

WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL Chamber of Commerce

September 10, 2012

By email: NITCComments@state.gov

Re: Support for the Presidential Permit for NITC

The Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce wishes to provide its support of the June 18, 2012 application for a Presidential Permit by the New International Trade Crossing (NITC).

On June 15, 2012, Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Michigan Governor Rick Snyder announced an agreement between Canada and Michigan to build a new publicly owned bridge between Detroit, Michigan and Windsor, Ontario. This agreement is a result of many years of consultations and studies leading to the goal of building a new international crossing that would improve traffic and international trade at the busiest international crossing between the United States and Canada.

The Chamber has been in support of a new international crossing because of the need to improve our aging existing border infrastructure. We also agree that there is a need for redundancy and long term reliability at the busiest and most important international border crossing between Canada and the U.S. As stated in the application, the Ambassador Bridge is 82 years old and new infrastructure is needed. The Detroit-Windsor Rail Tunnel is over 100 years old and the Chamber looks forward in its replacement as well.

Our Chamber believes that the new international trade crossing will dramatically improve our cross border infrastructure, ensuring future economic development and positive climate for business attraction on both sides of the border.

Sincerely,



Matt Marchand
President and CEO

Cc: Roy Norton, Consul General of Canada, Detroit, Michigan
Jeff Watson MP, Essex
Brian Masse MP, Windsor West
Joe Comartin MP, Windsor-Tecumseh
Sandy Baruah, President and CEO, Detroit Regional Chamber