-5096

**Attachments:**

Washington State - British Columbia 2012 Action Plan on Jobs

WA - B.C. Proclamation Celebrating 20th Anniversary of Environmental Cooperation Agreement

## **Washington State - British Columbia**

### **2012 Action Plan on Jobs**

#### **PREAMBLE**

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON AND THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,

Sharing a common border and a longstanding relationship of friendship and trust;

Recognizing that the jobs and standard of living of Washingtonians and British Columbians depend significantly on the open and secure movement of people, goods and services across our border, and therefore a need to facilitate legitimate cross border trade and travel;

Committed to exploring opportunities to coordinate action and establish partnerships aimed at enhancing jobs and investment in both our jurisdictions, to add to our individual initiatives such as Canada Starts Here: The BC Jobs Plan launched in September 2011 by British Columbia and the 2012 Washington State Energy Strategy: Core Solutions For Economy, Jobs And Climate launched in December 2011, and to build on the Province's and the State's solid foundation of prudent fiscal management to attract investment, open new markets and create jobs for Washingtonians and British Columbians;

Acting on our Memorandum of Understanding on Pacific Coast Collaboration to Protect Our Shared Climate and Ocean of 2007 to pursue aggressive clean and renewable energy policies, combine efforts to improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector, and coordinate efforts to encourage clean technologies;

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding to Establish the Pacific Coast Collaborative of 2008 and its Action Plan on Innovation, the Environment and the Economy agreed to in February 2010, to which both Washington and British Columbia are signatories and committed to advancing bilaterally as well as severally, whose mandate includes enhancing a sustainable regional economy, especially with respect to environmental goods and services;

NOW THEREFORE HEREBY AGREE TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS IN 2012:

#### **A. Work Jointly to Support and Expedite Implementation of the Beyond the Border Action Plan**

Commending our respective federal governments for their comprehensive approach to better border management and regulatory cooperation which is critical for growing jobs in our region, Washington State and the Province of British Columbia will work together in coordination together with the federal governments, border communities and businesses to ensure that:

- the needs of our citizens and businesses are appropriately prioritized through ongoing discussions with our federal counterparts and with officials tasked with leading the Beyond the Border Executive Steering Committee and the United States-Canada Regulatory Coordination Council;

- our strong partnerships in cross-border transportation infrastructure development, law enforcement, and emergency management are maintained in order to complement and support the new federal initiatives in these areas; and
- understanding and participation by our citizens and businesses in cross-border trusted trader and trusted traveler programs continues to be built to facilitate the movement of people, goods and services to enhance regional prosperity.

#### **B. Develop and Implement a Regional Jobs and Investment Opportunities Strategy through the Pacific Coast Collaborative**

Washington State and the Province of British Columbia will work together and with other West Coast jurisdictions to identify opportunities for accelerated job creation in their respective jurisdictions by leveraging the potential of the emerging West Coast "clean economy" through regional collaboration.

#### **C. Enhance Regional Transportation Coordination and Efficiency**

Washington State and the Province of British Columbia commit to work together to give effect to the Action Plan on Regional Transportation signed at the 2012 Washington-British Columbia Joint Cabinet Meeting to take action in the following areas in 2012:

1. FAST program for freight mobility within the Cascade Gateway
2. Enhancements to Advanced Traveler Information Systems (ATIS)
3. Border related green house gas emission reduction measures
4. Aldergrove/Lynden (Hwy 13-SR 539) Border Crossing
5. Border Circulation Initiatives
6. NEXUS program for trusted passenger travelers
7. Identification of Future Cascade Gateway Border and Highway Related Infrastructure Requirements
8. Commercial vehicle registration data sharing and weigh station bypass
9. AMTRAK Cascade Rail Corridor

#### **D. Advance Low Carbon Energy and Clean Transportation Cooperation**

Washington State and the Province of British Columbia commit to work together to give effect to the Workplan on Energy and Clean Transportation Cooperation signed at the 2012 Washington-British Columbia Joint Cabinet Meeting to take further action in the following areas for completion in 2012:

1. Energy efficiency including energy efficiency financing; appliance energy efficiency standards; low-income and rental housing; and building envelope training.
2. Expanding natural gas as a clean, efficient, low carbon alternative for ferries and heavy duty vehicles.

