

November 14th, 2022

Sent via e-mail: SCTaskForce-GroupeDeTravailCA@tc.gc.ca

Dear Members of the Supply Chain Taskforce:

I am writing on behalf of the BC Marine Terminal Operators Association (BCMTOA) to congratulate you on the release of the *“Action. Collaboration. Transportation. Final report of the National Supply Chain Task Force”*, and thank you for your engagement with our membership.

The BCMTOA is the voice of the majority of marine terminals in British Columbia. It directly employs almost 10,000 British Columbians and supports 22,000 jobs nationally. One in every 5 Canadian jobs is dependent on exports enabled by the Canadian maritime industry and its’ partners. BCMTOA members play a central role in the Western Canadian marine shipping supply chain, contributing \$2.8 billion in GDP and \$5.2 billion in economic output every year. BCMTOA members invest billions of dollars into capital infrastructure, equipment, and people, to ensure sufficient capacity to address current and projected growth in trade volumes efficiently, safely and in an environmentally responsible manner.

The report highlights the importance of a cohesive supply chain that invests in resilience to weather continued global, national, and local uncertainty. BCMTOA would like to highlight a few critical recommendations to support that vision:

- Prioritization of government attention on regulations, policies and procedures impeding the effective operations of the supply chain. BCMTOA notes, that a regulatory review should come with a commitment to evaluate impacts on improved efficiency and capacity within the supply chain for all new regulatory decisions, across government departments.
- Government must act to ensure protection of supply chains from labour and civil unrest – failure in this arena will undermine Canada’s reputation as a reliable trading partner, and undermine the ability of supply chain partners to deliver the goods and service demanded by Canadians
- Establishing a Supply Chain Office, with proper expertise, governance and decision-making authority could contribute to the knowledge gaps and coordination of all government departments with mandates to impact the success of the supply chain. Clear performance criteria must be developed for the supply chain, which are regularly monitored to ensure transparency and value are being delivered. A common set of key performance indicators – with regular reporting – should be developed as part of the mandate, to form a foundation for action to improve efficiency and competitiveness of the supply chain across government departments. BCMTOA has recommended that the Canadian Transportation Agency conduct a national review of port competitiveness. It would follow, that this could serve as a useful starting point for a Supply Chain Office.

- The development of a long term 30–50-year supply chain strategy that provides alignment, with milestones, to attract investment and meet Canada’s reconciliation, climate, economic and international trade objectives is a valuable recommendation. BCMTOA called for a truly national framework approach for the port and maritime sector in its submission. The implementation of a national transportation strategy, involving provinces, municipalities, indigenous communities and industry that identifies and protect national transportation corridors like the Asian-Pacific Gateway is essential for success.
- BCMTOA agrees that integration of new technology solutions to support efficient operations is critical. Access of all participants to any data modelling, so that it can be properly leveraged by all supply chain participants is essential. Otherwise, the collection of data without a clear plan to produce useful information could be a significant make work project for participants. Supply Chain visibility must be designed with a plan to ensure transparency and usefulness for all supply chain participants providing data– and the project’s purpose and ability to deliver efficiencies should be defined up front and monitored for success.
- The Canadian Transportation Authority (CTA) has an essential role to play in conducting a national review of the transportation network and ensuring competitiveness. The CTA must be appropriately resourced to undertake this expanded mandate as recommended.

We look forward to working with our partners from rail, port, and shipping to create a stronger supply chain. We look forward to working with the federal government to create a framework for us to achieve that outcome. BCMTOA is prepared to lead and contribute to any next steps and would be pleased to meet to expand on any of the Report’s next steps at your convenience.

Best regards,



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