

WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL Chamber of Commerce

THICKENING OF THE BORDER – WHAT IT MEANS

- The costs and difficulties of crossing the border are seriously undermining Ontario's ability to trade in the U.S. market
- Result: Despite the investment of millions of dollars in new security measures designed to facilitate legitimate trade, wait times at the border have not come down, and in many cases we are still subject to frequent, long delays.
- This is referred to as the “Thickening of the Border”
- More extensive border security screenings and congestion could impede the movement of people and goods.
- Washington made decision to impose new fees for Canadian travelers and truckers crossing border. U.S. officials say the move, which ended Canada's 15-year exemption from such fees, was needed to ensure the safety of food and other imports.
- Examples of new regulations that contribute to the problem:
 - **TWIC** - Another ID card! Ports first
 - **ACE** - Electronic manifest.
 - **WHTI** - Passport or other document
 - **C-TPAT** - Stringent criteria, site validations
 - **USDA AQI** - User fees on all shipments to US