3. Information and best practices on development of: renewable and low carbon fuels such as advanced aviation bio-fuels; shale gas; natural gas storage to enable firming of intermittent electric generators; and natural gas pipeline infrastructure between British Columbia and Washington.

4. Information and best practices on energy pricing mechanisms to encourage efficiency and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions including British Columbia's revenue neutral carbon tax; mileage based insurance that is being proposed in Washington; and electronic tolling that is currently being deployed in both Washington and British Columbia to support select highway construction projects.

AGREED as to form and content and signed and dated in two (2) duplicate originals in Olympia, Washington, this 10th day of February, 2012.

Christine O. Gregoire  
Governor  
State of Washington

Christy Clark  
Premier  
Province of British Columbia

### **Washington State - British Columbia**

#### **Joint Declaration Recognizing 20 Years of Environmental Cooperation**

Whereas there is a long-standing history of cooperation and partnership between Washington State and the Province of British Columbia on regional environmental issues;

Whereas in May 1992 the Province and the State entered into an Environmental Cooperation Agreement to promote and coordinate mutual efforts to ensure the protection, preservation and enhancement of our shared environment for the benefit of current and future generations;

Whereas the Environmental Cooperation Agreement provided the foundation for ongoing and future collaboration including:

- developing joint efforts to address Puget Sound and Georgia Basin water quality, to reduce pollution and respond to spills in the Columbia River, to regulate air pollution sources in the border region, to reduce flooding problems in the Nooksack River and to protect the ground water in the Abbotsford/Sumas area;
- inter-jurisdictional cooperation on environmental assessments and reviews;
- cross-border efforts to reduce carbon pollution;
- protection of our shared climate and ocean;
- working on coastal climate change adaptation and promoting awareness of the impacts of sea level rise on coastal areas;
- sharing information on how to make government operations as carbon-neutral as possible; and
- invasive species and Japanese tsunami debris management;

Whereas environmental issues and challenges are increasingly more complex, requiring jurisdictions to build upon the emergence of complementary cross-border environmental forums;

Whereas it is important to foster and maintain strong communication and working relationships between our jurisdictions in order continue to work effectively on issues of mutual interest;

We recognize 20 years of Environmental Cooperation and agree to promote continuation of these activities to maximize our collective efficiency and effectiveness in addressing our shared priorities under the British Columbia - Washington Environmental Cooperation Agreement and subsequent supporting arrangements.

Christine O. Gregoire  
Governor  
State of Washington

Christy Clark  
Premier  
Province of British Columbia



WASHINGTON STATE



BRITISH COLUMBIA

February 10, 2012

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States of America  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20229

The Honourable Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Langevin Block  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A3

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Prime Minister:

On the occasion of the sixth Washington State/British Columbia Joint Cabinet Meeting, we would like to pledge our support for the Beyond the Border and Regulatory Cooperation Council Action Plans announced December 7, 2011. Perimeter security, economic competitiveness, and regulatory streamlining are initiatives of great significance for all Americans and Canadians. We have committed ourselves to these issues at each Joint Cabinet Meeting and achieved great outcomes by working in partnership. We believe our experience serves as a model as our countries move forward with the Beyond the Border Action Plan (Action Plan). We are committed to furthering this effort and stand ready to share our lessons learned.

Efficient, effective border management is a longstanding priority for Washington and British Columbia. We strongly support your vision of enhanced security, while simultaneously accelerating the legitimate flow of people, goods, and services across the Canada-US border. The British Columbia-Washington Enhanced Drivers' License initiative has demonstrated these principles and paved the way for wider adoption of Radio Frequency Identification-enabled travel documents, which are increasing security while reducing wait times at the border. We are encouraged by the commitment in the Action Plan to increase the benefits of trusted trader and trusted traveler programs, including enhancements to the NEXUS program and related infrastructure at priority border crossings between Washington and British Columbia. We also look forward to the completion of negotiations regarding pre-clearance and pre-inspection covering all modes of cross-border trade and travel.

Rail pre-clearance at Vancouver will significantly reduce travel times for the Amtrak passenger rail service between Vancouver and Seattle and lays the track for upgrading rail services – another step toward the vision of high-speed rail connecting the region. This is a key piece of the world-class transportation corridor we are implementing to support the clean knowledge economy cluster developing in the Puget Sound-Lower Mainland region. We must eliminate issues deterring business travelers from freely crossing the border to seek partners, investors, and skilled workers. We are pleased the Action Plan addresses these issues and ask that as you work to implement passenger rail pre-clearance at Vancouver you include our two jurisdictions in the discussion and development.



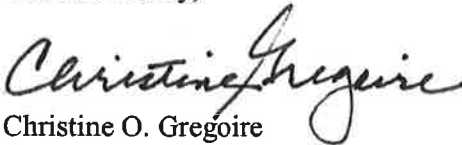
As trade and transportation gateways to the Asia Pacific Region, our two jurisdictions have a strong interest in increasing the flow of visitors, investment, and trade between Asia and North America through our ports and airports. A common approach to screening travelers and cargo inbound for North America and the expedited movement of secure cargo across the border under the principle of "cleared once, accepted twice" will reduce costs and wait times, while increasing security through better risk-management decisions.

Washington and British Columbia have a history of cooperative and inclusive working groups. In advance of the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, we established a bi-national multi-agency working group, which included military, border security, law enforcement, and transportation agencies. The result was a secure, seamless, and welcoming experience for visitors during the events. We also cooperate closely on cross-border transportation actions through the British Columbia-Washington Joint Transportation Executive Council, which is focused on initiatives consistent with commitments made in the Action Plan.

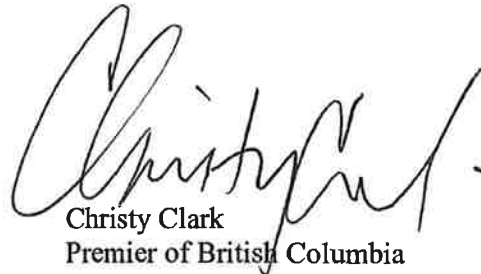
In addition, together with other governments and private sector leaders in neighboring states and provinces, we have built strong cross-border linkages in combating cross-border crime, protecting critical infrastructure and providing mutual aid in response to emergencies. We are committed to working closely with other jurisdictions and stakeholders to maintain support for the shared vision's Action Plans and associated initiatives. We also hope that increased regulatory cooperation will lead to further efforts to reconcile unnecessarily different regulatory measures, especially in high priority sectors for both jurisdictions such as energy, technology, transportation, agriculture, forestry, and mining.

Our experience and cooperation in addressing border security, travel, trade, and regulations demonstrate the positive outcomes expected from the Action Plan. Our administrations are committed to supporting the success of this effort and are prepared to provide support and continued input to the Beyond the Border Executive Steering Committee through officials here in Washington and British Columbia. Working together, we can ensure that the commitments made in the Action Plan are achieved. Please accept our congratulations on these milestone accomplishments. We look forward to working with you to ensure the success of these vital initiatives.

Yours sincerely,



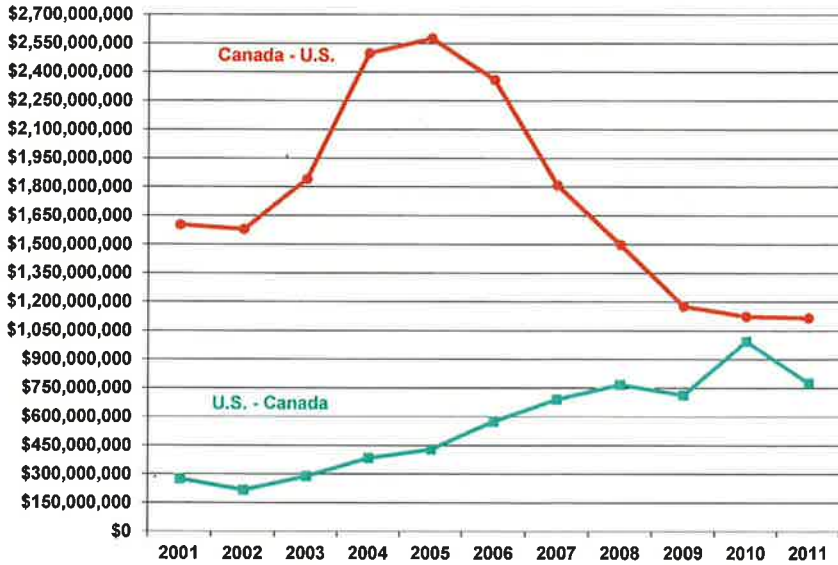
Christine O. Gregoire  
Governor of Washington



Christy Clark  
Premier of British Columbia

cc: The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State  
The Honorable Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security  
The Honourable Vic Toews, Minister of Public Safety  
The Honourable John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs

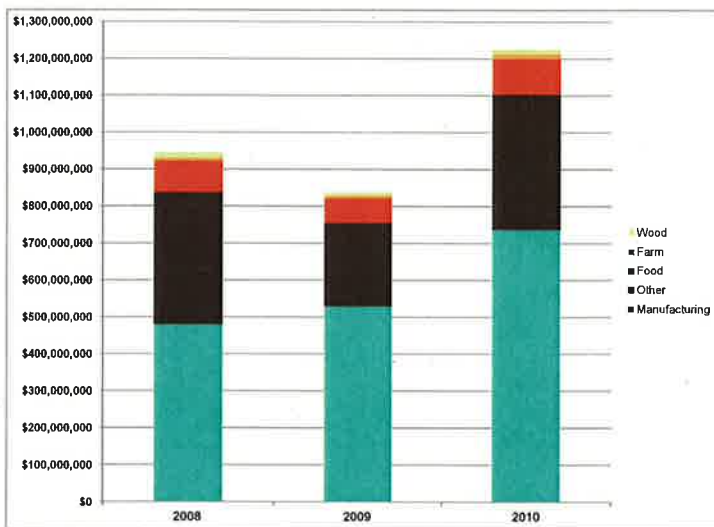
## CASCADE GATEWAY TRADE VALUE BY RAIL



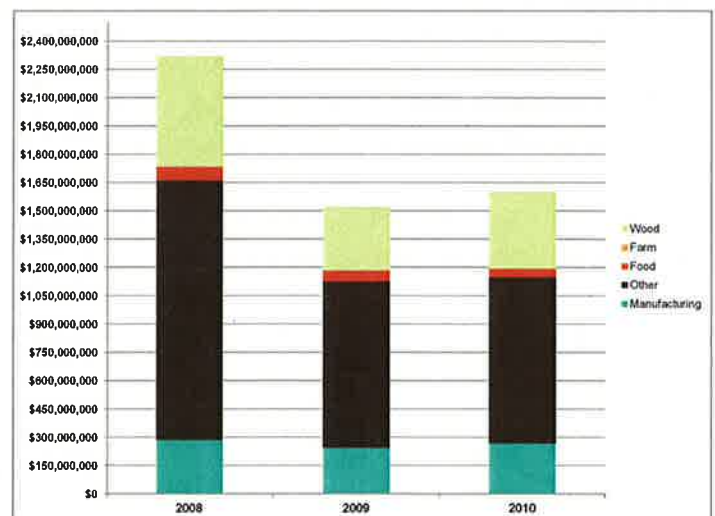
Rail		
	U.S. - Canada*	Canada - U.S.*
2001	\$276	\$1,602
2002	\$217	\$1,580
2003	\$290	\$1,842
2004	\$385	\$2,499
2005	\$430	\$2,577
2006	\$577	\$2,360
2007	\$692	\$1,810
2008	\$768	\$1,499
2009	\$714	\$1,177
2010	\$995	\$1,125
2011	\$777	\$1,117

## CASCADE GATEWAY RAIL TRADE BY COMMODITY

### RAIL EXPORTS (TO CANADA)



### RAIL IMPORTS (TO U.S.A.)

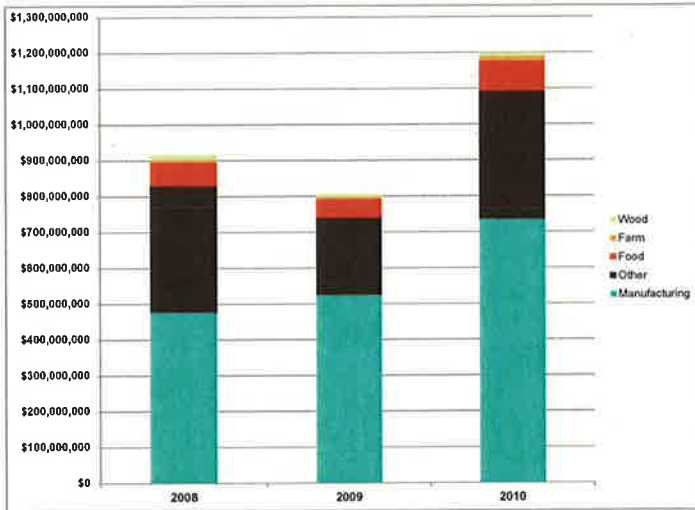


\* Figures are in millions and adjusted to 2000 U.S. Dollars, based on U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics import and export price indexes.

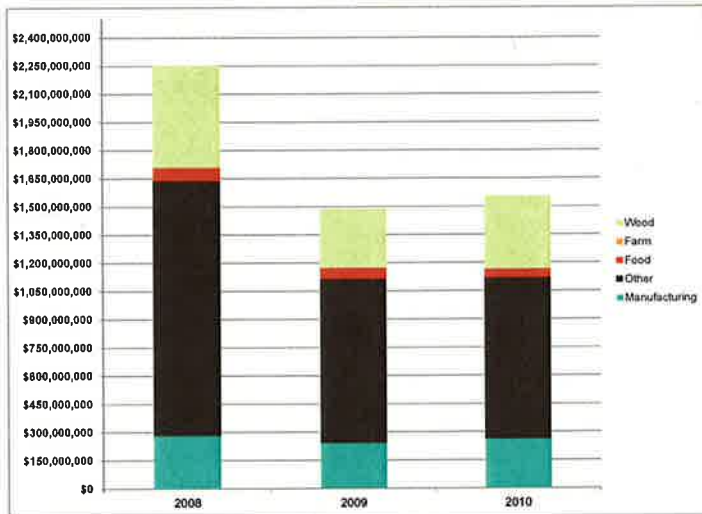
# PORT-SPECIFIC RAIL TRADE BY COMMODITY

## PACIFIC HIGHWAY

### RAIL EXPORTS (TO CANADA)



### RAIL IMPORTS (TO U.S.A.)

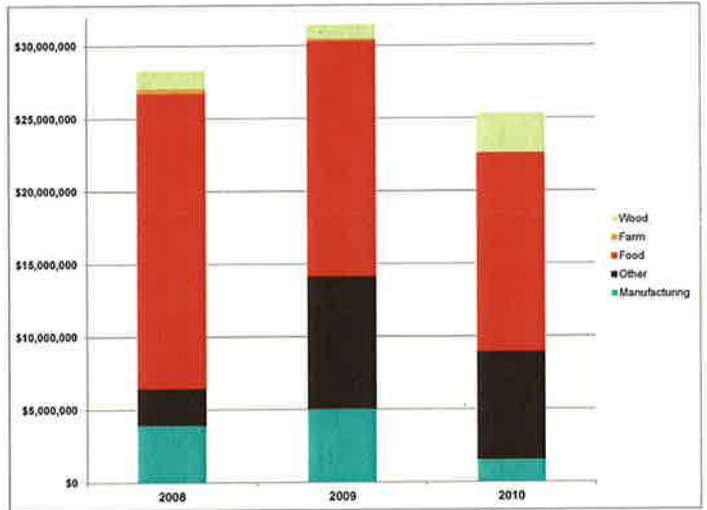


### RAIL VALUES

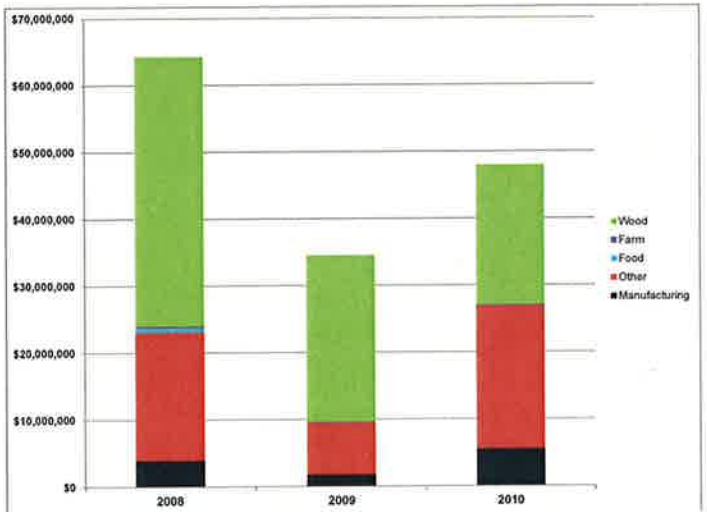
Blaine		
	U.S. - Canada*	Canada - U.S.*
2001	\$237	\$1,484
2002	\$196	\$1,499
2003	\$281	\$1,756
2004	\$377	\$2,401
2005	\$419	\$2,487
2006	\$566	\$2,267
2007	\$684	\$1,765
2008	\$745	\$1,457
2009	\$687	\$1,151
2010	\$974	\$1,091
2011	\$750	\$1,097

## SUMAS

### RAIL EXPORTS (TO CANADA)



### RAIL IMPORTS (TO U.S.A.)



### RAIL VALUES

Sumas		
	U.S. - Canada*	Canada - U.S.*
2001	\$39	\$119
2002	\$21	\$81
2003	\$9	\$86
2004	\$8	\$99
2005	\$11	\$90
2006	\$11	\$93
2007	\$8	\$45
2008	\$23	\$42
2009	\$27	\$27
2010	\$21	\$34
2011	\$27	\$19

\* Figures are in millions and based on declared trade value. Transshipments are not included. Figures are adjusted to 2000 U.S. Dollars, based on U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics import and export price indexes.

# IMTC OBJECTIVES

The goal of the IMTC Project is to improve safety, mobility, and security for the Cascade Gateway. To this end, the following objectives have been identified:

## Improve planning and data collection

- Improve travel information and data.
- Promote development and management of the Cascade Gateway as a system.
- Determine the feasibility of rail, transit, and marine options.
- Monitor work completed by regional and national-level planning initiatives.

## Promote infrastructure improvements

- Improve border crossing approach roads.
- Improve rail crossings and connections.
- Improve corridor connections of trade and travel routes.
- Integrate Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS).

## Promote improvements to operations, policy, and border staffing

- Promote coordination and improvements in accordance with the goals of federal initiatives, including the Beyond the Border Action Plan, Security and Prosperity Partnership and the U.S. - Canada Smart Border Declaration.
- Increase resources and staffing levels at border inspection facilities.
- Improve traffic management at all Cascade Gateway ports-of-entry.
- Ensure ongoing sustainability of the NEXUS and FAST programs.
- Encourage institutional collaboration and integration of information systems.
- Promote harmonization and consolidated administration of pre-approved travel programs including commercial travel.
- Explore options for binational financing structures for future improvements.
- Pursue shared U.S. - Canadian border inspection facilities including the creation of accord processing zones.
- Consider off-border inspection functions.
- Promote the adoption of pre-clearance for passenger rail under Canada's 1999 Pre-Clearance Act.